



International

MEDITERRANEAN FISHERIES COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY UNITED KINGDOM: The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, in a communication dated November 17, 1950, has advised the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations of its acceptance of the Agreement reached in Rome, Italy, on September 24, 1949, for the formation of a General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean.

The purpose of the Council, whose headquarters will be in Rome when established, is to promote cooperative action by governments in developing the seas' resources. The delegates of six countries (France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Turkey, and Yugoslavia) unanimously accepted a draft agreement for the establishment of a regional council for the scientific exploration of the sea in the Mediterranean Sea and contiguous waters at the meeting in September 1949. If ratified by five of them, it will become effective.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, NOVEMBER 1949, P. 22; DECEMBER 1949, PP. 24-6.



Brazil

COASTAL SHELF DECLARED PART OF BRAZILIAN TERRITORY: Brazilian Decree No. 28,840, dated November 8, 1950, establishes that the coastal shelf (plataforma submarina) contiguous to Brazil and to Brazilian Islands is a part of Brazilian territory under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government, reports an American Embassy dispatch from Rio de Janeiro dated November 28, 1950. The distance from land which the coastal shelf is considered to extend for the purposes of the Decree is not specifically stated, but the wording of the Decree would seem to indicate that reference is made to that part of the coastal shelf under Brazil's territorial waters which, according to the Brazilian Government are deemed to extend three miles from the coast.

The following is a translation of the Decree:

Decree No. 28,840 - November 8, 1950

The President of the Republic,

Considering that the underwater shelf which borders the continents and islands and extends under the high sea, is really submerged territory and constitutes, with the lands to which it is adjacent, one sole geographic unit;

Considering that countries' interest in declaration of sovereignty, or in dominion and jurisdiction, over the part thus added to the national territory has increased as a consequence of the ever greater possibility of exploration for or of utilization of the natural riches encountered there;

Considering that, consequently, various American States, through Presidential declarations or decrees have affirmed the rights, which are theirs, of dominion and jurisdiction, or of sovereignty, over the part of the underwater shelf contiguous and appertaining to the national territory. (Declarations of the President of the United States of America of September 28, 1945; of the President of Mexico of October 29, 1945, and of the President of Chile of June 25, 1947; decrees of the President of Argentina of October 11, 1946 and of Peru of August 1, 1947);

Considering that, under such conditions, it behooves the Brazilian Government, in order to safeguard the rights of Brazil over the part of the underwater

shelf appertaining to its continental territory and to its islands, to formulate an identical declaration;

Considering that the declaration of Brazil's rights is urgent and undeferrable;

Considering that fishing in territorial waters and in the high sea has been the object of national laws and of international conventions, and that it may be in Brazil's interest to participate in new conventions or to promulgate new laws on this subject;

Considering that, under the terms of the Federal Constitution, it falls to the President of the Republic immediately to provide for the protection of the national integrity and the internal security of the country--without prejudice, nevertheless, to the responsibility of the Legislative Power with regard to this matter;

Decrees:

Article 1. It is expressly recognized that the underwater shelf, in the part appertaining to the continental and insular territory of Brazil, is integrated into this same territory, under exclusive jurisdiction and dominion of the Federal Union.

Article 2. Utilization of or exploration for the products or natural riches which are in that part of the na-

tional territory are subject, in all cases, to Federal authorization or concession.

Article 3. The regulations on navigation in the waters over the shelf referred to above continue in full effect, without prejudice to those that may be established in the future, especially with regard to fishing in that region.

Article 4. The present Decree enters in force on the date of its publication.

Article 5. Dispositions to the contrary are revoked.

Rio de Janeiro, November 8, 1950; 129th year of the Independence and 62nd of the Republic.

EURICO G. DUTRA

Jose Francisco Bias Fortes

Sylvio de Noronha

Canrobert P. da Costa

Raul Fernandes

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Joao Valdetaro de Amorim e Mello

A. de Novaes Filho

Pedro Calmon

Marcial Dias Pequeno

Armando Trompowsky



British West Indies

TRADE LIBERALIZATION PLAN INCLUDES CANNED FISH: Arrangements are now nearing completion for a token import scheme designed to reopen the West Indian market on a limited scale to certain Canadian and United States goods which have traditionally been purchased by these Colonies, according to an October 30, 1950, British Government press release and as reported by the U. S. Department of Commerce.

Imports of many of these goods have been drastically curtailed recently owing to the need for the whole Sterling Area to conserve dollars. Although the need for dollar economy still exists, the British Government nevertheless considers that the particularly close trade links which have always existed between the West Indies and North America justify the introduction of this scheme. Consequently, greater opportunities will now be given for the import into the West Indies of these traditional lines of goods. The scheme is on similar lines to that which was in operation last year.

The scheme is being drawn up jointly with the Canadian and United States Governments after consultation with the West Indian authorities, and was to take effect not later than January 1, 1951.

As far as Canada is concerned, the scheme has been designed so as to assure the individual exporter of import licenses into the West Indian Colonies (and the Bahamas) for an amount of goods equal to a specified percentage of the average value of his exports to the West Indies in 1946/1947/1948, provided, of course, that he has found a willing buyer; i.e., he is competitive as to price, quality, delivery, etc. The scheme does not preclude the import into the Colonial Territories of more than these

minimum percentages; so that those territories which are already licensing imports in excess of this minimum level may continue to do so provided that it is in accordance with general import control policy.

The precise method of applying the scheme by the United States authorities is still under discussion with the United States Government but its purpose is to assure both Canadian and United States interests of the same opportunity of recovering a proportion of their export trade to the West Indies in the base years 1946-1948.

Agreement has been reached upon the bulk of the commodities to be included in the scheme. The possibility of adding further items is, however, being considered in connection with United States participation in the scheme.

Canned fish is included among the first group of items. The West Indian Colonies will be ready to issue licenses for imports of these goods for not less than 50 percent by value of the amount exported by individual Canadian exporters during the base years 1946-1948 and for not less than 50 percent of the total value of U. S. exports of each type of goods to these colonies in the base years.

Cans for food products are included in the second group. In the case of these goods, the Colonies will be ready to license imports for up to 33 1/3 percent by value of the base years' average.

A further announcement giving full particulars of the scheme will be made. The operation of the scheme will be reviewed after an initial period of six months, so that any necessary adjustments may be made in the light of actual experience.

The Colonies concerned are Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Leeward Islands, Windward Islands, and the Bahamas.

No press release has been issued by the United States Government inasmuch as negotiations are still in progress for the inclusion in the plan of various additional items in which the U. S. has a major supplying interest. However, since the plan represents a limited relaxation of the controls which have prevented American exporters from maintaining their traditional exports to the British West Indies, the U. S. Government is in general accord with the objectives of the agreement and has agreed to the plan being made effective in its present form on January 1, 1951.

