



Bizone Germany

NETHERLANDS CLAIMS 20 FISHING VESSELS: The intention of the Dutch Government to have 20 German fishing vessels delivered to the Netherlands under the restitution proceedings has caused considerable unrest in German fishing circles, according to a December 15, 1948, report from the American Consulate at Bremen. According to the present stage of the discussions, the delivery of five steamers has finally been decided upon, while claims have been submitted for an additional 15 steamers.

Economic repercussions from the restitution of these 20 fishing vessels will be considerable. The steamers, which have a capacity of 90,000 baskets (110 pounds per basket), are, at present, operating and account for approximately 30 percent of total catches estimated at 250,000 metric tons annually. The steamers are the most modern of the German fishing fleet and average 540 gross registered tons each. It is stated that the German Executive Committee at Frankfurt has requested that these restitutions be prevented.

SEVERAL FISHING VESSELS CEASE OPERATIONS DUE TO HIGH COSTS: Reports from the three big fishing ports, Bremerhaven, Cuxhaven, and Hamburg indicate that 20 fishing vessels of the German fishing fleet, totaling 170 vessels, were withdrawn from operations after the close of the herring fishing season, according to a December 20, 1948, report of the American Consulate at Bremen. The unusual increase in operation costs rendered impossible the operation of these vessels at a profit.

The decisive factor in operation costs was coal prices for fishing vessels. The price in August 1948 was 254 percent higher than in 1932. Railroad freight rates for coal were increased by 40 percent in August 1948 and landing charges for fishing vessels by 50 percent. This development tended to further increase the prices of other commodities, such as ice which went up 50 percent.

Hopes of the deep-sea fisheries that the currency reform would result in increasing performances and thus decrease the costs for repairs and new construction of fishing vessels were not realized. Costs are still three times as high as before. An increase in operation costs of 25 percent is now offset by an increase in the price for sea fish of but 12 percent. The margin of 13 percent has to be adjusted before withdrawn fishing vessels can resume operations and thus prevent an additional withdrawal of fishing vessels. This will require an increase in fish prices.



British East Africa

TRAWLING ATTEMPTED OFF EAST AFRICA: Present Venture: The first attempt at deep-sea trawling off the East African coast was made during November, according to November and December reports from the American Consulate at Mombasa, Kenya

Protectorate, based on articles in the Mombasa Times. A 265-ton trawler, Derna, from Hull, England, with refrigerated hold, has been procured to make the trawling tests. The trawler, owned by an East African company, is capable of operating nets at a depth of 250 fathoms; has storage space for 60 to 70 tons of fish; is fitted with the latest sounding instruments, which are necessary to a trawler operating in East African waters because of the danger to nets from coral; and has a crew composed of four Hull trawler men and Seychellois.

The undertaking is in the nature of an experiment. Intensive surveys will have to be carried out in order to discover the best fishing grounds, according to the company officials, but if the venture proves successful, the company can supply 50 metric tons of fish a week, and proposes to purchase one or two additional trawlers in order to supply both Kenya and Tanganyika with all the fish needed.

Until the new Government refrigeration plant is completed at Mombasa, the first fish brought in by the trawler will be packed in ice and distributed direct from the ship. The company also has purchased a 60-foot refrigerated sailing boat. In addition, the company is erecting a refrigeration plant at Dar-es-Salaam, where none exists at present; and later proposes to produce canned and dried fish for native consumption, fish meal and fertilizer, and shark liver oil.



Results of Two Trawling Trips: The Derna has, through November, made two trips from both of which she returned with fair catches and with gear intact. The skipper of the trawler reported that he discovered several areas which were quite free of coral, which disproves the theory until recently current that trawling would be impossible off this coast owing to the coralline nature of the sea bed.

The steam trawler, which sailed from Kilindini, November 15, for the first experimental trawling expedition with a skipper, 3 officers, and a crew of 18 Arabs and Africans, returned to port on November 20, 1948.

The catch was between 2,000 and 3,000 pounds of fish, caught off Malindi, and it includes two large specimens of the skate or ray species—both weighed about half a metric ton. According to the captain, the catch naturally did not compare with those in Northern waters, but with more experience, the catches should be good. A certain amount of difficulty with coral was experienced on this trip.

The second survey trip during the last week in November was far more successful than the first. Although some nets were damaged, a flat trawling ground was found. Its position has been carefully recorded on the trawler's charts, and as the surveys

proceed, it is thought likely that sufficient good fishing grounds will eventually be found to enable the trawler to work full time.

The vessel came into port December 3, with 8,000 to 10,000 pounds of fresh fish (mostly red mullet), cleaned and gutted. The iced fish was sold, straight from the trawler's hold, at 65 cents per pound--22½ cents per pound less than the last controlled price for cleaned, gutted fish.

The catch also included many strange species, which will be examined for identification.

The costs of running the trawler for these two trips were considerable, including the cost of crew's wages, food, fuel, port dues, etc. The vessel carried approximately \$244 of ice. The single-warp steel cable, 700 fathoms long, used for towing the trawl--cost approximately \$6,090. It is, therefore, likely to run at a loss for a very considerable period, until the crew has been properly trained, a complete series of surveys carried out, and the best fishing grounds charted.

Previous Experimental Fishing Expeditions: A South African businessman, who conducted experimental fishing off the coast for 14 months during 1946 and 1947 for a Capetown firm, states that a great future lies ahead of the deep-sea fishing industry off the East African coast. The possibilities of the coast, from Mombasa northwards as far as Bender Cassim north of Mogadiscio, were explored by this expedition. The chief object was to investigate the oil-bearing qualities of the sharks in these waters, and it was found that sharks did not exist in large quantities off the East African and Somaliland coasts.

During the same period, a second fishing expedition operated off the Seychelles Islands and reported that about 30 miles away to the south of the main island group was a bank, described as the Dogger Bank of the western Indian Ocean, which would provide a very rich fishing ground. Also, off the shore of Pamba Island were reported large shoals of a species of tunny for three months in every year. According to this expedition, tunny swim right up to the East Coast of Africa, sweeping inland about 200 miles north of Mogadiscio, go north round Cape Guardafui as far as Berbera, and then turn around and come back again. There is a canning factory in existence at Bender Cassim, operated by Italian interests. Before the last war, Sicilian fishermen made a regular trip, in season, following the tunny and taking their catch to the factory.

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DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES AND FISHERIES RESEARCH: East Africa Fisheries Research Organization: The three territorial Governments (Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika), with financial backing by the British Colonial Office, have planned various programs to develop the natural resources, including the fisheries, of British East Africa, according to several reports from the American Consulate General at Nairobi, Kenya.

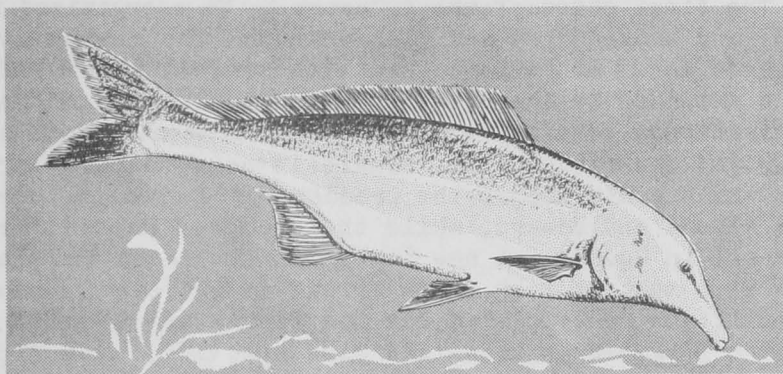
When the East Africa High Commission was formed in January, 1948, as an organ of Government, under which common legislation and common public services for Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika are centralized, it was announced that the various territorial research services also would be coordinated under the new administration.

The five fundamental branches of research for Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika, now amalgamated under the East Africa High Commission, cover the following subjects: Fisheries; Agriculture and Forestry; Animal Industry; Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis; Scientific and Industrial Research.

Fisheries Research Laboratory at Jinja, Uganda: The E.A.F.R.O., at present dealing only with lake and river research, has just completed its headquarters at Jinja in Uganda, according to its first progress report for April-August 1948. The immediate purpose of the Research Laboratory at Jinja is to carry out hydro-biological research on Lake Victoria, according to Dr. R. S. A. Beauchamp, Director of East African Fisheries Research. It is hoped that it will grow into a center for such research and that it will expand by forming additional sub-stations on other African lakes.

The building contains six laboratories, in addition to a library, common room, and general office. With a permanent staff of six, it is hoped that the laboratory also will have two or more visiting scientists for whom a fund exists to meet some of their expenses. The laboratory, equipped with all the essential apparatus for biological and hydrological research, possesses two motor launches as well as dinghies.

Preliminary Lake Victoria Survey: So far, the only work undertaken has been a preliminary survey of the Jinja area of Lake Victoria to discover the general distribution of the various species of fish and relate their occurrence to depth of water and the nature of the lake bottom, etc. Results of the survey have disclosed a relatively dense population of Mormyrus from 50 to 90 feet below the surface. The Mormyrus is a palatable fish which can be salted or smoked or used in the production of high grade fish meal. It may lead to the establishment of a large fishery in the deeper waters of the lake which, aside from providing a new untapped source of fish, would divert fishermen's attention from the popular Tilapia, at present in short supply.



MORMYRUS KANNUME. REACHES A TOTAL LENGTH OF 20 INCHES.
RANGE - FROM LOWER NILE RIVER TO LAKE VICTORIA.

Uganda's lakes and rivers, amounting to about 13,600 square miles of water or approximately 17 percent of the total land area, are largely undeveloped and are considered to be an enormous potential source of food and revenue. Exact estimates of present production cannot be given as the industry is almost entirely in the hands of natives, but, in 1946 it was reported that one corner of Lake Edward produces more than 3,000 metric tons annually worth, wholesale, nearly \$162,556; the northeast corner of Lake Albert produces fish to the value of nearly \$81,278 annually; Lake Victoria is said to produce a great deal more than \$203,195 annually; and there are innumerable smaller fisheries in lakes, swamps, and rivers which cannot be assessed. Despite this production, there are still large areas of potential fishing grounds unexploited, and native fishing and marketing methods are primitive and inefficient.

The first step considered essential to development of the industry was the establishment of an interterritorial research institute to study East African inland fish, their numbers, increase or decrease, their breeding and feeding grounds,

their seasonal movements, and their areas of greatest concentration. The second step was effective control of the Protectorate's fisheries in the form of a Fisheries Department to be set up at first under the Game Department heretofore in charge. This calls for a properly trained European fishery officer to be posted in each of the main fishery areas which were designated as Lake Albert, Lakes Edward and George together, Lake Kyoga, and Lake Victoria. He is to work in consultation with the Research Institute, trying out new fishery methods and carrying out their advice. The officer stationed at Lake Victoria is to be a direct employee of the Lake Victoria Fisheries Board.

Modernization of native fishing craft is considered imperative, although the process will be slow. The present type of primitive canoe and dugout cannot venture far from shore, and this has resulted in serious overfishing of inshore waters with complete neglect of the more distant waters. An improved type of fishing craft has already been introduced, and a boat-building industry with a subsidy for training craftsmen is contemplated. A net-making industry, utilizing local flax, is also under consideration.

The final phase of the industry to be reorganized is the marketing of fresh, dried, and smoked fish and fish products. The cooperative movement is being pushed in Uganda and it is believed that with European advice and supervision, cooperatives can be extended to the fishing industry. There should also be room for commercial organizations, possibly employed as Government agents on a profit-sharing basis, to buy and distribute fish. There is said to be a large demand in the Belgian Congo which could absorb the products of a greatly increased fishing industry in Lakes Albert and Edward, while the need and demand for fish proteins is almost universal in Uganda. A new Employment Ordinance compels employers to supply their labor with meat or fish which brings an increased demand for dried fish. Other possibilities contemplated for the future are dehydrating fish for export; canning the Ningu--a sardine-like fish beloved of the Africans; and production on a commercial basis of fish oil and fish meal.