No permit or authorization need be obtained from the United States Government in order that the British West Indian consignee may obtain the necessary import license. Licenses will be issued by the competent authorities in the colonies upon the presentation of evidence of a firm order and on a first come, first served schedule.

It should be borne in mind that the plan does not guarantee a fixed volume of sales to the British West Indies by either Canada or the United States, but does insure that import licenses and dollar exchange will be granted within the limits specified, provided a willing buyer in the territories is found.



Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON INDUSTRY AND PACK, 1950: While the 1950 British Columbia salmon pack of 1,482,560 standard cases was about normal, it did not come up to early season expectations, states a November 30 American consular dispatch from Vancouver. The 1950 pack was only slightly higher than the 1949 pack of 1,433,723 standard cases and in 1946 the pack totaled 1,348,138 cases (see table), according to final data released by the Chief Supervisor of Fisheries in Vancouver.

British Columbia Salmon Pack, 1950 (With Comparative Data for 1949 and 1946)			
Species	1950	1949	1946
	(In std. cases--48 - 1 lb. cans per case)		
Sockeye or red	408,041	259,880	543,027
Chinook or king (spring)	9,133	21,065	8,100
Steelhead	3,243	2,381	4,116
Blueback	7,370	6,876	2,914
Silver or coho	109,272	208,063	97,240
Pink	446,516	709,217	116,608
Chum or fall	498,984	226,241	576,133
Total	1,482,560	1,433,723	1,348,138

The 1950 run of sockeye salmon on the Adams River failed to materialize and fishing was closed on the Fraser River and the Gulf of Georgia from September 7, 1950, to October 2, 1950. This closure reduced the pack by an estimated 300,000 cases of sockeye salmon.

With a salmon pack somewhat smaller than anticipated and the receipt of an order from the British Ministry of Food totaling C\$5,000,000 for three species of British Columbia salmon, namely sockeye, silver, and pink, the only species which the industry may have difficulty in selling advantageously is chum.

Wholesale salmon prices f.o.b. Vancouver for a 48-pound case containing 96 one-half pound flat, labeled cans are as follows: sockeye, C\$33.00; silver (coho), C\$28.00; pink, C\$18.50; and chum, C\$16.50. Prices for tallies are approximately C\$1.50 less than those quoted for flats.

The British Columbia fishing industry has invested approximately C\$27,000,000, of which 80 percent represents the value of vessels and boats on which 12,500 men are employed. The value of the catch annually is in the neighborhood of C\$58,000,000 and salmon, the principal species, accounts for 61 percent of the total value of the catch.

Commercial catches of salmon are made by British Columbia fishermen on most parts of the Province's coast, and mainly in coastal areas. The total catch fluctuates, of course, from year to year. In 1947, salmon landings totaled 162,810,000 pounds. Although gill nets are more generally used in the salmon industry, purse-seine fishing actually accounts for a larger percentage of the catch.

The greater part of British Columbia's salmon catch is used by the canning plants. Some 20 percent of the catch is marketed fresh or frozen, some mild-cured, and a little may be kippered or pickled. There has been practically no dry salting since World War II. Some salmon livers are used for making vitamin oil, and industrial oil is extracted from cannery waste.

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VALUE OF NEW BRUNSWICK'S FISHERIES: Marketed Value and Earnings of Fishermen and Shore Employees: The commercial marketed value of New Brunswick's 1950 fisheries catch is estimated to exceed by approximately C\$500,000 the C\$21,000,000 record year of 1948. This increase will be mainly accounted for by herring, cod, flounder, sardine, and lobster, a December 7, 1950, American consular dispatch from St. John reports.

Prices paid to fishermen during 1950 have remained comparable to those paid in 1949 and wages for skimmers, filleters, etc., have remained constant--that is an approximate average of sixty cents (Canadian) per hour for male employees and forty cents (Canadian) per hour for female employees.

It is interesting to note that the marketed value (usually about three times the landed value) of New Brunswick's fish products for the year 1938 was only C\$3,996,000 and that fishermen received about C\$1,300,000 of that sum. For the year 1948, the marketed value was C\$21,000,000 of which fishermen received C\$7,450,810. For 1949 the marketed value was approximately C\$18,000,000 of which sum the fishermen received approximately C\$6,500,000. For 1950 the situation will equal or slightly exceed that of 1948. Thus, the income of the fishermen is easily 400 percent more than what it was twelve years ago.

Meanwhile, the earnings of employees in processing plants have also been increased so that gross revenues of fishermen and processors, packers, and shippers have gone up by approximately C\$14,000,000 annually since prewar days. No other basic Provincial industry has shown such rapid gains.

Capitalization: The fishing industry of New Brunswick has been operating on a stabilized basis during the last two years with limited capital outlay. The main investments have been made through the Fishermen's Loan Board which has during 1949 and 1950 invested approximately one million dollars (Canadian) for the modernization of fishing fleets.

The Loan Board is a Provincial organization which advances money to fishermen to pay for boats, engines, repairs, etc. Repayment is arranged on a "Pay-as-you-go" basis whereby the fishermen remit through their respective buyers 10 percent of the gross value of their landed catch. This system appears to be effective and satisfactory to both sides.

Investments in new plants have largely been directed toward replacement and general upkeep with minor new constructions.

Outlook: It seems that presently the New Brunswick industry has apparently reached its maximum development unless heavy capital outlay for expansion and equipment in all the phases of the industry, including marketing and advertising, is undertaken.

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PRICE GUARANTEE ON NEWFOUNDLAND LABRADOR SALTED COD: The Canadian Government announced on October 27 a guarantee of an initial payment to Newfoundland fishermen of C\$7.00 per quintal (112 lbs.) of salted fish of genuine Labrador ordinary and semidry cures, according to the October 1950 Canadian Fisheries Department Trade News. This guaranteed price was established following a series of meetings held in St. John's, Newfoundland, and attended by representatives of the fishermen, the Newfoundland Salt Codfish Association, and the Canadian Department of Fisheries. Suitable deductions have been arranged for salt bulk fish and fish of below standard quality.

This particular type of salted cod, normally sold extensively in European markets, has encountered serious marketing difficulties in the past two years as competition from European sources of supply has increased. The producing effort (boats and men) was reduced sharply in 1950, but the catch was very good and total production was not great below that of 1949.

In view of the very poor market prospects, members of the Newfoundland Salt Cod-fish Association found it impossible to offer fishermen prices which would be acceptable to the latter. Under the Government guarantee, the fish will be handled through regular trade channels. The merchants have agreed to handle the fish at cost, and the export of this product by the Newfoundland Associated Fish Exporters, Ltd., will be subject to supervision by the Department of Fisheries, in order that the interests of mainland exporters of salted cod may be protected. Should a surplus over cost accrue from the sale of the fish in export markets, the surplus will be distributed to the producers of the fish.

In announcing the guarantee covering the 1950 production, the Minister of Fisheries made it clear that no further assistance would be forthcoming covering future production of this type of fish.



Cyprus

FISHERIES LAWS AMENDED TO FURTHER ISLAND'S FISHING INDUSTRY: In order to further the Island's fishing industry, the present fishery laws are being strengthened, with particular provision being made for trawlers. A draft bill, to be submitted for enactment, published in The Cyprus Gazette of November 29, 1950, provides for amendment of the Island's Fisheries Laws, 1931 and 1944. The new law will be cited as Fisheries (Amendment Laws, 1950), a November 30 American consular dispatch from Nicosia reports.

The Comptroller of Customs and Excise will be given powers to limit the number of licenses to be issued to trawlers each year, and to impose certain conditions to be observed by licensed trawlers. Provision is also to be made for the conservation, protection, and maintenance of fish populations.

The new Act also increases the penalties imposed upon violators of the Fisheries Laws.



Denmark

RATIFIES INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES: The Danish Rigsdag approved on November 17, 1950, Denmark's ratification of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, a November 21, 1950, American consular dispatch from Copenhagen states. Denmark was one of the 11 signatory powers to the Convention, which entered into force upon ratification by the Governments of Canada, Great Britain, Iceland, and the United States. The Convention provides that it shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by four signatory governments. The fourth instrument of ratification was deposited on July 3, 1950, by Canada, with the United States Government, which is designated by the Convention as the depositary government.

1/SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, JULY 1950, PP. 60-1.

The Convention divides the area to which it applies into five subareas, with the geographical position of each being listed in the Annex to the Convention, and provides for the establishment and maintenance of a panel for each subarea. The Annex grants Denmark membership (for two years from the coming into force of the Convention) in the panels for the subareas 1 (Baffin Bay-Davis Strait), 2 (waters off the coast of Labrador), and 3 (Newfoundland Banks). However, the Government preamble accompanying the submission of the ratification recommendation to the Rigsdag shows that Denmark has resigned at least for the first two years, from panel membership for subareas 2 and 3, because "later considerations have shown that Danish interests in subareas 2 and 3 are, at least so far, of a peripheral nature. Furthermore considering the expenditure involved in the representation, it is intended to have Denmark represented only in the panel for subarea 1."

The Danish Minister of Fisheries has declared: "My Ministry finds it extremely important that both Denmark and Norway can attend the first committee meeting as delegates, not only as observers, because, among other things, we intend to make a joint Danish-Norwegian effort toward having the secretarial affairs taken over by FAO, which presumably will mean a saving of administrative expenses."

Norway to date has not ratified the Convention. However, since it was waiting first for ratification by the United States, Canada, and Great Britain, it is expected that the Convention will be submitted to the Norwegian Storting for ratification.

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STATUS OF ELECTRICAL FISHING EXPERIMENTS: A few Danish fishermen have used electricity in their tuna-fishing operations¹ in the North Sea, but on a purely experimental basis and with the simplest possible equipment, according to the Danish Ministry of Fisheries. The electric wire used was not placed within the fishing line, but loosely attached and connected with one of the ordinary low-current batteries on board the vessel. The experiments were on a very modest scale and they appear to have been abandoned because only little success was attained, according to a November 13, 1950, American Embassy dispatch from Copenhagen.

In the Ministry's opinion, an important factor accounting for the limited Danish interest in this catching method is the planned revision of the Danish Salt Water Fisheries Law (Act No. 93 of March 31, 1931). Although Section 10, which lists forbidden fishing methods and equipment, does not mention electricity, a scheduled revision now under discussion by the Rigsdag will include fishing by electricity among the forbidden methods. Although the law is valid only in Danish territorial waters, it is not surprising that the anticipated revision has curtailed local interest in this fishing method.

With regard to fishing by electricity in fresh water, the situation is somewhat different. In general, such fishing is forbidden under the Danish Fresh Water Fisheries Law (Act No. 94 of March 31, 1931) with an authorization for the Minister of Fisheries to grant exemptions from the general rule under certain conditions. This law is also under revision, but no amendments of the stipulations referred to have been proposed. The exemption clause is used with great caution and only authorized in the case of important scientific experiments conducted directly by the Danish Biological Station (an agency under the Ministry of Fisheries) or in conjunction with and controlled by that institution.

¹/SEE PP. 53-5 OF THIS ISSUE; AND COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, NOVEMBER 1949, P. 45.

Under the auspices of the Biological Station, the scientist Knud Larsen has been responsible for official Danish experimentation in this field. Until recently, however, Denmark has had no electrical fishing equipment of its own, but from time to time has used Swedish-owned equipment.

Danish literature in the electrical-fishing field is very scarce. According to Larsen, the list given below should be exhaustive:

1. Volume XLIX of the Report of The Danish Biological Station, 1946 (printed 1948) contains a paper prepared by Larsen entitled "First Report on the Effect of the Liberation of Salmon Fry in the Gudena River." The paper gives the statistical-scientific results of experiments conducted with Swedish equipment in the Danish Gudena River area during October 1947. The bibliography provided with the article lists three volumes published by Ph. Wolf, chairman of the Swedish Salmon Club, which are believed to supply considerable information on electrical fishing.
2. A popular article in the Danish periodical Ferskvands-Fiskeribladet (Fresh Water Fisheries News) of November 1947. The article refers to the experiments mentioned under 1., but in addition supplies some technical information relating to the equipment and its use.
3. A popular article in the Danish periodical Sportsfiskeren (The Sporting Fisherman) of January 1948. The article refers exclusively to experiments conducted in Sweden. It mentions as the major source of information the volume of Ph. Wolf: "Lax i Sverige och England" (Salmon in Sweden and in England) which was published in Lund, Sweden, in 1947.

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NEW TYPE TUNA NET^{1/} ONLY ORDINARY DANISH PURSE SEINE: The Danish Ministry of Fisheries research vessel Jens Vaever is not planning to test a special tuna-fishing net, the American Embassy at Copenhagen stated in a November 9, 1950, dispatch.

The Ministry has investigated in Esbjerg and other ports in order to determine whether or not a new type of tuna net has been invented, but no such net has been found. It was learned during this investigation that an Esbjerg fishing vessel captain has attempted to catch tuna with an ordinary type of Danish purse seine dragged between two vessels, but with poor results.