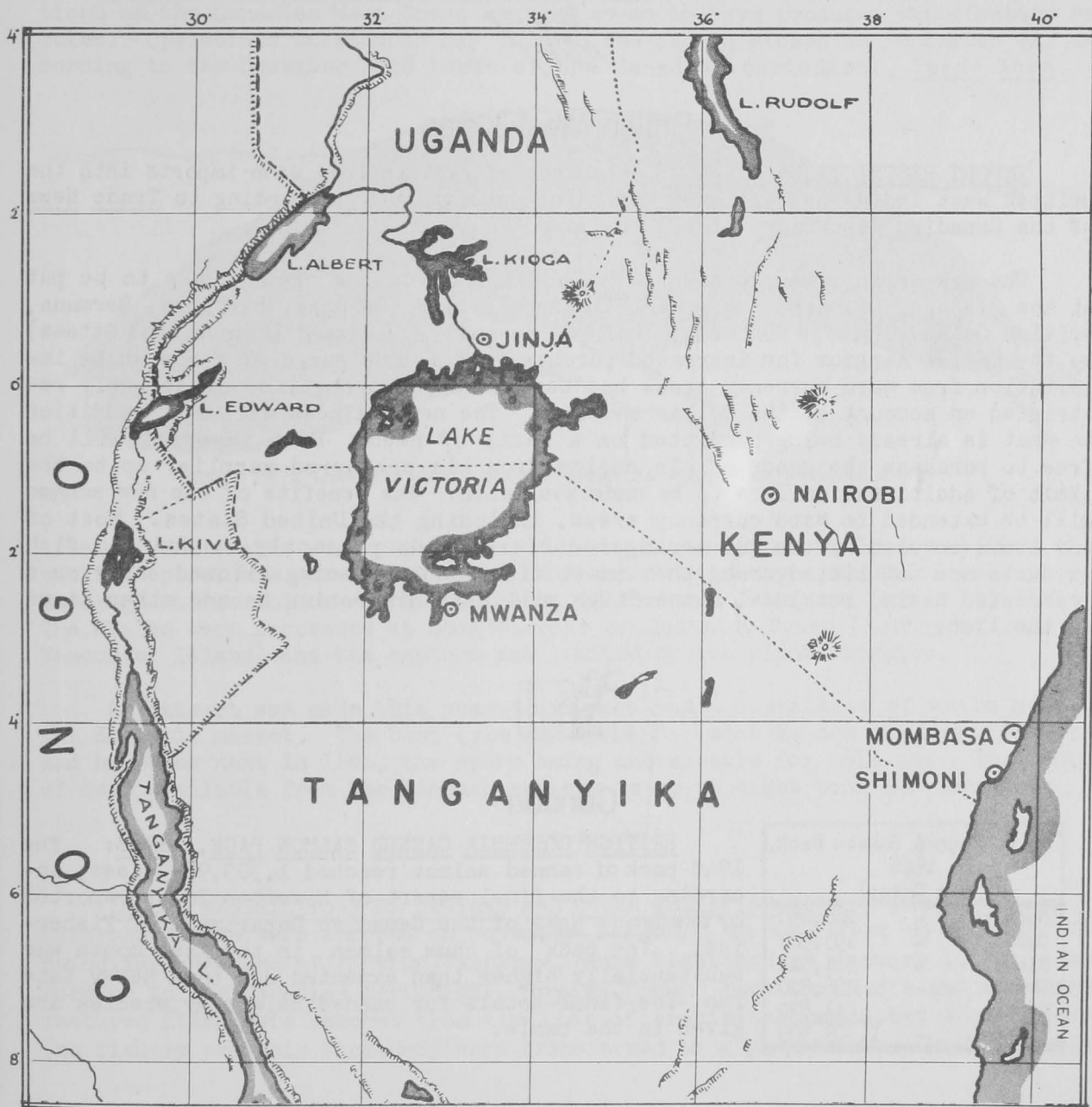
It is believed that effective organization of the marketing of fish and other lake produce will assure a steady long-term market and price to African fishermen. There will be no interference with the fishermen's activities, although advice and assistance will be offered in connection with such matters as marketing arrangements, and facilities for purchasing canoes.

In view of the steadily increasing demands for fish proteins, it is also believed that there is ample opportunity for an organized fish farming industry in ponds either built for water supplies or specially constructed for rearing fish. Efforts are being made to augment the fish population of Uganda's streams both by indigenous and imported stock. During the past few years, a large number of dams have been constructed. Many of these have been stocked with Tilapia, the local lake product which is one of the world's better edible fishes. They have also stocked the blue gill (Hellioperca macrochira), well-known native of North America, but only in dams and streams which cannot overflow into the Nile system for fear that this highly reproductive fish will upset the balance.

Lake Victoria Fisheries Board: The Lake Victoria Fisheries Board, a separate organization which was promulgated in 1944, is an interterritorial department with headquarters at Mwanza, Tanganyika. The Board has little progress to report as it is still in the formative stage, but it is intended to deal with the practical aspects of developing the Lake Victoria fisheries.

Research Center on the Upper Sagana River: The River Research and Development Center on the upper Sagana River was financed by grants from the Kenya Government and the Colony's Development and Reconstruction Authority as one of the features of its Ten-Year Development Plan with the object of studying the ecology of Kenya rivers and to improve and, possibly, initiate new fisheries. Its dual functions—scientific river fishery research and practical fish breeding—will be administered by the Kenya Game Department. Its present staff consists of one biologist, one assistant fish warden, a hatchery superintendent, and two native technical assistants. The center comprises a laboratory, a trout hatchery and rearing station, an administrative center, and guest house accommodation.

The first object of the research program is to provide a scientific background for development of the Colony's trout, which are not indigenous to East Africa, but were introduced to Kenya some 40 years ago.



CENTRAL EAST AFRICA

Research work is planned, also, in connection with the indigenous fish of the lower reaches of the rivers where native fisheries for Tilapia, Barbus, eels, catfish, and others exist, with the object of improving the yield of this food fish for the benefit of the African population. A fish culture farm is also planned for breeding indigenous fish as a new source of food.

The station, at present, has the only trout hatchery in East Africa and will serve the three British East African territories as well as neighboring countries, if desired. Liaison is to be maintained with the East African Fisheries Research Laboratory at Jinja, Uganda.

Future Developments in British East Africa: Other interesting events are taking place in British East Africa in connection with fish culture and research; plans for fish farming in Kenya; and the contemplated development of coastal fisheries and establishing a marine fishery research station on the coast at Shimoni.



British West Indies

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS RELAXED: A number of restrictions upon imports into the British West Indies were relaxed beginning January 1949, according to Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries.

The new arrangements provide that additional dollar credits are to be put at the disposal of each of the West Indian Colonies (Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Jamaica, Leeward and Windward Islands, and Ottawa) by the United Kingdom for increased purchases of a wide range of goods whose importation from hard currency areas has been hitherto prohibited or severely restricted on account of the dollar shortage. The new business will be in addition to what is already being permitted on a basis of need. Each importer will be free to purchase the goods of his choice from his preferred supplier up to the limit of additional dollars to be made available. The benefits of the new scheme will be extended to hard currency areas, including the United States. Most of the items covered by the new arrangements are goods presently banned and fish products are not listed among them (most fish products being allowed entry on a restricted basis) but local authorities will have discretion to add other items to the list.



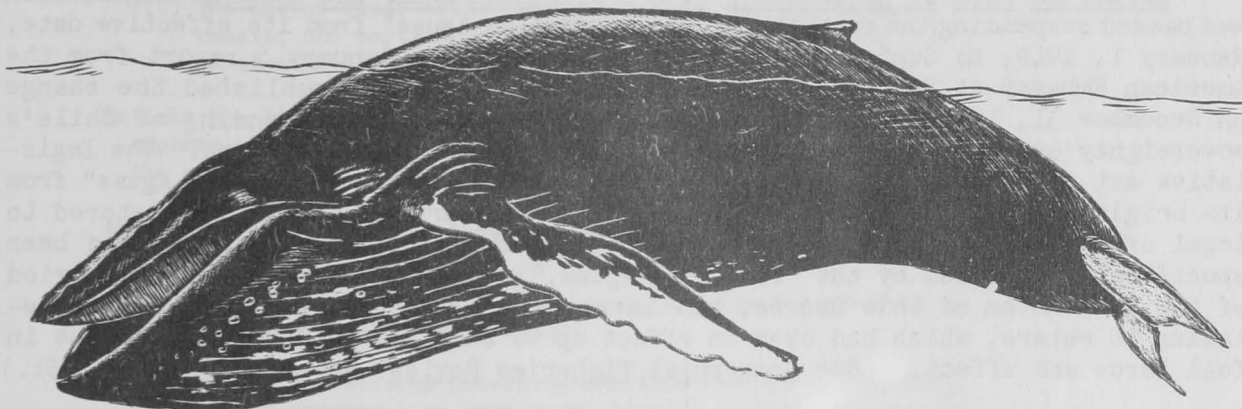
Canada

B. C. Canned Salmon Pack, 1948 (In Cases)	
Sockeye	- 260,050
Coho	- 193,587
Pink	- 321,514
Chum	- 496,928
Other	- 41,830
Total	- 1,303,909

BRITISH COLUMBIA CANNED SALMON PACK, 1948: The 1948 pack of canned salmon reached 1,303,909 cases, according to the final report of November 20 as reported by the Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries. The pack of chum salmon in the last month was substantially higher than expected due to a heavy late run. The final totals for canned salmon by species are given in the table.

Although this is the smallest pack for several years, it will probably exceed in value all previous records. Average prices to the domestic market the latter part of 1948, f.o.b. Vancouver, for certified Grade A salmon, per case of '96 "½ flats"—(cases of 48 1-pound "talls" being \$1.50 less in each instance)—were reported to be: sockeye, \$33; coho, \$26; pink, \$18; and chum, \$16.50. These prices represent increases up to 10 percent above 1947 prices. A total pack value of about \$26,000,000 is indicated—assuming that pink and chum salmon are packed largely in "tall" tins. In value terms, the trend is definitely upward throughout. Although, relative to quantities, this trend becomes noticeable only after 1941—and was held in check under price control until 1946, indicating that in considerable part it is attributable to generally inflated price levels—it is probable that it is based fundamentally on continuing high production costs in the face of an increasing demand for this commodity.

BRITISH COLUMBIA WHALING OPERATIONS, 1948: The resumption of whaling operations on the Canadian West Coast in 1948 seems to have produced satisfactory results. Operations started on May 30, and the season closed on September 24, according to the December 1948 issue of the Canadian periodical, Trade News. A



MODEL OF A HUMPBACK WHALE IN THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

total of 184 whales were captured, which is higher than in 1942 and 1943 when whaling operations were concluded. The distribution by species of this year's landings was as follows: 116 humpback, 38 finback, 28 sperm, and 2 sei whales. The whales were processed at Coal Harbour on Quatsino Sound (northwest coast of Vancouver Island) and the capture was limited by the plant capacity.

An attempt was made this year to market small quantities of whale meat on the domestic market. The best type of whale for meat is the finback, with sei and humpback next in line, the sperm being undesirable for this use. The amount of meat available from the finback variety is up to eight tons per carcass.

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IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON OYSTERS AND OTHER SHELLFISH LIFTED: Canadian import controls, which were imposed on November 17, 1947, in an effort to conserve the dwindling reserves of foreign exchange, were lightened on January 1, 1949, according to the Canadian periodical, Foreign Trade. Many foodstuffs and some manufactured items were removed from the list of prohibited products, while others (no fishery products included) were transferred to a quota basis. An improvement

Goods Suspended from Schedule I of the Emergency Exchange Conservation Act	
Tariff Item No.	Description
123a	Crabs, clams, or shrimp in sealed containers
124	
125	
126	
127	
128	
ex 123	} Oysters
ex 133	
130	Turtles

in the balance of payments position between Canada and the United States rendered possible the lifting of trade barriers, which may be raised still further by the middle of next summer.

Oysters and other shellfish were among those items on which import prohibitions were suspended on January 1.



Chile

EFFECTIVE DATE OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER CONTINENTAL SHELF LAW CHANGED: Legislation was passed suspending the validity of the "Codigo de Aguas" from its effective date, January 1, 1949, to September 17, 1949, according to a January 5 report from the American Embassy at Santiago. The Chilean Diario Oficial published the change on December 31, 1948. The "Codigo de Aguas" included the extending of Chile's sovereignty over the seas adjacent to its coasts to 31 miles offshore. The legislative act of August 18, which suspended the validity of the "Codigo de Aguas" from its original effective date, June 11, 1948, to January 1, 1949, also restored to legal effect certain provisions of the Civil and Minerals Codes which had been specifically modified by the "Codigo de Aguas," and provides that during the period of the suspension of this Decree, all laws, orders, regulations, and decrees relating to waters, which had been in effect up to June 11, 1948, shall continue in full force and effect. (See Commercial Fisheries Review, November 1948, page 51.)