The price mentioned for the new type tuna net seems to have been really for the Danish new floating trawl.

^{1/}SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, NOVEMBER 1950, P. 56.



Ecuador

PROPOSED NEW LAW ON FISHERIES NOT PASSED: The proposed revision of Ecuador's fishing laws received considerable attention from American fishing interests and Ecuadoran authorities during the first half of 1950. However, the Ecuadoran Congress adjourned on November 7, 1950, without having passed the projected new law on fish-

eries and maritime hunting, according to a November 29 American Embassy dispatch from Quito.

Although an executive decree affecting fishing and the fisheries may well be promulgated by Ecuador's President Plaza prior to the next session of Congress (opening on August 10, 1951), it is the consensus of opinion that no drastic change in existing regulations is likely until the next Congress meets.



Gambia (British West Africa)

PLANS FLOATING FISH FACTORY: Plans are already well advanced for the setting up of a floating fish factory in Gambia, the smallest and oldest of British West African possessions, a November 24, 1950, American consular report from Dakar states. The output of the fish factory will be partly consumed locally and partly exported. The principal fish to be caught will be sharks, and it is planned to utilize the meat and the skin; and from the waste, the factory will extract liver oil and manufacture fish meal. It is planned to sell the fish meal to poultry farms for feed.

The waters off the coast of Gambia as well as the Gambia River abound in fish, but to date production has been limited to meet local needs.



German Federal Republic

VESSEL EQUIPPED WITH DEEP-SEA ELECTRICAL FISHING DEVICE: In Hamburg harbor the outfitting and equipping of a fishing vessel with the German deep-sea electrical fishing device is almost complete, reports a November 30, 1950, American consular dispatch from Hamburg. A trial voyage to waters off Iceland during the cod season (February to June) is planned by the inventors. The inventors, Konrad Kreutzer and Herbert Peglow, have revealed the following information on the construction and use of the device and their plans for its development.

Method of Fishing: The ship will trawl with a standard truncated cone-shaped fishing net. Two electrodes mounted on the stern of the ship will send out a series of short, sharp electrical impulses of up to 2,000 volts to two oppositely charged electrodes placed at the sides of the mouth of the net (these electrodes will be connected to the ship by wires running along the ropes to the net). The fish in the electrical field thus created between the ship and the net will be stunned and swept up into the net. This device thus will be able to get the 90 percent of the total number of fish which pass between the ship and the net, but which will be frightened by the approach of and manage to evade the net.

The inventors have made tests in large wooden tubs to determine the length and intensity of electrical impulses which are most effective for different types of fish. During their proposed cod-fishing voyage, they plan to determine by experiment the best positions for the electrodes and the variations which have to be made in the impulses used under deep-sea fishing conditions.

Source of Electric Power: The fishing vessel to be used is equipped with a generator with a maximum speed of 1,000 r.p.m. and an average output of 10,000 amperes.

The current passes through a control panel, a choke, a set of condensers, an ignitron and a mechanical impulse switch before reaching the electrodes. All of this equipment, except the generator and the mechanical impulse switch, will be dispensed with after the experimental voyage has been completed and the necessary data on the length and intensity of impulses needed compiled. The ignitron is a liquid mercury switch developed by the General Electric Company of America to provide a light and compact means of breaking electrical circuits with a high degree of accuracy. The mechanical impulse switch, developed by Siemens Werke of Germany, is quite compact, is completely mechanical, and is said to have an accuracy of 1/100,000 of a second. It is thus sufficiently accurate to replace the ignitron once tests have been completed.

The Ship Itself: The ship, which has been fitted for the experimental voyage, is the converted minesweeper R-96. It previously had two 900 horsepower engines and a maximum speed of 22 knots, but one engine has been removed to make room for the electrical equipment. The top speed is now less than 16 knots, decreasing to 11 knots when the generator is being used. The remaining motor delivers 300 horsepower to the propellers and 600 horsepower to the generator when the latter is in full operation. The two Voith-Schneider variable blade propellers steer as well as propel the ship, so that no rudder is needed.

A crew of eight, consisting of the two inventors, an engineer from Siemens, Paul Friedrich Meyer of the German Federal Fisheries Bureau, and five fishermen, will make the experimental voyage.

Plans for Development of the Device: The R-96 will make a brief trial run in coastal waters in December to see that the electrical equipment is functioning satisfactorily. Then she will leave Hamburg early in February to remain on the cod-fishing grounds off Iceland until June. The inventors have tentative plans to go out again in July or August to test the device on tuna. If possible, they would also like to try to stun and catch whales by creating an electrical field between electrodes on the ship and those on lines trawled near their intended victims. They have made tests on seals in wooden tubs which indicate a good chance of using the device in whaling.

Siemens Werke has furnished and installed all of the electrical equipment at a cost of approximately DM80,000 (\$19,000) in return for designation as sole producer of all forms of the device sold in Germany or exported. The inventors raised DM40,000 (\$9,500) with the help of their friends and obtained a loan of DM60,000 (\$14,300) from the German Federal Government to pay for the outfitting of the ship and the first voyage.

NOTE: ALSO SEE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FISHERY LEAFLET 348, GERMAN COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL FISHING DEVICE (DECEMBER 1949).

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ELECTRO-FISHING USED TO REDUCE COARSE ROUGH FISH IN EMMER RIVER: Due to the lack of familiarity with electro-fishing, the utilization of electric fishing devices is not yet definitely permitted by law in all the states of the German Federal Republic, states a November 30 American consular dispatch from Bremerhaven. Persons interested in using electric devices to catch fish for sale generally wish to have electric fishing permitted now, while many sport fishermen want to see the prohibition on electric fishing retained until studies have shown conclusively that the balance of life in streams and lakes will not be disadvantageously disturbed by the use of electric fishing methods. The electro-fishing recently conducted on the Emmer River in the State of Lower Saxony is especially noteworthy as it was carried out at the expense of the sport fishermen who owned the fishing rights on the Emmer;

¹ ACCORDING TO ONE GERMAN INVESTIGATOR, CERTAIN PARAMECIA WILL BE KILLED IF A CURRENT AS LARGE AS ONE MICROAMPERE PASSES THROUGH THEM. PRESUMABLY INDIVIDUAL CELLS OF MULTICELLED ANIMALS WILL SHOW A TOLERANCE OF THE SAME OR LESSER DEGREE.

a method of using electric fishing devices was thus demonstrated which brought advantages both to the sport fishermen and to the fishermen using electric fishing devices.

The Emmer River has in the past been fished chiefly by sport fishermen using dry flies, with the result that trout and grayling (the prized species) were greatly diminished in number in comparison to the less desirable species. In 1950, the length of the Emmer River was fished electrically, all trout and grayling caught during the fishing operation being put back unharmed into the river, except for a few diseased fish and certain specimens retained for propagation purposes. On the other hand, all whitefish and eels of a usable size were kept and turned over to the owners of the fishing rights on the river for sale or consumption. The purpose of the electro-fishing was to reduce the number of rough fish in the river.

The power source used for this project was a motor generator producing direct current. The motor generator was placed in a boat which was steered downstream by lines running to the two banks. The negative electrode consisted of two pieces of sheet metal fastened on the rear of the boat. The positive electrode consisted of a dip net made of wire. The electrically-influenced fish were lifted out of the water with the positive electrode when the accompanying persons did not manage to net the fish with ordinary dip nets before the fish reached the anode.

The Emmer River is approximately 6 meters (about 20 feet) wide and ranges in depth from 0.5 to 2.5 meters (1½-8 feet). The catches of fish were good in the shallower, rapidly-flowing parts of the river, but few fish were caught in the deeper sections, such as mill ponds. The overall results were poorer in the Emmer than in the Rhon River where electro-fishing previously had been done on a smaller scale. The poorer results in the Emmer are attributed to the greater pollution of the water there, giving rise to a higher conductivity. Water temperature could also have played a role, as the conductivity of impure fresh water varies with temperature.

The main purpose of the electro-fishing project was to increase the proportion of game fish in the Emmer by selectively removing up to 100 percent of the populations of other species. The project is judged to have fallen short of its goal as the very modest catch of fish in the deeper sections of the river would seem to indicate that considerably less than 100 percent of the fish population was caught. However, the results indicated that periodic selective electro-fishing of game fish waters would help to maintain a desirable ratio of game to rough fish.

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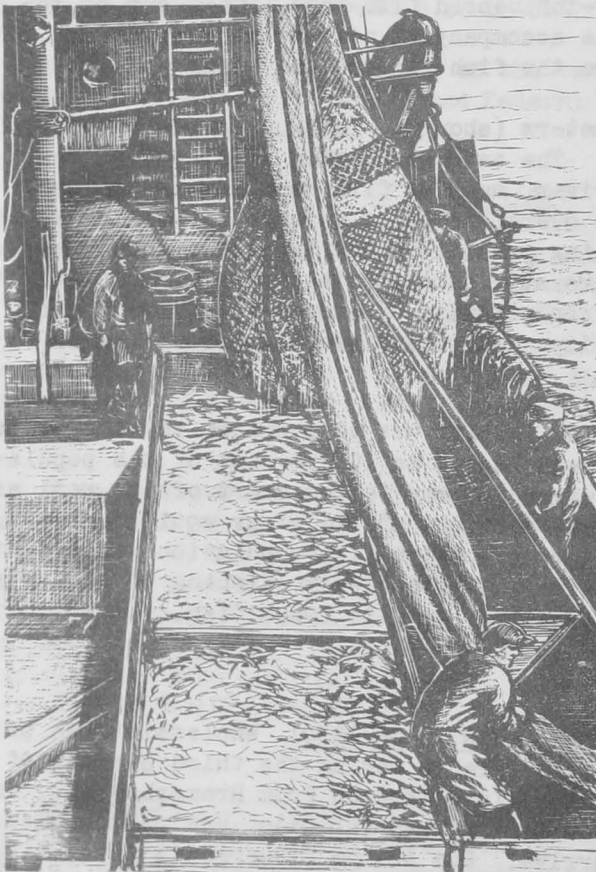
WHOLESALE FISH PRICES INCREASED IN THIRD QUARTER OF 1950: Wholesale fish prices in the German Federal Republic increased considerably during the third quarter of 1950, according to a November 27 American consular dispatch from Bremerhaven. Increased prices were caused partly by Korean War-induced inflation and partly because scheduled imports of white fish did not arrive. Due to the fishermen's labor dispute in Iceland^{1/} (which prevented the scheduled imports of iced fish from arriving) and due to the relative scarcity and poor quality of the herring, more trawlers were kept fishing off Iceland, the Norwegian Coast, the Bear Islands, and in the Barents Sea for pollock, rosefish, cod, and haddock. However, the retention of more than the usual number of trawlers in the white fish fishery did not prevent white fish prices from increasing to very high levels in September 1950. Fish wholesalers, who traditionally operate on a margin of DM6.00 per 100 kilograms of fish (approx. 6½ cents per cwt.) saw their profits cut by the high prices, which decreased sales, increased

^{1/}SEE P. 62 OF THIS ISSUE.

the capital required to do business, and threatened to begin a buyers' strike if maximum prices on fish were not fixed at levels which would increase consumption. The soaring white fish prices in September clearly showed that the German trawler fleet is not adequate to meet the domestic demand for white fish and catch herring too. However, despite the increased prices, demand for manufactured fishery products was reported very good at the end of September 1950.

The firmer market for fish was demonstrated by the percentage of landed fish going to fish meal factories--this decreased from 30 percent in July to less than 5 percent in September 1950.

STATUS OF FISHING FLEET, THIRD QUARTER 1950: A total of 20 new trawlers were placed in operation and 7 trawlers over 25 years old were scrapped by the German fishing industry during the third quarter of 1950. At the end of the quarter the trawler fleet totaled 254 vessels with a fish-carrying capacity of 38,800 metric tons, compared to 173 trawlers in operation and 66 tied up or in the process of refitting for the herring fishery at the end of July 1950.



A GERMAN TRAWLER FISHING IN THE NORTH SEA GETTING READY TO RELEASE A NET LOAD OF HERRING IN THE CHECKERS.

Three Belgian-owned trawlers, which had been chartered and operated by a Bremerhaven firm, were sold to Poland. Also, one of the 12 American-owned motor trawlers was returned to the United States to be used as a research vessel by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Because of high operating expenses, approximately 25 of the publicly-owned KFK cutters were returned by the charterers during the quarter. The cut in the allocation of subsidized Diesel oil to the high-seas fisheries also forced many privately-owned cutters to cease operations during the latter part of the quarter.

In addition to the trawler fleet, the fishing industry has a lugger fleet of 102 vessels in 1950, compared with 92 in 1949. However, only 6 of the 10 vessels added to the fleet were newly constructed.

Four German cutters (Spitzbergen, Nordlicht, Ruegen, and Dratenau), with crews, left Germany during the third quarter for Columbia. One pair of cutters will fish in the Caribbean and the other in the Pacific.

FISH PROCESSING INDUSTRY, 1949: A total of 646 fish processors (excluding fish meal and oil processors) operated in the German Federal Republic during 1949. These firms produced 143,500 tons of fishery products (excluding fillets and frozen fish) and used 240,000 metric tons of fish to produce these products (see table). These processors employed 20,800 persons.