Costa Rica

NEW FISHING LAW PASSED: The Costa Rican Government in the October 9, 1948, issue of La Gaceta published Decree No. 190, "Fishing and Marine Hunting Law." The purpose of this Decree is to place under State control the marine and hunting activities of Costa Rica which, in accordance with that Government's previous declaration, incorporates the submarine resources which Costa Rica's continental and insular shelf contain, as well as the zone of the seas adjacent to the continental and insular coasts of the Nation. (See Commercial Fisheries Review, October 1948, page 41.) This law also covers the fishing activities in the rivers and lakes of the Nation. The purpose of the law is to conserve the species through proper exploitation and to develop the fishing and marine hunting industries.

Certain of the articles of the Decree of interest to the United States fishing industry are quoted below in full and the others are summarized.

FISHING AND MARINE HUNTING LAW

Article 1 - Fishing affects a natural resource which forms part of the national riches, the regulation of which belongs to the Executive Power for which reason the present decree-law is issued in order to

determine the conditions of the right to exploit its resources, as well as to normalize its practice for the rational utilization, a greater economic yield and the conservation and protection of those species whose means of life is the water.

Article 2 - The practice of fishing or marine hunting in national, jurisdictional waters, or free seas by vessels of national registration; and commercial, industrial or sport fishing or hunting are included under this law.

Article 3 - Defines the classification of fishing under domestic for personal or family consumption, commercial fishing, sport fishing, and fishing for scientific purposes.

Article 4 - Fishing is hereby considered:

- (a) Any operation or action made for the purpose of catching fish, mollusks, crustaceans, and other species of water fauna and flora, for commercial, industrial, scientific and sporting purposes; and
- (b) The use of river beds, bottoms, waters, shores, beaches, coasts, and ports for the breeding, reproduction and dispersion of the same.

Article 5 - It is hereby considered that marine hunting is the capture of cetaceae, pinnipedia, and water birds, as well as the exploitation of the breeding places.

Article 6 - The Executive Power is authorized to establish through the medium of the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries:

- (a) The procedure and requisites necessary for the practice of maritime fishing and hunting;
- (b) To fix the seasons governing maritime fishing and hunting, either permanent or temporary, general or regional, reserves and other conditions guaranteeing methodical and rational exploitation from biological, sanitary, commercial, industrial and sporting viewpoints;
- (c) To regulate the manner of fishing to be employed and its characteristics; and
- (d) To draft the sanitary regulations and other rules necessary to adopt for the regulation of aquiculture, traffic, transport, internal trade, exportation and importation of products from fishing or marine hunting whether it may be in places or localities where it is concentrated, in private establishments or floating factory vessels.

Article 7 - Fishing and marine hunting in seas protected and controlled by the State may be practiced only by vessels, floating factories or installations under national registration, or by vessels of foreign registration providing they have permission duly granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries.

Article 8 - Any company or person, physical or juridical, dedicated to fishing or marine hunting or to the industrialization, transport, conservation or trade of such products must be registered in the Register carried by the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries.

The registrants shall be obliged:

- (a) To carry and exhibit the books and documents required by the respective regulations;
- (b) To submit the information required by the competent authorities;
- (c) To aid at any time and place the authorized officials in the fulfilment of their duties of control; and
- (d) To obtain a permit for the carrying out of their activities which will be issued, when within the law, by the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries.

Article 9 - The authorization for fishing and marine hunting may be granted by the Ministry of Industries after publication of a contract in La Gaceta one month before its enforcement in order to hear any objections on the part of third parties, when it is for a period of less than five years. When it is for periods of more than five years, approval of Congress is necessary. The registrants cannot transfer their permissions without previous authorization from the Ministry of Industries and they will be subject to the jurisdiction of the Costa Rican courts.

Article 10- The right to fish must be executed without obstructing navigation, the natural course of the waters and the utilization of same, when permission has been given by the Executive Power or Congress, and without prejudice to the rights of third parties legitimately acquired, or unless prohibited for security or police reasons.

Article 11- Defines practice of fishing in waters on private property.

Article 12- The permissions or concessions may be revoked, without indemnification, because of the nonfulfilment of this law and its regulations, without prejudice to any of the responsibilities which are incurred by the registrants or grantees.

Article 13- The use is prohibited of traps, appliances, fishing apparatus and machinery which have not been approved by the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries. The use of explosives, chemical or poisonous products is prohibited as a means for obtaining species of aquatic flora and fauna as well as any other procedure declared harmful. Also construction or placing of dispositives impeding the passage of fish in water, lakes and lagoons of public service, or on the private properties communicating therewith is prohibited. The construction of docks and dikes in such waters will be subject to the regulation upon fish ladders as dictated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries.

Article 14- Importation and exportation of fish eggs and living marine species permitted when authorized by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Article 15- Oyster beds declared national reserve and the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries may grant permits or concessions for their exploitation.

Article 16- The fishing for exportation which is effected by vessels of foreign registration, with the authorization of the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries and whose fresh products are exclusively destined for foreign markets will be subject to the provisions of the present law and its regulations, as well as to the pertinent provisions that may be made in the future.

- (a) The mother ships or floating plants must always be situated in the bay and within sight of national wharves.
- (b) Fishing within the limits of territorial waters where the product is not brought to established plants in the national territory, will be considered as exportation subject to customhouse taxes and other surcharges, in conformity with the respective tariff; and
- (c) Mother boats, factory boats or any other boats, in order to sell or transfer merchandise proceeding from their stores or commissaries, should provide themselves with the municipal patent corresponding to the jurisdiction in which they may be and also must pay the importation fees according to the respective tariff upon all and any classes of merchandise which may be unloaded from them.

Article 17- All registrants or concessionaires must render warranty to the satisfaction of the Executive Power guaranteeing the fulfilment of their contracted obligations, as well as to guarantee the responsibilities which they may incur.

Article 18- The registrants to which article 16 refers must obtain for each trip and for each shipment a permit called "Via la Pesca" ("For Fishing Purposes") the duration and conditions of which are established by the regulation of this law.

Article 19- The Ministry of Agriculture and Industries is authorized to develop for the account of the state and for social purposes or public utility, the fluvial and marine fishing and hunting, or also in association, with private individuals, whether they be national or foreign, in a total or partial manner.

Article 20- The Ministry of Agriculture and Industries will determine:

- (a) The fee for the special use of public domain for activities connected with fishing;
- (b) The lease of sites, instruments or useful implements to be used in such activities;
- (c) The fees and contributions of registration, of analysis, and of inspection required for the fulfilment of this law;
- (d) That which must be paid by registrants or concessionaires of fishing and marine hunting, as well what must be paid by those who have made exploitations without the authorization of the Executive Power or for violations of these regulations;
- (e) The tariffs which regulate the sale of eggs, fish, aquatic plants and any other product of marine fishing and hunting obtained or processed in the establishment of the fisheries department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries; and
- (f) The fees for the exploitation of natural or artificial media referred to in this law.

Article 21- Any lack of declarations, act or omission in connection with payment of taxes, fees, contributions and other resources mentioned in the previous article shall be punished with a fine up to ten times the amount which was left unpaid or for which an attempt was made to elude payment. The collection of the fiscal credits in connection with the above stipulations will be effected through judicial process.

Article 22- Authorizes Executive Power to free from import duties vessels, vessel machinery, appliances, transport and industrialization machinery, and scientific material destined exclusively for marine fishing and hunting if such exemption will not affect those industries whose welfare is considered of national interest.

Article 23- Promoting sport fishing.

Article 24- The Executive Power will entrust the Consuls of the terminal ports of the vessels proceeding from Costa Rican waters, to verify that said vessels have observed the provisions of this law and its regulations. Said Consuls may issue permits for sports fishing, to the persons who wish to fish in national waters, according to the terms of the regulations, it being optional for the captains of those vessels to call at Costa Rican ports.

Article 25- The Executive Power is authorized to construct and develop central markets and refrigerated storage regulating the use of their services and the commercialization of the products of marine fishing and hunting.

Article 26- The official credit institutions of the State shall regulate the issuance of credit to the fishing industry making it adequate to the needs of the producers, the terms of amortization, and also the issuance of credit for the activities of conservation, elaboration and transportation of their products.

Article 27- Catching only the species permitted during legal open season and observing legal size limits; to return the permit "Via la Pesca" within the time limit; to return to the water the species caught which are not desirable providing that they are alive; to provide necessary documents for fishery products which are being transported; to register prior to their use, the fishing implements and the foreign vessels which are going to be used; to keep a registry book in which catches and exportations are noted; and other limitations and provisions.

Article 28- Lists certain acts which are prohibited among which are the use of drag nets in waters where there are sedentary species; and the installation of fishing machinery without the authorization of the Ministry of Agriculture and Industries.

Article 29- Lists certain acts prohibited for third parties among which are the transportation or shipment of fish products without the legal documents required.

Article 30- Infractions of any part of this law will be punished by fine or imprisonment, and the confiscation of the fishing products, vessels and equipment.

Article 31- All the laws and regulations which may have been dictated in relation to fishing and marine hunting are derogated.

Transitory 1 - The existing permits for marine hunting and fishing must, to maintain their validity, be adjusted to the dispositions of the present law and its regulations, within the time which may be fixed by the Executive Power.

Transitory 2 - While there is no Congress, the authorization for periods of more than five years, to which article 9 of the present law refers, will require the approval of the Founding Junta of the Second Republic.

Iceland

PRESENT BUDGET DIFFICULTIES DUE TO POOR FISHING: On November 5, 1948, the highest budget bill ever to be introduced in Icelandic history was presented to the Althing by the Icelandic Minister of Finance.

In his budget speech, the Minister attributed the present status of the budgetary situation to poor fishing (poor herring fishing during the past four years) and to the increasing tempo of inflationary pressures. In order to assist the motor boat fleet operators financially, because of the losses incurred due to the unfavorable summer herring catch, the Government will grant loans out of a \$1,000,000 appropriation appearing in the proposed 1949 budget.

AIDS FISHING INDUSTRY FINANCIALLY: The latter part of December 1949, the Althing passed a law providing financial assistance to the fishing industry and establishing new methods of revenue to obtain the necessary funds, according to a December 31, 1948, report from the American Legation at Reykjavik. The emergency measure, to become effective on January 1, is designed particularly to support those fishing trades which have been adversely affected during 1948: quick-freezing plants, curers of salt fish, and the motor boat fleet which fishes for herring and supplies the quick-freezing plants with whitefish.

The Government will continue its guaranteed price on exports of frozen and salted fish but reserves the right to determine when and to which countries of destination they shall apply.

The program will be financed by a "Government Inflation Fund" established by revenue from customs, direct taxation, and various provisions of the 1949 Budget. Estimates of the total cost of the plan run as high as \$10,787,000.

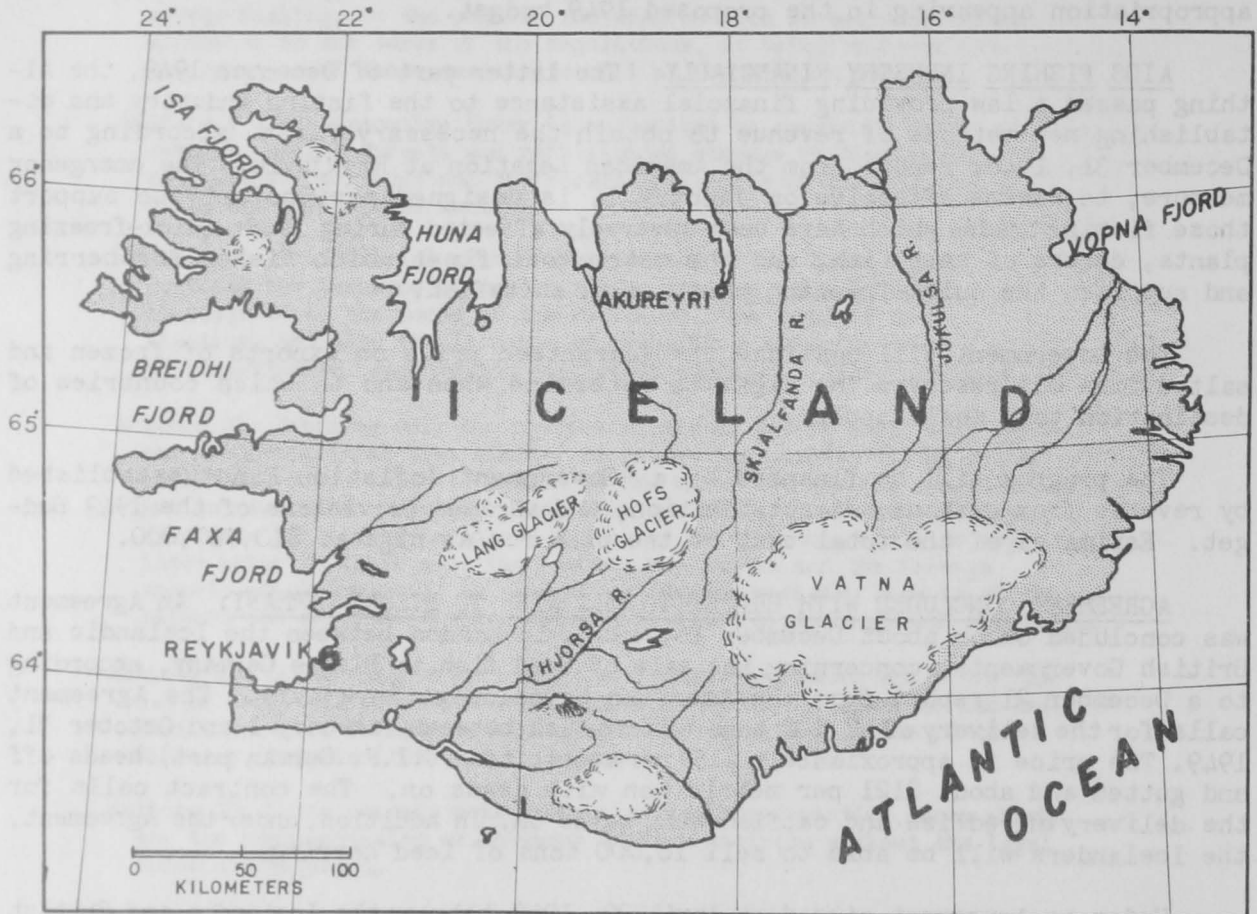
AGREEMENT CONCLUDED WITH BRITISH TO SELL FISH TO BIZONE GERMANY: An Agreement was concluded on or about December 16, 1948, in London between the Icelandic and British Governments, concerning the sale of iced fish to Bizone Germany, according to a December 21 report from the American Legation at Reykjavik. The Agreement calls for the delivery of 67,000 tons of iced fish between February 1 and October 31, 1949. The price is approximately \$157 per metric ton (C.I.F. German port) heads off and gutted and about \$121 per metric ton with heads on. The contract calls for the delivery of redfish and catfish with heads on. In addition, under the Agreement, the Icelanders will be able to sell 10,000 tons of iced herring.

Under an Agreement signed on April 20, 1948, between the Icelandic and British Governments, the Icelandic trawlers delivered up until December 15, 1948, to German ports 60,130 metric tons of iced fish, consisting of cod, redfish, catfish, and coalfish (pollock). In addition, 2,936 metric tons of iced herring were sold. The Agreement called for the delivery of iced fish until October 31, 1948, provided there were no fish shortages in Great Britain. Permission was granted to Icelandic trawlers to land cargoes of iced fish at German ports until December 31, 1948. In 1946, only 464 tons of iced herring were sold to Bizone Germany.

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ICELANDIC MOTION FOR PATROL AND EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS: A motion for a resolution regarding territorial waters patrol and extension of the territorial waters of Iceland was introduced before the Joint Althing on November 23, 1948, according to Icelandic press reports.

The resolution calls upon the Icelandic Government to prepare and introduce in the Althing a bill regarding a territorial waters patrol. The bill is to include that the administration and supervision of the territorial waters patrol be handled by a special department of the Ministry of Justice, including control of fisheries and supervision of the equipment and actions of foreign vessels, especially in fjords and ports; that a sufficiently large and modern fleet of patrol boats with planes and other equipment for the patrol activities of the territorial waters be provided; and patrol of the territorial waters be coordinated, as closely as possible, with life saving activities, control of fisheries, ocean researches and oceanography.



In addition, the resolution urges the Government to enforce vigorously the legislation passed by the last session of the Althing (1947) which authorizes the Government to specify areas of protection at any point of the Icelandic coast within the confine of the coastal shelf and to establish regulations concerning their utilization; and to seek recognition through the United Nations of the historic and legal right of the Icelanders to extend their territorial waters to four nautical miles and that all fjords and bays be considered part of the territorial waters.

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NEW FLOATING FISH FACTORY IN OPERATION: The arrival in Iceland from Portland, Oregon, of the 6,900-ton floating fish factory, The Haeringur, purchased under ECA's \$2,300,000 loan to Iceland, was reported by the Economic Cooperation Administration on December 21.

This largest and newest addition to Iceland's fishing fleet has been outfitted with additional equipment in the Reykjavik harbor and has already gone into operation. It will sail from harbor to harbor on the southern coast of Iceland this winter to receive and process aboard the fish brought in by fishing trawlers into herring meal and oil. The dried herring meal is used for animal fodder in many European countries and is frequently used as fertilizer, while herring oil is used in the making of margarine.

By the addition of the floating fish factory to the fleet, it will be no longer necessary for Icelandic merchants to charter vessels to haul the fish from winter fishing grounds in the southwest to the herring oil and meal factories on the north coast. Formerly, the big herring season during the winter was on the north coast, but in recent years, the herring run has shifted to the south, thus creating the problem of hauling the fish to the northern plants.

The vessel, a former freighter, was purchased in Portland for \$192,500. The over-all cost of special equipment obtained from many sources was \$433,000.

The loan to Iceland will be used also to finance the purchase of additional fish processing equipment and large amounts of fishing net to replace the nets lost in a large fire in Iceland last winter.

The herring processed aboard the former American freighter is expected to stimulate Iceland's productivity and, consequently, the export of one of her most important commodities to other European countries.



Japan

FISHERY PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT: Commodities available for export from Japan are listed in Appendix A of an International Reference Service Report, Doing Business with Occupied Japan, issued by the Office of International Trade, Department of Commerce. (See page 78 of this issue for review.)

Among the commodities, the following fishery products were listed as available for export:

Drugs and Health Supplies

Agar-agar	Vitamin A oil
Fish livers, frozen	Vitamin D oil
Sperm head oil	

Food and Agricultural Products

<u>Canned Foods:</u>	<u>Frozen Foods:</u>
Boiled mackerel	Abalone
Boiled sardines	Albacore
Boiled scallops	Baby clams
Clams, baby	Cuttlefish
Clams (Hokki)	Frog legs and rounds
Crabmeat	Octopus
Eels	Oysters
Pepper sardines	Red snapper
Pink salmon	Scallops
Sardines in oil	Swordfish
Smoked oysters in oil	Tuna
Smoked yellowtail in oil	Seed oysters (available November to March)
Tuna in oil	

Food and Agricultural Products (Cont.)

Dried Foods:	Dried Foods (Cont.):
Abalone	Oysters
Bonito (Katsuobushi)	Seaweeds (Nori)
Cuttlefish	Shark fins
Herring roe	Shrimp

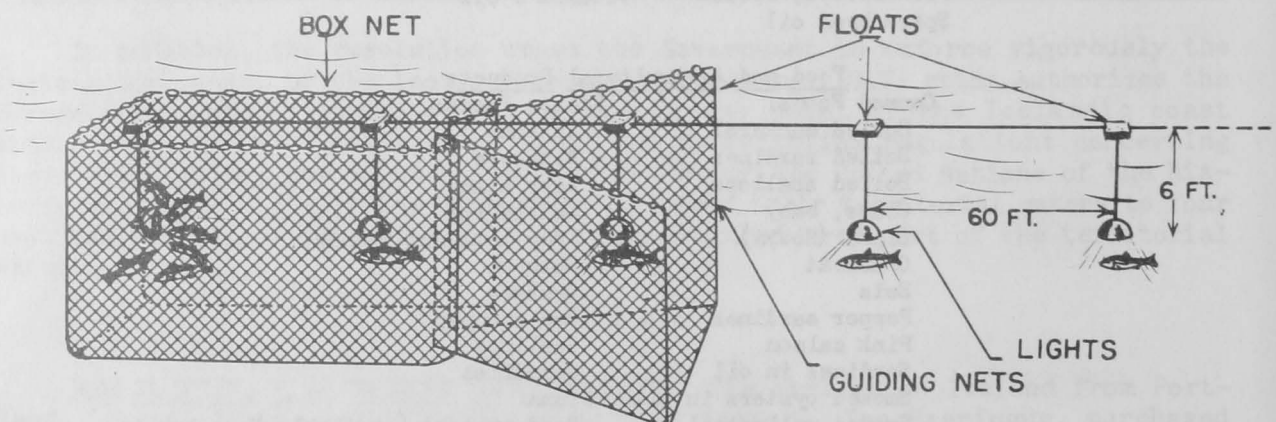
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AUTHORIZED FISHING AND WHALING AREA: A memorandum to the Japanese Government on authorized areas for Japanese fishing and whaling, amends and makes two minor changes to SCAPIN 1033, June 22, 1946. The changes provide a more exact delineation of the authorized areas east of Nemuro Peninsula, Hokkaido, in the vicinity of the starting point of the authorized area boundary line, but do not involve any increase or decrease in the authorized area, according to the December 25 Weekly Summary of SCAP. (See Commercial Fisheries Review, November 1948, page 54.)

USE OF LIGHTS IN CATCHING FISH: Use of electric lights for increasing the catch of fixed net fisheries was demonstrated under actual fishing conditions during the summer of 1948 off Cape Uomi, near Atami, Shizuoka Prefecture, according to the December 11 Weekly Summary of SCAP. These experiments indicated that the catch could be increased 20-30 percent with a substantial saving in the amount and cost of gear.

Knowing that fish gather around a light, a member of the Nishima Laboratory of the Physical and Chemical Research Institute, began experimenting in 1945 with lights to lure fish into nets. These experiments were conducted first in Lake Hamana to develop techniques and later applied to full-scale commercial fishing operations off Atami.

The method consists of using lights, similar to the headlight of an automobile, with bulbs of 150 watts and a reflector. Twenty of these lights are placed at a depth of 2 meters in a single row. They are spaced 20 meters apart and begin from a point about 300 meters offshore, or at the inshore end of the leader of a fixed net. The first 19 lights are so hung that the beams of light shine down toward the sea bottom. The 20th, or the end light of the row, located in the pocket of the net, casts its beam horizontally toward the row of lights extending from offshore. At dusk, the lights are switched on by a cable connected with a land-based power unit. The lights burst into brilliance through the water, illuminating about 400 meters in a straight line. Fish are attracted toward these lights. Then,

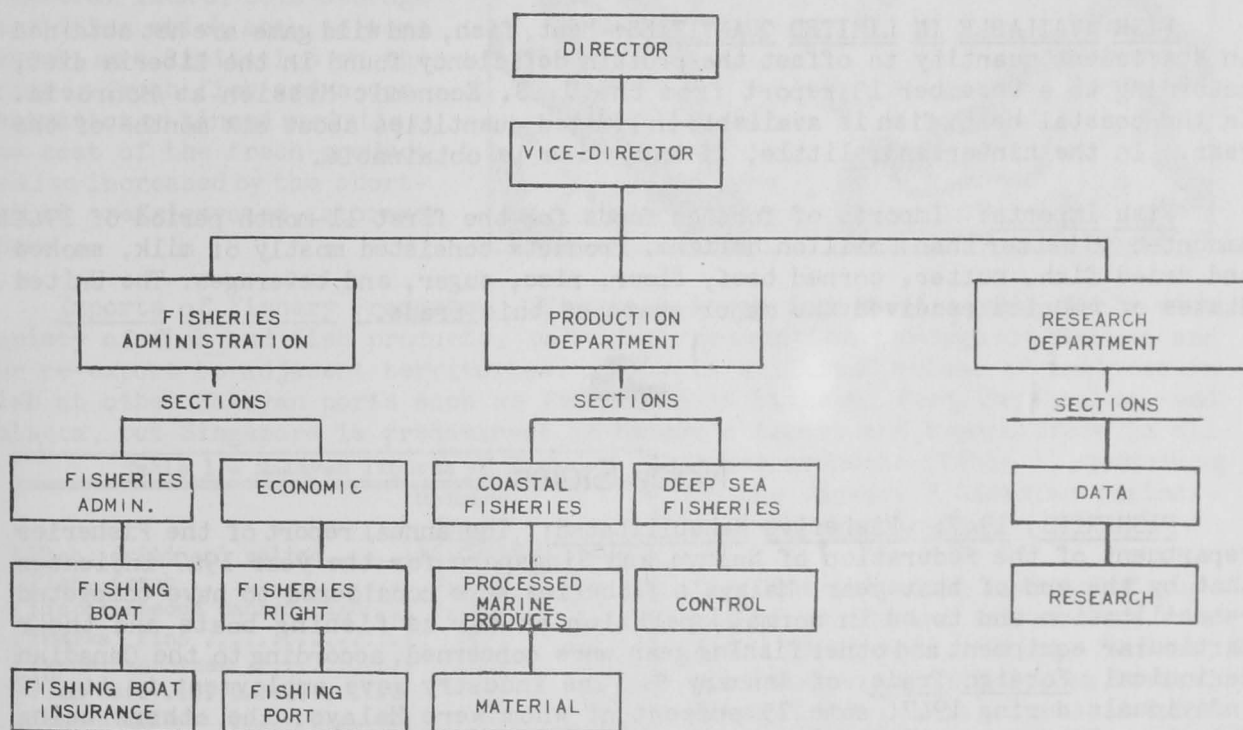


the lights are turned off successively at 5-minute intervals, beginning with the first light. Fish congregated under a light tend to move to the next light when the light above them is switched off. In this manner, the fish are lured along the string of lights to the funnel-shaped guiding nets and into the pocket of the box net where they are trapped. The operation is repeated twice during the night. Results on a moonless night are better than those on a moonlight night.