Fishery Products Utilized and Produced by Fish Processors ^{1/} of German Federal Republic, 1949			
Raw Material Utilized		Products Produced ^{2/}	
Type	Quantity	Type	Quantity
	Metric tons		Metric tons
Iced white fish	24,000	Smoked	55,000
Iced herring	206,000	Marinated	51,000
Sprats	4,000	Canned (sterile)	16,200
Other	6,000	Salted	12,000
		Other	9,300
Total	240,000	Total	143,500

^{1/}EXCLUDING FISH MEAL AND OIL PROCESSORS. ^{2/}EXCLUDING FILLETS AND FROZEN FISH.
NOTE: WASTE FROM THE PLANTS OF THESE PROCESSORS PROBABLY WENT, TO A LARGE EXTENT, INTO FISH MEAL AND OIL PRODUCTION.

The Korean War has made the shortage of rolled steel in Germany even more acute, and some fish processors have had to reduce operations because of a shortage of tin plate. Certain fishing circles are calling upon the fish processors to concentrate upon turning out large-size containers to stretch the limited supplies of sheet steel and also to reduce the proportion of the end price to the consumer, which represents the cost of the container. In the spring of 1950, it was reported that container costs represented 26 percent of the total cost of production due to the large proportion of small-size containers being made.

In July, the fish processors were forced to petition the Federal Government for the release of edible oils from its reserve stocks. In order to avoid a cessation of production, the Federal Government released 10,000 metric tons to the entire food-packing industry.

In August 1950, a Cuxhaven fish processor began to use infrared rays^{1/} in the production of fish preserves.

^{1/}SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, JUNE 1950, PP. 41-3.

FISHERY BYPRODUCTS INDUSTRY, 1949: The German Federal Republic's 21 fish meal factories during 1949 produced 33,234 metric tons of fish meal from 166,000 metric tons of fish waste and unsalable and condemned fish. In addition, 2,850 metric tons of crude fish oil was rendered by these plants.

Refined fish liver oils were produced by 8 factories. A total of 1,900 metric tons of the refined fish liver oil was rendered from 1,950 tons of crude liver oil. The fish liver oil in 1949 was utilized largely in margarine and edible oils, and was not used for medicinal purposes. The German medicine manufacturers have not been able to resume using German fish liver oil, because the practice of compensating trawler crews partly with liver oil has diverted this product outside normal commercial channels and because the oil mills and margarine producers were able to offer a higher price for the crude oil.

Also, in 1949 a total of 31 plants produced 3,131 metric tons of dried shrimp meal from 15,685 tons of shrimp.



Greenland

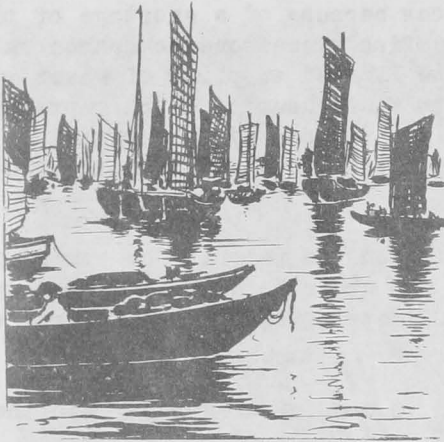
FILLET MACHINE PURCHASED FROM GERMANY: A new fillet machine, purchased from a German firm, was installed at Sukkertoppen, Iceland, in 1950, according to an October 31 American consular dispatch from Godthaab. Through October 15, the machine had cut 257,000 pounds of cod fillets and had separated 11 metric tons of cod livers.

The fillets are frozen and packed in 5-pound cartons for export to the United States.



Hong Kong

FISHING INDUSTRY IN DIFFICULTIES: Hard times were predicted for the 80,000 people of Hong Kong who depend upon fishing for a living, according to a November 17 American consular dispatch from Hong Kong. Fish prices in the Colony during September and October 1950 dropped steadily despite the fact that the heavy catch season had only just begun. Slacking in demand is attributed to the Chinese Communist ban on imports of salted fish, and to the rapid drop in the Colony's Chinese populations, as many thousands, unable to make a living in Hong Kong, are returning to their homes in China.



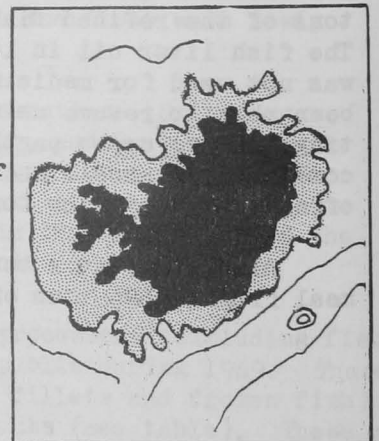
The situation is not improved by the fact that many of the 2,000 fishing-junk owners in the Colony are deeply in debt.

In contrast to fish prices, food prices in the Colony during September and October were generally steady or slightly lower and, as a result of the abundance of supplies, price controls were removed on October 14 on many items, including canned fish.



Iceland

FISHERIES INDUSTRY SURVEYED BY U. S. EXPERTS: A survey of Iceland's fisheries industry, financed by ECA funds, was made in April and May 1950 by three United States experts. The purpose of the survey, made for the Government of Iceland, was to recommend more efficient methods of freezing, salting, and otherwise processing fish, and better utilization of fishery byproducts. Because of the limited amount of time allotted, the survey concentrated on the frozen fillet industry since it offered the best opportunity for an immediate increase in sales, but less exhaustive studies were made of the salt fish, the herring, and the fishery byproducts industries. The survey was conducted by The Cooley Associates under the direction of E. H. Cooley.



The report submitted to the Government of Iceland points out the following:

The national economy of Iceland was dependent on the fishing industry for 93 percent of the value of exports in the year 1948.

"In 1949, the fishing fleet produced approximately 600 million pounds (268,000 metric tons) of groundfish and 150 million pounds (72,000 metric tons) of herring-- (56 percent of the groundfish catch was landed in Europe as iced fish; 29 percent was landed at the freezing plants for processing; and 15 percent was used for salting).

"The frozen fish and fillets were marketed in Europe and America^{1/} (91 percent of the frozen fillet production, equivalent to 26 percent of the total catch, went to European markets; and 9 percent of the frozen fillet production, equivalent to 3 percent of the total catch, went to the American^{1/} market). Iceland faces the loss of these European markets for both iced and frozen fish and must find new markets for over 75 percent of her potential catch.

"The development of Iceland's frozen fillet industry occurred during a period of great need for its products. There was no difficulty in disposing of all that could be produced. At the end of this period, a competitive situation arose in the world markets for frozen fillets and for fish in ice, which prevented profitable operation.

"Financial aid to industry is effective when such money is available solely for the purpose of lowering the costs of production. It should be used to purchase labor-saving machinery or to otherwise increase plant efficiency to enable the industry to meet competition and thus become able to contribute its share of the national tax burden as well as to provide earnings on the capital investment.

"Wherever there have been support prices on manufactured products, such as fillets, the industry involved has been injured because of lessened efficiency and lowered quality. There is little or no incentive to increase efficiency or to cut costs when there is an assured price for the product.

"The history of the fishing industry of most nations has demonstrated that changes in equipment, methods, boat design and particularly boat operation are not made willingly but are forced by the progress which is made in other competing nations or areas. In the instances of the fishing fleets of Iceland, certain traditional practices materially limit the operations of the different plants.

"A continuing survey conducted jointly by all branches of the industry would point the way to a longer period of operation of the fishing boats. The operating period of the processing plants can be extended by utilizing the various units of the fishing fleet not only in different sections of the country and in different branches of the industry but by fishing for different varieties of fish. In the fishing industry of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, and America, such changes, although producing smaller catches per trip, have at the same time created larger annual earnings for boats and fishermen.

"Lengthening the season of operation for the shore plants will enable the workers to be employed for a longer portion of each year, increasing their total earnings and enabling the plant operator to keep his trained personnel. His labor force, with better morale and increased efficiency will increase output and lower costs.

"Iceland can well consider the possibility of capturing a major portion of the world markets, not only frozen fish, which is specifically considered in this report, but for salted, canned, smoked, and other products of the industry, because -

^{1/}WHEREVER "AMERICA" OR "AMERICAN" IS USED IN THE REPORT, IT SEEMS TO MEAN THE UNITED STATES ONLY (EDITORS).

THERE IS AN UNLIMITED SUPPLY OF FISH.

THERE ARE MORE SPECIES AVAILABLE THAN ARE FOUND ON THE FISHING GROUNDS OF ANY OTHER COMPETING NATION.

FISH ARE AVAILABLE NEARER SHORE AND PROCESSING PLANTS THAN IN ANY OF THE OTHER COMPETING COUNTRIES.

ICELANDIC WATERS PRODUCE THE HIGHEST QUALITY FISH AVAILABLE IN THE WORLD MARKETS.

EQUIVALENT WAGE RATES ARE AS LOW AS, OR LOWER THAN IN COMPETING COUNTRIES."

Numerous recommendations were made in the report covering all phases of Iceland's fisheries, but the following are some of the more important ones:

"Every effort should be made to determine and commence a program at the earliest possible date, in view of the fact that time will be required to make the necessary changes in equipment, processing, and plant management.

"Changes must be made in the operation of the entire industry, including production by the fleet, processing, storing, shipping, and marketing. All divisions of the industry, although operating independently, should have high regard to the conditions affecting the other divisions, each is dependent upon the others.

"A Government department should be created whose duty it is to collect, analyze, and publish data relating to available species of fish and other sea life. By this method, information as to potential volume of products will enable the industry to adjust operations for continuous processing.

"Steps should be taken at once toward the proper arrangement and improvement of existing plants and equipment which could be accomplished in many instances at very little expense.

"Every effort should be made in each plant toward utilizing labor at maximum efficiency to produce a quality product at the lowest cost in order to meet competition created by efficient machinery and plant operation in the Newfoundland, Nova Scotian, and Norwegian fishing industries.

"The marketing program requires immediate effort to correct bad publicity and experience in America. Where new, improved packages are available, such should be used.

"The survey indicates the presence of large quantities of very desirable lobster which have never been offered to the American market, nor, in fact produced in sufficient quantity to supply the existing demand in Iceland...Iceland can very well join in this market if sufficient study as to packaging and marketing be given by your American marketing agency as to the methods of processing and packaging.

"Additional information collected through the cooperation of boat owners, plant operators, and government officials indicates the existence of marketable volumes of other species of importance.

"Halibut is one of the most popular species of fish. It needs only to be properly cleaned, frozen whole, and glazed to be a large income-producer in the American market.

"Fillets of flat fish of the flounder species are desired. Production could be greatly expanded.

"Lumpfish needs experiments to determine process and package.

"Lumpfish roe or spawn should be used in Iceland to produce caviar for export, or tested for shipping to America for manufacture.

"Crabs should be tested and a process determined that creates a product that is acceptable. This could be developed into an export product.

"Undoubtedly, there are other species, but these indicate the desirability of searching for new species to process.

"Request should be made of the American Government for a reduction in duty on boneless salt codfish. There is no longer any need of this tariff duty to protect the American industry. Salt cod could be boned and skinned as to produce two large salt fillets. These boneless salt fillets could be shipped to America for cutting and packaging or the whole process could be completed in Iceland.

"Dried salt codfish can be sold in America.

"In order to lower the cost of producing dry salt codfish, consideration should be given to equipment which will save labor. Such equipment need not be elaborate...

"Herring fillets, skinned, smoked, and canned would find a ready market in America.

"A test should be made in the American market for packaged, frozen, smoked, skinned herring fillets. A survey indicates an interest if this can be satisfactorily processed and packed.

"Codfish of larger size should be used either for salting or for the production of smoked larger cod fillets. These are not acceptable in the American market as frozen packaged cod fillets.

"The manufacture of fish glue from fish skins provides an opportunity for added income for the industry. Cod skins are the best source of raw material for glue and can be sold in America. The manufacture of fish glue in Iceland should result in an even better return from this byproduct.

"The entrails of fish are excellent sources of hormones, vitamins, and enzymes. They present an opportunity for the development of additional income-producing products from raw material now discarded.

"The market for cod liver oil has seriously declined. Some form of vitamin-potency concentration equipment should be installed in order that this oil can be fractionated, producing a concentrate salable for pharmaceutical purposes and for poultry and live-stock feeding, leaving a second fraction of high-iodine content that can enter into the paint and varnish industry to compete with linseed and other high-priced oils; or there can be a clean, dry oil produced which is suitable for production of oleomargarine--a product needed for home consumption in Iceland and for export...

"A plant designed according to American standards of production and packaging should be established to be operated under the supervision of American experts.

This plant should serve as a school for training supervisors and foremen who would in turn go to other plants to train workers in the most efficient methods of production...

"The Icelandic fishing industry is penalized by its many plants. The total volume of fillets could be produced at a much lower cost in several large well-equipped plants. Capital investment would be less and the product of higher quality...

"...Trips should be planned so that production is suitable for processing-plant operations. Efforts should be made to increase the catch of haddock, redfish, halibut, and other varieties which are in demand in the American and other world markets.