Although the use of lights for this type of fishing is still in an experimental stage, recent trials have impressed some fishermen with the practicability of the method. The experiments are supported by the Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, and also by the Ministry of Education. The average daily catch by this method, in an experimental period May 3-June 20, was 600 pounds in each net as compared with 306 pounds using the ordinary type of gear.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FISHERIES AGENCY: The organization of the Fisheries Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, is shown in the chart.

ORGANIZATION OF JAPANESE FISHERIES AGENCY - JULY 1, 1948



The chart lists departmental and section chiefs with their corresponding dates of appointment. In some instances, the section chiefs held the same positions in the Bureau of Fisheries before the establishment of the Fisheries Agency on July 1, 1948.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION POLICY: A letter from the Fishing Boat Section, Fisheries Agency, to governors of prefectures, subject, "Construction Plan of Fishing Boats" explains the Japanese policy governing ship construction, the principal features of which are:

No construction will be approved by Fisheries Agency on new fishing boats except as replacements for old, worn-out, or sunken vessels,

either steel or wooden, of such categories as those for which official authorization is required by Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers or by the Japanese Government.

Construction of a substitute vessel will be authorized only within the limit of the gross tonnage of the vessel which is being replaced.

The old vessel shall either be scrapped or converted for purposes other than fishing except in some cases where conversion to fish carriers can be made.

This policy has been established to prevent further expansion of the Japanese fishing fleet which has now reached the prewar level of 1939 and which is considered adequate to maintain the present level of production within the authorized fishing area.



Liberia

FISH AVAILABLE IN LIMITED QUANTITIES: Meat, fish, and wild game are not obtained in sufficient quantity to offset the protein deficiency found in the Liberia diet, according to a December 13 report from the U. S. Economic Mission at Monrovia. In the coastal belt, fish is available in limited quantities about six months of the year. In the hinterland, little, if any, fish is obtainable.

Fish Imports: Imports of foreign foods for the first 11-month period of 1948 amounted to better than a million dollars. Products consisted mostly of milk, smoked and dried fish, butter, corned beef, flour, rice, sugar, and beverages. The United States of America received the major share of this trade.



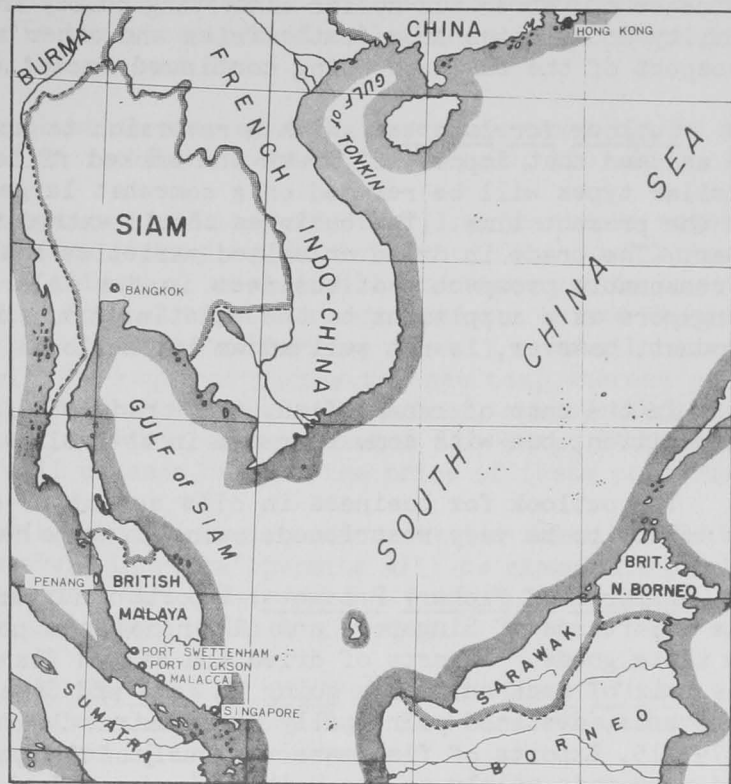
Malay States

FISHERIES, 1947: Fisheries Rehabilitated: The annual report of the Fisheries Department of the Federation of Malaya and Singapore for the year 1947 indicates that by the end of that year, Malaya's fisheries were considered to have completed rehabilitation and to be in normal operation as far as fishing boats and their particular equipment and other fishing gear were concerned, according to the Canadian periodical, Foreign Trade, of January 8. The industry gave employment to 44,379 individuals during 1947, some 75 percent of whom were Malays, the others being Chinese. There were 16,215 fishing boats in use, 114 of which were motor driven, the balance being operated by sail or manpower. The bulk of salt-water fishing operations were based on the use of fishing stakes, seine nets, and drift nets. These three types of gear represented some 60 percent of all larger fishing operations.

The wide distribution of fishing activities in Malaya, as well as several other factors, make it difficult to form any accurate estimate of the industry's production. The Department of Fisheries, however, states that output in 1947 reached a minimum of 42,000 metric tons, made up almost entirely of salt-water landings.

Both coastal and inland fisheries supply a number of excellent varieties which are as much appreciated by the European population as by the Malays, Chinese, and Indians, to all of whom such food is a staple article of diet. Current labor costs, as well as those of equipment, and the general level of prices of domestic produce force the price of several varieties of locally-caught fresh fish above those of salmon, halibut, and other types of cold-water fish imported from Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia.

As in most other eastern countries, Malaya's fisheries operate, for the most part, with primitive equipment and a general lack of cold-storage facilities which act, to some extent, as a limitation on the trade in fresh fish and a concentration on tinned varieties. The cost of the fresh product is also increased by the shortage of refrigerated storage space.



Imports of Fishery Products: Singapore is an important market for a wide variety of fish and fish products, both for consumption throughout Malaya and for re-export to adjacent territories. There is a limited volume of business in fish at other Malayan ports such as Penang, Port Dickson, Port Swettenham, and Malacca, but Singapore is predominant in Malaya's import and export trade in all these products (Table 1), according to the January 8 Canadian periodical, Foreign Trade.

Table 1 - Malayan Imports of Fish

	Metric Tons	
Fish, dried and salted	14,875	\$ 5,382,034
Fish, fresh	9,306	4,857,570
Miscellaneous canned fish ..	3,246	1,909,710
Sharks' fins	267	398,057
Canned sardines	102	88,992
Fish maws	17	34,985
Canned salmon	7	5,413
Total	27,820	\$12,676,761

Canada, Hong Kong, and Australia. The trade in miscellaneous canned fish comprised, for the most part, imports from Mexico, Canada, and India. Sharks' fins are purchased mainly from India, various South Pacific Islands, and Ceylon. The canned sardines originated mainly in Canada. Fish maws were brought in mainly from Indonesia and India. The limited business in canned salmon was almost entirely of Canadian origin.

Additional imports of fishery products during 1947 were \$1,663 worth of whale and fish oils, mainly from Siam and Norway, and 11,617 metric tons of fish valued at \$965,994 for use as fertilizer. This trade was made up almost entirely of supplies from Indonesia.

Precise details of import control policies to be administered by the Singapore and Malayan governments during the coming year are not available. With mounting evidence of a strenuous dollar-conserving policy and some improvement in the availability of supplies from South Africa and other sterling areas, there is little prospect of the business being continued except on a greatly restricted scale.

Outlook for Imports: With a reversion to normal trading conditions, it can be assumed that imports of fresh and smoked fillets, salmon, halibut, and other similar types will be resumed on a somewhat larger scale than in prewar years or at the present time. The business should extend to well over 100 metric tons per year. The trade in dried or salted varieties has never been large, but there is a reasonable prospect that business in dry salt herring might be developed in Singapore as a supplement to the existing trade in Hong Kong and Shanghai: The product, however, is not well known in the local market.

In the case of canned fish, the trade will probably revert to its prewar composition, but with some increase in the value of shipments of canned herring.

The outlook for business in oils and other miscellaneous fishery products is likely to be very restricted, owing to weak demand.

Exports of Fishery Products: Exports of fishery products during 1947 illustrate the importance of Singapore and other Malayan ports in Southeast Asia's trade in these goods. Exports of dried and salted fish reached a value of \$2,183,753, the bulk of such shipments going to Java and Sumatra. Miscellaneous canned fish shipments, destined principally for Sumatra, Dutch Borneo, and Sarawak, were worth \$379,115. Exports of fish maws, obviously of Malayan origin, were valued at \$214,232 and were made mainly to the United Kingdom. Including smaller values for sharks' fins, canned salmon and sardines, and fresh fish, the total value of such exports reached a total of \$2,985,059.



Mexico

NEW SEVERANCE TAX LAW ON CERTAIN FISHERY PRODUCTS: The Mexican Diario Oficial of December 30, 1948, carried a new severance tax law for certain species of fishery products taken in territorial waters of Mexico, which entered into effect on January 1, 1949, according to the United States Fishery Mission to Mexico. This new law places a severance tax of 20 centavos a kilogram (or 5 cents U. S. per kilogram when the tax is collected by Mexican fishery offices in the United States) on the following fishery products taken within the territorial waters of Mexico:

Abalone	Lobster
Clams	Crawfish
Cabrilla (kelp bass and rock bass)	Mullet
Shrimp	Oysters
Squid	Octopus
Corbina (white sea bass, spotted trout, and corbina)	Robalo (Gulf pike or snook)
	Totoaba (Mexican sea bass)

All of these species are in part or in their entirety reserved for cooperative fishermen. This new law specifies that the cooperatives must pay the tax at the time of original sale of the products. Fifty percent of the tax will be used for establishing a reserve fund in the Cooperative Development Bank (Banco de Fomento Cooperativo) for the purchase of fishing boats, gear, and equipment for the fishing cooperatives.

This law is actually a revision of the Decree of October 20, 1942, published in the Diario Oficial of November 24, 1942, and amended by Decree of January 5, 1943.^{1/} This latter Decree, which imposed a tax of one peso per kilogram on the above-listed fishery products (with the exception of mullet and robalo, which are new to the list) is abolished by the present law.

The present tax does not supplant already existing severance taxes but is an additional tax to those specified in the Tariff Act of January 20, 1933.^{2/}

The present law makes no exceptions and its effect will probably be rather far-reaching. For example, the shrimp fishery in the vicinity of Ciudad del Carmen, Campeche, will be obligated to pay this tax, as also will the fishermen in Laguna Madre, Tamaulipas, who take curbina (spotted trout) for export to the United States. Likewise, the shrimp fishery in the Gulf of California, as well as the lobster, abalone and totoaba fisheries, will be required to pay the new tax, whereas previously they were exempt from it. Most of the shrimp, abalone, clams, cabrilla, curbina, lobster, and totoaba taken in Mexico, are exported to the United States and it is expected that the new tax will cause a rise in the price of these products.

From the present law, it is impossible to determine whether American boats operating in Mexican waters under "via La Pesca" permits will be exempt from this tax. It may be that fishing boats from San Diego and Los Angeles, Calif., which take cabrilla and curbina in Mexican waters will be affected.

"VIA LA PESCA" PERMIT FEES FOR MEXICAN EAST COAST:^{3/} The Diario Oficial of December 14, 1948, carried a Decree which makes the "via La Pesca" fees for the east coast of Mexico identical to those of the west coast.

The establishment of such fees for the east coast of Mexico has no immediate significance for United States fishermen since no American boats are now fishing along the east coast of Mexico under "via La Pesca" permits.

The fees for the west coast made applicable to the east coast by the present Decree were increased 40 percent by the Decree published in the Diario Oficial of August 30, 1948.

The scale of fees promulgated August 30, 1948, is as follows (based on the storage capacity of the boat, per net ton):

	For Boats using	
	Nets (Pesos per net ton) ^{4/}	Bait
a. Up to two tons	-	\$ 43.75
b. More than 2 but not exceeding 3 tons	- \$105.00	105.00
c. More than 3 but not exceeding 15 tons	- 113.75	113.75
d. More than 15 but not exceeding 120 tons	- 87.50	70.00
e. Over 120 tons: from February 20 to November 15 of the same year	- 87.50	70.00
From November 16 of one year to February 19 of the following year	- 43.75	43.75
The basis shall be the time at which the fishing trip is to be made, rather than the date of issuance of the clearance.		

^{1/}"Mexican Fishery Legislation," Fishery Leaflet 260, Appendix XXIV, page 79, Fish and Wildlife Service.

^{2/}Fishery Leaflet 260, Appendix IV, page 44.

^{3/}See Commercial Fisheries Review, November 1948, p. 59, and December 1948, p. 42.

^{4/}One Mexican peso equals approximately \$0.1454 U. S.

Netherlands

SUPPLIES HERRING TO RUSSIA AND BIZONE GERMANY: Negotiations are going on between the Netherlands Government and the USSR for the sending of 26,500 barrels of salted herring to the Russian zone of Germany, according to a December 13 report from the American Embassy at The Hague, Netherlands. Negotiations are also under way for 75,000 barrels of salted herring from Holland to be sent to the British and American zones in Germany. The first part of December, a contract was signed for the early delivery of 6.6 million pounds of fresh herring for the British and American zones of Germany.

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WHALING INDUSTRY, 1947-48: The production of whale oil and byproducts from the 1947-48 catch of ships operated in the Antarctic by the only whaling company in the Netherlands follows:

Whale oil - 13,033 metric tons	Whale meat - 69 metric tons
Sperm oil - 1,176 metric tons	Livers - 373 barrels

The sale of oil, meat, liver, and byproducts brought \$5,517,980 compared with \$4,692,240 for the previous season, according to a December 24, 1948, report from the American Consulate General at Amsterdam.

The Netherlands Government had contracted, in advance, to purchase the entire whale oil output of 13,033 metric tons at \$756.20 per ton. The oil will be used in the production of margarine.

Chemical works purchased the bulk of the sperm oil for use in the manufacture of cosmetics.

A Netherlands firm processed and canned the 69 tons of meat, which, it is reported, found ready buyers since the supply of meat for domestic consumption is considerably below demand.

The season's catch was not as large as had been expected, partly on account of unfavorable weather conditions, but the 1947-48 production of whale and sperm oil exceeded the previous season's by 1,815 metric tons. At present, the production of this one company covers only half of this country's requirements.

Fleet: During the 1947-48 season, the factory whaler, Willem Barendsz, proved capable of handling more whale units than the eight accompanying whalers could provide. Therefore, it was decided to expand the fleet and two British corvettes were purchased. These two ships, with a speed of 16 to 17 knots, were converted in time to join the third expedition which arrived in the Antarctic recently.

The Netherlands whaling company has announced that it intends to replace several of the smaller and older whalers. The company has, therefore, purchased from the Netherlands Government three Japanese whalers which were found in Indonesia at the end of the war and are regarded as war booty. The three Japanese whalers, built in 1937, 1938, and 1940, will equal the company's best whalers. The company also hopes to complete the repairs in time for the whalers to join the 1949-50 expedition.

Outlook for 1948-49 Season: Prospects for the coming season, which started on December 15, 1948, are good. Considering especially the addition of two whalers

and the improvements in the factory whaler, the one company feels confident that the 1948-49 expedition will return with a fair share of the maximum 16,000 blue whale units which may be caught by all expeditions in the Antarctic under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling. The Netherlands Government has again contracted for the entire whale oil output at a price of \$385.70 per ton for first quality oil.



Newfoundland

UNION WITH CANADA SET FOR MARCH 31, 1949: The signing of the terms of agreement for union of Newfoundland with Canada took place at noon on Saturday, December 11, in the Senate Chamber of the Canadian House of Parliament on Capitol Hill, Ottawa. Canadian Government policy and temporary administrative arrangements concerning Newfoundland are set forth in a memorandum issued also on December 11, 1948, but not included in the Terms of Union, according to the Fisheries Council of Canada and the December 18 issue of the Canadian periodical, Foreign Trade.

The following are some of the highlights of the Terms of Union and the accompanying memorandum in respect to the fisheries:

Fisheries (Marketing) Board to be a Federal Agency: (1) The present Newfoundland laws relating to export marketings of salted fish will be administered by the Newfoundland Fisheries Board operating as a federal agency under the Governor-General in Council and will continue in effect for a period of five years after union.

(2) The persons who at the time of union are in the employment of the Board or other Newfoundland fisheries services will become employees of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

Cost to be Borne by Federal Government: (3) The costs of maintaining the Fisheries Board including the cost of continuing the Board's fish trade representatives aboard and the outlays for administering the export laws will be met by the Federal Government.

The fish trade representatives of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board abroad (for which six positions exist and of which five are filled at present) will be continued as Board officials, and be paid out of funds voted for the Board during the Board's existence.

The Department of Trade and Commerce will absorb into the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service the two trade commissioners in London and New York, at present responsible to the Newfoundland Department of National Resources.

Export Tax to be Abolished: (4) The present export tax on salted fish of five cents a quintal will be abolished at the date of union, which is set for March 31, 1949.

Marketing Powers Limited to Salted Fish Only: (5) The alteration or repeal of any of these export marketing laws will be conditional during the five years following Confederation upon the consent of the Government of the Province of Newfoundland.

(6) The administration of these export marketing laws will be a function of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board serving as a federal agency and the powers of the Board will be exercised only in respect of the export marketing of salted fish (dry salted, pickled, barrelled, Scotch cure or other salted fish, but not fresh, frozen, or canned fish or shellfish, marine animal oils, fish oils, or byproducts).

(7) After the end of the 5-year period, the export marketing laws and the Board's operating powers shall continue "until the Parliament of Canada otherwise provides."

(8) Other powers of administration which the Board may have exercised prior to union will become the concern of the general administrative service of the Canadian Department of Fisheries.

Federal Department Responsible for General Administration: (9) General fisheries administration in the Province of Newfoundland will be the responsibility of the Federal Department of Fisheries.

(10) The Federal Statutes which are now of general application in Canada with regard to fisheries will come into effect in the Province as soon as may be feasible after the union.

(11) As soon as practicable after completion of union, the Federal Fisheries services now carried on in Canada will be extended to the new Province.

Board Chairman or Member to Administer Federal Department in Province: (12) Under the terms of union, the administrative functions of the Department of Fisheries in the Province will be the responsibility of the Chairman of the Newfoundland Fisheries Board or such other Member of the Board as the Governor-General in Council may designate.

(13) Existing Newfoundland services in such fields as the protection and encouragement of the fisheries and operation of bait stations will be taken over by Federal authorities.

Bait Sales to Foreign Vessels to be Continued: (14) In some cases, amendments of these statutes (see No. 10 above) will be necessary to fit conditions in the Province. A case in point is the Customs and Fisheries Protection Act which now prohibits the sale of bait to foreign fishing vessels in territorial waters of Canada except under special treaty or convention. This prohibition would interfere with the continuation of the present Newfoundland practice with respect to such dealings in bait. In these circumstances, the Department of Fisheries has expressed willingness to recommend to Parliament that the existing Canadian law be suitably amended.

Present Trawlers Continue--New Licenses Subject to Efficiency and Community Welfare: (15) An amendment of the Canadian Fisheries Act will be introduced so that the present conditions as regard operations of Newfoundland trawlers may continue. The issuing of trawler licenses in the Province of Newfoundland after union will be based on securing maximum efficiency for the fishing industry and welfare for shore communities.

(16) In any interval which may occur between the time of union and the date when Canadian laws come into force in the Province, the existing Newfoundland laws are to continue operative.

Fish Wrappers and Packages: Wrappers provided by purchasers in the United States for their suppliers in Newfoundland will be dutiable after the date of Union, but will also be eligible for the 99 percent draw-back on re-export as containers of fresh frozen fish.

Efforts are being made to arrange for the continued use for export of the present stock of wrappers marked "Product of Newfoundland."

Importation of printed wrappers of all kinds made from paper for domestic use is prohibited at the present time, but permits may be granted by the Department of Finance in cases where the United States importer insists on supplying his own wrapper for the goods purchased by him in Canada. There is no restriction, however, on the importation of transparent wrappers or types of cardboard cartons or boxes usually used in the fish trade. These wrappers and containers are also eligible for the 99 percent draw-back on re-export as containers of fresh frozen fish.

Tariff Agreements: The position after Union of the agreement between Newfoundland and the Dominican Republic, providing for a low rate of duty on imports of Newfoundland cod into the latter country, is being examined. If necessary, the Canadian Government will initiate discussions on this matter.



Norway

DEMAND FOR NORWAY'S FISHING SMACKS: Norway's fishing fleet, hard hit by the invasion and occupation, has now surpassed prewar size, and is far superior in quality to the 1939 fleet, according to a recent Oslo report. Norwegian builders, who until now have found it difficult to meet home demand have recently noted a decrease in the number of ship orders and are contemplating prospects of fishing boat export. Several builders have recently received inquiries from interested fishing firms in South America and South Africa.

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EXPERIMENTAL FACTORY SHIP TO RENDER HERRING OIL: A Norwegian experimental floating factory ship to render herring oil at sea is scheduled to start operations within a year, with an estimated capacity of 20 to 30 tons of oil per hour. If successful, other ships will be modeled along the same lines, according to a December 24, 1948, consular report from the American Embassy at Oslo.

EXPORTS HERRING TO RUSSIA AND BIZONE GERMANY: For the year commencing November 1, 1947, Norway's exports of herring will probably total 455,600 barrels of large herring and 364,360 barrels of spring herring, with Russia absorbing 246,000 barrels of the large; and Bizone Germany, 264,000 barrels of the spring herring.

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TO FISH FOR GREENLAND COD: Failure of last year's cod catch off the Norwegian coast plus prospects of a continuing slump, have prompted many Norwegian fishermen to consider fishing for cod in the west Greenland area during the coming season, according to the Royal Norwegian Information Service.

At a recent meeting in the west coast port of Aalesund, backers of a new firm have decided to send a mothership to the west Greenland banks to take over the salting of cod delivered by Norwegian fishing boats. While only two Norwegian vessels fished for cod in these areas last year, an expedition of 60 vessels and a mothership with a base at Faeringhavn will be leaving next May to join in Greenland cod fishing during the coming season.

This year's market indicates a relatively stable demand for salted and salt-dried cod—a demand which Norwegian producers were not able to meet last year.

TO MARKET NEW WHALE BYPRODUCTS: With the delivery in Sandefjord, Norway, of the nearly-completed 27,000-ton whaling factory ship Kosmos V, its owner revealed that the vessel, though not yet fitted with factory equipment, will soon be equipped to manufacture new whale byproducts. The Kosmos V, Norway's largest vessel, will first serve with the whaling fleet in Antarctica this season as a tanker, following which it will return for refitting at a local yard.

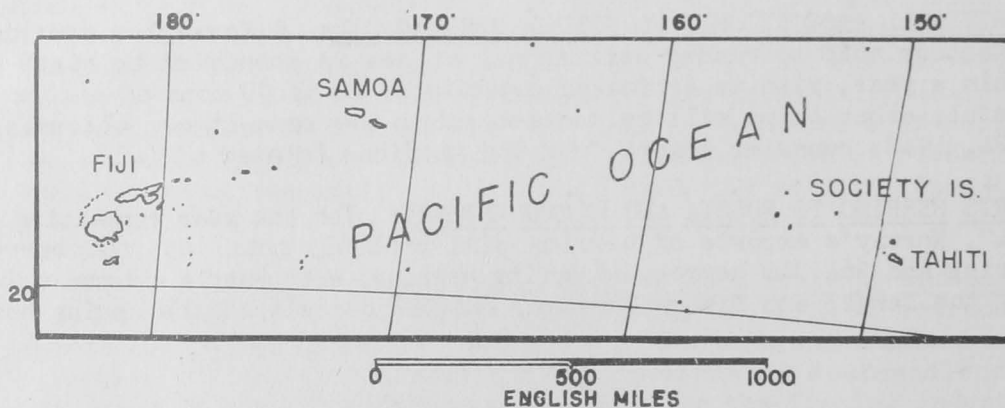
According to the owner, his firm's scientists have satisfactorily solved the problem of extracting insulin from the whale pancreas and commercial production of this article may be expected to begin soon. Production of vitamin concentrates from whale liver will henceforth take place aboard the factory ship, instead of at land factories as has heretofore been the case.

It was further revealed that a canning factory with a 2,000-ton capacity will be built aboard the Kosmos V for the processing of whale food products, as well as a plant for the production of whale meat extracts.



Pacific South Sea Islands

DEVELOPMENT OF TUNA FISHING INDUSTRY: Considerable interest is being displayed in the tuna fishing potentialities in the Pacific South Sea Islands area. In the past six months, several companies and operations have been proposed and started in the South Sea Islands area, according to reports from various sources.

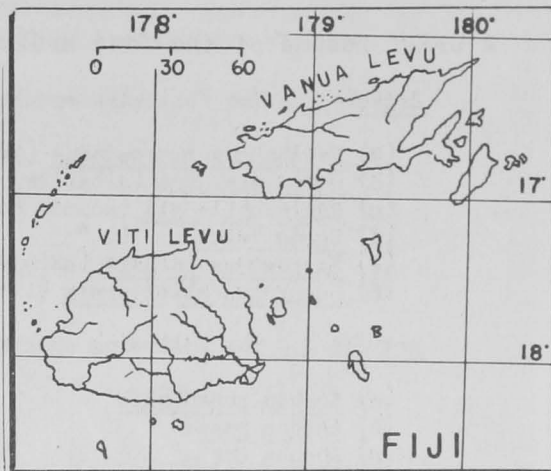


In addition, several California tuna fishing companies are investigating possibilities of tuna fishing operations in the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

Fiji Islands: Tuna fishing operations in the vicinity of the Fiji Islands (British) are being considered by two new companies—one in the Fiji Islands and

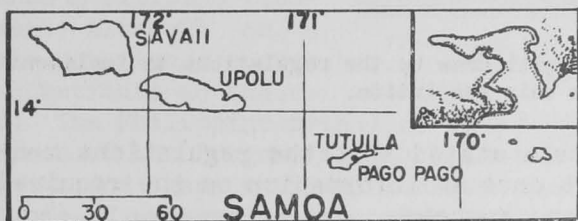
the other a California tuna company. The Fiji company will have a capital 60 percent Fiji-held and 40 percent American-held, and the American company will have a capital 60 percent American-held and 40 percent Fiji-held. A 190-foot, 1,000-ton tuna fishing vessel with spotting plane is expected to arrive within the next month or two to begin operations. The smaller 50-foot fishing craft will be obtained locally.

The business of the company will be the catching and freezing of tuna and tuna-like fishes for shipment to the United States, and the fishing and canning of other varieties, particularly those which may prove desirable for British Empire markets. In addition, it is expected that these new companies will process fish meal, fertilizer, and vitamin oils for world markets, but with preference for the British Empire.



American Samoa: The proposed establishment of a tuna factory by an American corporation in Pago Pago, American Samoa, was recently announced. The cannery

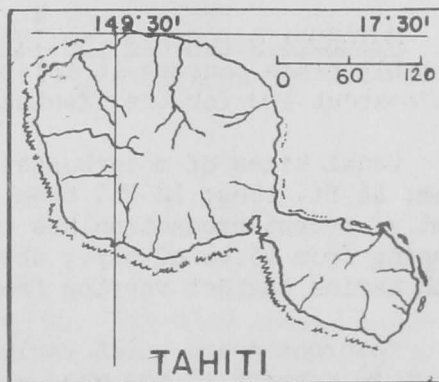
will be supplied with fish by a fleet of fishing craft operated by a Fiji Islands (British) company. The cannery will be fitted to pack 125,000 cases annually at first, with the possibility of doubling this quantity.



PAGO PAGO HARBOR

This enterprise will have two bait boats designed only to fish and transport bait. Fishing will be done by three tuna clippers, under British registry, to be obtained from California. In addition, a 114-foot YT, with a capacity of 250 tons, is being converted in the United States to freeze and transport the catch to the cannery.

Tahiti: An American fishing company has an agreement with the Representative Assembly of Oceania of the Government of Tahiti (French) ready for signature. The agreement provides for a jointly held Franco-American (51 percent French or Tahitian-held) company and is expected to receive the approval of the Franco-Tahitian Chamber shortly. A canning factory and a coastal vessel in Tahiti is owned at present by one of the new company's owners.



Peru

CANNED FISH LABELING AND QUALITY STANDARDS: Peru's Supreme Resolution No. 738, dated November 24, published in El Peruano of December 29, 1948, provides

for labeling and quality standards for fish canned by the local industry, according to a January 4 report from the American Embassy at Lima.

A brief resumé of the four articles comprising the resolution follows:

Article 1 - The following species of canned fish may be labeled "ATUN" (tuna):

- (a) Neothunnus macropterus (yellowfin tuna)
- (b) Germo alalunga (albacore)
- (c) Sarda chilensis (common bonito, Pacific)
- (d) Sarda velox (" " ")
- (e) Katsuwonus pelamis (skipjack tuna)
- (f) Euthynnus alletterata (little tuna)

Article 2 - The following species of canned fish may be labeled "ANCHOA" (anchovy):

- (a) Anchoa panamensis
- (b) Anchoa nasus
- (c) Anchoa curta
- (d) Anchoa naso

Article 3 - The following species of canned fish may be labeled "SARDINA" (sardine):

- (a) Sardinops sagax
- (b) Harengula thrissina
- (c) Ethmidium chilcae
- (d) Ilisha furthii

Article 4 - The Ministry of Agriculture will draw up the regulations to implement the standards specified in this resolution.

An official of the Dirección de Pesquería stated that the regulations mentioned in Article 4 would not be drawn up at once as information on the required standards is still being gathered from various sources.

Until such time as this regulation is published, it is impossible to determine what effect its application would have, if any, on the exports of Peruvian canned fish to the United States.

MOTORBOATS FOR FISHING INDUSTRY: On the basis of information gathered from reliable trade sources it is estimated that 120 motorboats were constructed in 1947--about 100 for the fishing industry and 20 for other purposes.

Usual sizes of motorboats for the fishing industry are: 36 ft. long, 9 ft. beam; 46 ft. long, 12 ft. beam; and 28 ft. long, double-ended craft. Some 60 percent of recent production has consisted of the smallest size boat with motors ranging from 15 to 40 h.p.; about 40 percent was of the first two types, equipped with marine engines varying from 40 to 100 h.p.

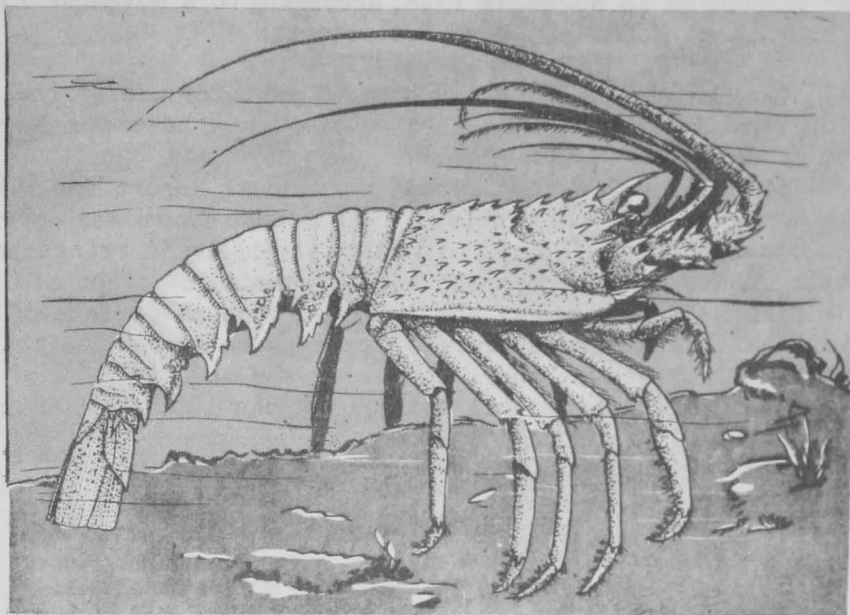
Motorboats are built exclusively of wood, principally Douglas fir, and only about 30 percent of the wood used is Peruvian. The quality of the boats is reported to be satisfactory.

Production is centered in Peru's principal port, Callao, where four shipyards are in operation. The trend of construction of commercial power craft is upward, boosted by the expanding fishing industry.

The production of marine accessories, equipment, and hardware (consisting principally of small iron and brass fittings and a few simple parts for Diesel engines) is commercially insignificant.

Republic of the Philippines

EXPLORATION OF SPINY LOBSTER FISHERY: An excellent opportunity for an industry lies in the fishing and marketing of Philippine spiny lobsters, according to a December 17 report from the Administrator of the Service's Philippine Fishery Program and officials of the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries. With the recent addition of the David Starr Jordan to the research fishery fleet of the Program, exploration plans for the spiny lobster fishery have been made possible.



SPINY LOBSTER (PANULIRUS PENICILLATUS) RANGE - RED SEA TO CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, NORTH COAST OF AUSTRALIA TO HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

Spiny lobsters, according to a recent survey, abound along the Philippine coast and are fished by Filipino fishermen, although on a scale not large enough to constitute an industry. The Philippine method of spearing the spiny lobster kills it. It is the purpose of the Program's technicians to introduce the use of such fishing gear as nets and traps which will enable fishermen to catch the spiny lobsters alive. Methods of preserving the catch by processing, packing in cellophane and freezing, and chilling with ice will also be studied.

Lobsters, a much valued delicacy everywhere in the world, command a relatively steady high price. Currently wholesaling in Manila at four to five pesos (\$2.00 to \$2.50) each, these crustaceans, it has been learned, can be obtained for as little as 25 centavos (12½ cents) each in certain localities of the Philippines. The current demand, even in Manila, is limited but it is believed that a flourishing market could be developed in a relatively short time.



Poland

BUDGET FOR 1949 INCLUDES EXPENDITURES FOR FISHERIES: The 1949 budget estimates, together with the investment plan, approved by the Council of Ministers of the Polish Government, provides for a 30 percent increase in expenditures for the financing of new undertakings connected with the fisheries, according to a December 22, 1948, report from the American Consulate at Warsaw.



Seychelles Islands

FISHING INDUSTRY: The purchase of the island of St. Anne (500 acres), the largest of the four islands forming the outer perimeter of Port Victoria harbor, was announced in November 1948, according to a November 15 report from the American Consulate at Mombasa, Kenya Protectorate.

The Government intended a small part for use of the fishing industry. Before the First World War, this part served as a base for Norwegian whale fisheries.

As reported in the Seychelles "Annual Report for 1946," the fishing industry was confined to production for local needs. There was only one motor vessel engaged in deep-sea fishing, the bulk of the production being carried out in pirogues and rowing boats by fishermen who rarely went out of sight of land. It would appear that the fishing industry has not improved because of lack of vessels, and because the fishermen, like the laborer, appears to be content with less money than he could obtain by full-time labor. A survey was made in 1946 of the fishery resources by a marine biologist and his estimation was 120,000 metric tons per annum.



Spain

FOREIGN FISH TRADE IN RECENT YEARS: Traditionally, Spain has been both a major importer and exporter of fish. In the years 1933-35, immediately prior to the Civil War, average annual imports totaled approximately 60,000 metric tons valued at \$8.7 million; exports reached 31,000 metric tons with a value equivalent to \$7.4 million. The Spanish Civil War (1936-39) and World War II disrupted the trade, and as a result of difficulties caused by those conflicts, the volume decreased sharply. From 1946 to 1948, the quantity of yearly imports averaged only about one-seventh, and exports less than one-fourth, of the 1933-35 movement (imports 9,000 and exports 7,000 metric tons), according to a December 1 report from the American Embassy at Madrid.

The unit value of fish imports and exports moved to higher levels during the past few years. Even though the volume of trade registered a tremendous loss as compared with the pre-Civil War position, the average value of imports from 1946 to 1948 was placed at \$5.2 million and exports \$7.7 million, annually. The latter was an actual gain over the earlier period, although the quantity was less than one-fourth as great.

Imports: Spain's fish imports have consisted almost entirely of cod. Iceland, Denmark, Norway, and Newfoundland were the principal suppliers prior to the Civil War, but in the last several years most of the business has been done by only Newfoundland and Norway. The quantity of cod imported dropped from a yearly average of 57,700 metric tons during the pre-Civil War 1933-35 period, to only 8,500 metric tons from 1946-48. The domestic demand for cod is strong, and it seems probable that it will remain so.

Exports: Canned sardines formerly accounted for roughly two-thirds of the total volume of Spain's exports of fish. But in the last few years, sardine runs have not been as abundant, and packers have also experienced a shortage of essential canning materials, especially tinsplate. These factors have brought about a sharp drop in exports. Whereas, the yearly trade in sardines from 1933 to 1935 averaged 19,400 metric tons, it had shrunk to a mere 2,700 metric tons in 1946 to 1948.

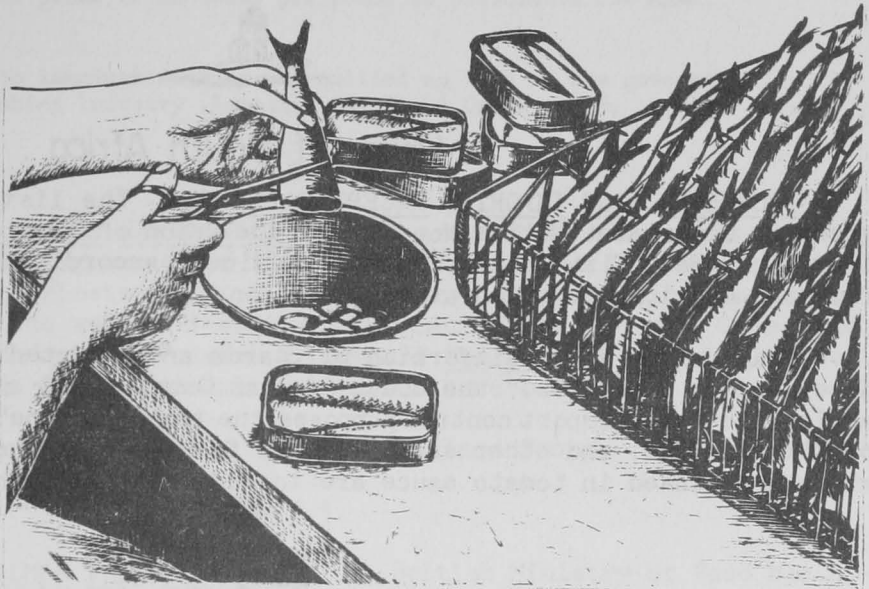
Prices rose, but not enough to overcome the decrease in volume, and consequently, there has been a loss, as compared with 1933-35, amounting to the equivalent of several million dollars annually. Fortunately, however, the value of other fish exports swung upward so that the total movement based on value from 1946 to 1948 was slightly ahead of the pre-Civil War period.

The principal outlets for fish during 1933-35 were Italy, Argentina, Germany, and France, although shipments had a world-wide distribution. On the basis of value, Italy alone accounted for 38 percent of the total, and together with the other three countries named, absorbed well over two-

thirds of the entire amount. Italy is now by far the most important single market, and from 1946-48 took almost two-thirds of Spain's fish exports based on value. While purchases by the United States have figured only in a relatively minor way in the total export trade, nevertheless, they have been a significant source of much-needed dollar exchange.

Outlook: Spain unquestionably is following a policy aimed at eliminating the necessity of importing cod by expanding her fleet. Barring unforeseen developments, it seems reasonable to expect a decrease in dependence upon other nations for her supply of cod.

It is quite clear that the Government would like to see exports stepped up to a level more nearly approaching the pre-Civil War volume. But for several years, canners have been discouraged and hampered by a shortage of olive oil, tinsplate, and other essential items, as well as having price difficulties. If the industry and the authorities solve these problems, and it appears that they may achieve at least a partial solution, canners will again be in a favorable position to turn out a large pack. This is also contingent, of course, upon the supply of sardines. During the past year or so, it has been reported that they have not been as plentiful in Spanish waters as previously, and there has been considerable discussion as to whether this may be a temporary condition.



PRODUCTION LINE IN SPANISH SARDINE CANNERY - WOMEN TAKE FISH FROM SPECIAL SHAPED WIRE BASKETS, CUT TO CONVENIENT SIZE, AND PACK IN CANS. FISH ARE PLACED IN THE BASKETS DIRECTLY FROM THE BRINE TANK.

Trinidad

TO PRODUCE SHARK LIVER OIL: Trinidad has decided to set up a pilot plant for the extraction of shark liver oil, according to the Canadian periodical, Foreign

Trade, of December 18. Samples are of good market value and, although initial production will satisfy only local demands, it is thought that an export market could be built up.



Union of South Africa

PROHIBITS FISH IMPORTS, EXCEPT SARDINES: The list of prohibited imports given in Government Notice No. 2386, of the Union of South Africa, dated November 5, 1948, includes "fish: other, except sardines," according to a December 14 report from the American Legation at Pretoria.

Inasmuch as some Californian pilchards are exported to South Africa and are described as "sardines," the South African Commissioner of Customs and Excise has advised that for import control purposes the term "sardine" is regarded as including brislings, sild, and other similar small fish packed in oil. However, pilchards which are packed in tomato sauce are included in the prohibited list.



United Kingdom

DEVELOP NEW HERRING CURE FOR TROPICS: A new method of curing herring for export to tropical countries for consumption by natives has been developed as a result of experiments, reported in a report of the United Kingdom Herring Industry Board, according to the December 25 issue of the Canadian periodical, Foreign Trade.

Herring mechanically split and cleaned were cured in a high concentration of brine and subsequently drained. Given the name "dry cured" to distinguish them from pickled cured herring in barrels, samples were packed into wooden cases and dispatched to certain parts of Africa in December 1947. Reports received have been very encouraging. The herring arrived in good condition and there is every reason to believe that this product could compete successfully both as regards price and quality with locally-caught fish, besides providing an excellent variation to, and an improvement in, the diet of many native peoples.

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NEW ORDER CONTINUES PRICE CEILINGS FOR FISH: The Fish (Maximum Prices) Order, 1948, S. I. No. 2610, which went into effect December 4 and 5, 1948, provides that no person shall sell or buy any fish at a price exceeding the price applicable in accordance with the schedules which are part of the Order. All fish are included except pilchard, sprats, mackerel, horse mackerel, sturgeon, salmon, trout, eels (except conger eels), smelt, shad, whitebait, bass, gray mullet, red mullet, and shellfish.

This Order replaces the Fish (Control and Maximum Prices) Order, 1947, as amended. The principal modifications in the present Order are as follows:

1. The maximum prices of all varieties of headless fish, except dogfish and wings of ray or skate, are reduced by five cents per stone (14 pounds) on a first hand sale (primary wholesaler level);

2. Cooked fish, with exception of roes, milts, smokies, and bucklings, is removed from price control;
3. A maximum retail price of 22 cents per pound is prescribed for hake fillets.
4. The reference to immature fish is now omitted as this is now covered by the Sea Fishing Industry (Immature Sea Fish) Order, 1948.

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FISHING OFF GREENLAND AND NEWFOUNDLAND: On account of the small catches from the Bear Island fishing grounds and the closing of the White Sea Banks, several large trawlers from Hull, Fleetwood, and Grimsby, England, have gone during the past few months to both the west and east coast fishing grounds off Greenland, according to a recent article in the October 23 issue of The Fishing News of Aberdeen, Scotland. Landings up to 300,000 pounds per vessel have been made.

At least one trawler has fished on the Newfoundland Banks.

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PURCHASES CANNED SALMON FROM U.S.S.R.: The British Ministry of Food had applied on a number of occasions for an allocation of dollars for the purchase of Canadian salmon, but, because of the shortage of dollars, the order was placed with the U.S.S.R., which has promised supplies of 330,000 to 360,000 cases of canned salmon and canned crab in 1949, according to the January 1949 Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries. The Russians are short of sterling in view of their large purchases of rubber, wool, etc., from the Sterling Area, and this tinned fish was purchased from them outright, regardless of any further developments in connection with the proposed extension of the United Kingdom-Russian trade agreement of 1947. In conformity with a custom existing since the war, of giving preference in tinsplate supplies to such countries that in turn supply tinned food to Great Britain, the United Kingdom will export to the Soviet Union as much tinsplate as will be needed to fill the contract.

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FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SCOTTISH FISHERMEN IN 1947: Grants and loans are available to fishermen for the acquisition of boats and gear, mainly used for catching white fish and shellfish, under the Inshore Fishing Industry Act, 1945; and under the Herring Industry Act, 1944, for boats used mainly for herring fishing, according to an October 28 consular report from the American Embassy at London. At the end of 1947, the assistance offered to Scottish fishermen under these Acts was \$1,593,970 in grants and \$2,745,421 in loans, covering the construction of 137 new vessels, 42 ex-Admiralty vessels and the purchase and reconditioning of 147 vessels. Of these boats, 50 new vessels and 30 ex-Admiralty vessels began fishing during the year.

Many of the activities of the Herring Industry Board are financed with assistance from the British Government and, during 1947, grants and advances for working capital were made to the Board.

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NORTHERN IRELAND PROHIBITS SALE OR POSSESSION OF IMMATURE FISH: An order, prohibiting the sale or possession of immature sea fish in Northern Ireland was

issued in compliance with provisions of the International Fisheries Convention held in London in 1946 to control the North Sea fishing, and to which the United Kingdom is a signatory. The Sea Fishing Industry (Immature Sea Fish) Order, 1948, dated July 30, 1948, is made under Section 1 of the Sea Fishing Industry Act (Northern Ireland), 1933, which empowers the Ministry of Commerce to prescribe minimum sizes of sea fish to be sold in Northern Ireland, according to an American consular report of September 21 from Belfast.

Several orders of this nature were issued before the war, but the need for increased food supplies necessitated their revocation at the outbreak of the war. Although the general food situation has not become normal, the intensive fishing of the North Sea has so reduced the stocks of fish there that it was realized that conservation measures would have to be taken again.

The Order is similar to the one issued for England and Scotland (See Commercial Fisheries Review, July 1948, page 29; August 1948, page 49) except for the sizes of whiting and dabs which are $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and 1" longer than the required sizes in Great Britain. The landings of whiting in the seas adjoining Northern Ireland are of vital importance to Northern Ireland's fishing industry, inasmuch as 90 percent of the catch is marketed in Great Britain.



International

ANTARCTIC WHALING, 1948-49 SEASON: In the Antarctic this year, 18 whale factory ships will be operating, according to the Royal Norwegian Information Service. The 1948-49 season opened December 15 and is scheduled to close on April 7. If the season's quota of whales is reached before this date, it will end when the quota is reached without going for the full period allowed.

Norway again heads the list of countries engaged in Antarctic whaling. A total of 6,000 Norwegians will be engaged in whaling operations in Antarctic waters. Crews and workmen aboard the 10 Norwegian floating factories and 100 catching vessels will include some 4,000 men. Adding those Norwegians employed at land stations, as well as those serving aboard British vessels, the total will approximate 6,000. The floating factory Thorshøvd, most recent addition to the Norwegian whaling fleet, and all units of the Norwegian fleet were expected to be in the field by mid-December.

In addition to Norway, Great Britain will operate four ships with 53 catching vessels, but the crews will consist of 2,000 Norwegians. The largest single expedition will be the British factory ship, Balaena, which will consist of 20 catching vessels. One of the catchers will experiment with a new electric harpoon.

Once again, Japan has been allowed to send two expeditions, and two factory ships have cleared for the Antarctic. Although research on the use of electric harpoons in the Japanese whaling industry was conducted before World War II, a practical electric harpoon was never developed, and none is being used by the Japanese at present.

The Netherlands will operate one ship with 10 catching vessels, having added two converted corvettes to the fleet.

The Russian factory ship, Slava, will operate in the Antarctic whaling grounds, but in contrast to last season, there will be no Norwegian whalers serving aboard, according to Oslo press reports.