"...it would seem most advisable for the Icelandic Government to urge and participate in some form of International North Atlantic Fisheries Treaty or Fisheries Commission in order that this great natural resource on which Iceland is so dependent be conserved."

In addition to the recommendations cited above, the report makes other recommendations regarding plant operation (supervision, sanitation, receiving, washing, scaling, skinning, cutting, candling, weighing, wrapping, packaging, storage, and freezing) inspection, and marketing; utilization of herring products for meal and oil and food products; obtaining and operating a research vessel; and marketing in the United States

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TWO ICELANDIC FISHERY EXPERTS IN THE U. S. SEEK NEW WAYS TO USE FISHERY BYPRODUCTS: Two Icelandic fishery experts were reported in the United States in December 1950 under the Marshall Plan technical assistance program searching for new ways to use the fishery byproducts of Iceland's all-important fishing industry.

The Government of Iceland is interested in microbiological studies which will lead to improved and increased production of edible fish oils, fish meal, frozen fish, and new pharmaceutical byproducts, such as vitamins, steriols, enzymes, and bile compounds, reports a December 15 news release from the Economic Cooperation Administration.

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SEAMEN'S LABOR DISPUTE^{1/} AFFECTS FISH PRODUCTION: A seamen's labor dispute (July 1-November 6, 1950) in Iceland laid up most of the nation's trawlers throughout the third quarter of 1950, and catches of demersal fish were abnormally low during this period, a November 7 American consular dispatch from Reykjavik reports. As a result, more than one half of the fish produced during the quarter was delivered to factories for processing, most of the remainder was salted, with only a small part being frozen and none iced. Although the summer is normally a slack season for iced fish sales, recent reports have indicated that some sales might have been made in the United Kingdom. The labor dispute also destroyed the possibility of sales in Western Germany, which were permitted only between August and the middle of November under the terms of the Icelandic-German trade agreement.

^{1/}THIS DISPUTE WAS REPORTED SETTLED ON NOVEMBER 6, 1950 (EDITORS)

FROZEN FISH MARKETING TRENDS: There were signs of increased interest in frozen fillets by foreign buyers towards the end of the third quarter of 1950. Sales to the United States continued at a much higher level than in 1949, and unsold stocks

suitable for the United States market were almost exhausted at the end of the quarter. It was reported that during the period one local broker had tentatively arranged for future delivery of 10,000 metric tons of frozen fillets at a favorable price (17 cents per pound c.i.f. United States port, for skinned and boned cod fillets in temporary one-pound wrapping). Local producers have been investigating the possibility of freezing redfish (rosefish or ocean perch) for the American market. Demand for frozen fillets was reported to be increasing in the United Kingdom, which contracted for about 2,600 tons, principally flatfish. An agreement was reached also for the sale of 1,500 tons to Austria. However, increasing importance was laid during the quarter on the production of salt fish in view of continuing difficulties in marketing frozen and iced fish. The construction of new drying plants, therefore, has been given a high priority in the Government's investment program.

BYPRODUCTS TRENDS: A few Icelandic trawlers on the North Coast did not join the general trawler labor dispute during the third quarter of 1950, but engaged in fishing for redfish throughout the summer. Foreign demand for redfish meal and oil was reported at a high level. About 6,000 metric tons of redfish meal were produced in the northern part of the country during the quarter, approximately 1,000 tons of coalfish meal, and unknown amounts of redfish and coalfish oil. These commodities had not previously been produced since before World War II. Prices for redfish oil rose from £93 (\$260) at the beginning of the summer to £120 (\$336) per metric tons by the middle of September; by the latter date, redfish meal was bringing £51 (\$142.80) per ton, and coalfish oil had increased from £93 to £125

(\$260 to \$350) per ton. Exports during the third quarter were principally to the Netherlands. Production and shipments of these products are expected to increase, since a number of trawlers laid up by the labor dispute were engaged in redfish operations. The Icelandic Minister of Commerce estimated that by the end of September about 40 to 50 million kronur (\$2,456,000 to \$3,070,000) in foreign exchange had been lost in redfish meal and oil alone as a result of the seamen's labor dispute.

The Icelandic trawlers catching redfish are doing well, according to an October issue of the Icelandic newspaper Timinn. One catch of 375 metric tons, made in a few days, yielded 19 tons of oil and 65 tons of fish meal. Of this total catch, 15 tons were processed into 4 tons of frozen fillets for the American market. The oil from this trip brought £107 (\$299.60) per metric tons and the meal £52 (\$145.60) per ton.

WHALING: The 1950 Icelandic summer whaling season ended with four ships catching a total of 265 whales as compared with 324 whales in 1949. Processing of the 1950 catch yielded approximately 2,090 metric tons of whale oil, 25 tons of meat, and 500 tons of meal.

ICELAND-WESTERN GERMANY TRADE AGREEMENT¹/ AMENDED: The trade agreement between Western Germany and Iceland, signed on March 15, 1950, was amended on November 7 to allow Icelandic deliveries of iced fish to Western Germany until December 15, 1950, a November 9 American consular dispatch from Reykjavik reports.

¹/SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, MAY 1950, PP. 63-4.

Under the terms of the original agreement, deliveries of iced fish were to be made only between August 1 and November 15, 1950. The possibility of delivering fish by November 15 was destroyed by the labor dispute which immobilized Icelandic trawlers between July 1 and November 6. In addition, Western Germany has agreed to exempt Icelandic fish deliveries made until December 15 from the 10 percent import duty which is normally in force.

An Icelandic delegate was expected to go to Western Germany at the end of November in order to negotiate for a trade agreement for 1951.



Japan

THIRD JAPANESE MOTHERSHIP-TYPE TUNA EXPEDITION: Main elements of the third Japanese mothership-type tuna expedition left Japan on November 25 and 26, 1950, for the waters adjacent to islands comprising the U. S. Trust Territory of the Pacific. This expedition, which is smaller than either of the two previous expeditions which operated in this area, was to operate for about 20 days to provide iced yellowfin tuna for consumption in Japan during the New Year season. The expedition consisted of the 550-gross-metric-ton mothership Tenryu Maru, 10 catchers of the 1950-gross-ton class, and a Japanese Government inspection vessel, the November 25 Weekly Summary of the Natural Resources Section of SCAP reports.

A representative of SCAP accompanied the expedition to insure compliance by the Japanese with the provisions of SCAP directives. A representative of the High Commissioner for the Trust Territory accompanied the expedition as observer for and adviser to the High Commissioner, and to conduct scientific studies. Two Japanese Government fisheries inspectors also accompanied the expedition to insure compliance with government regulations.

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NEW WHALING FACTORY SHIP: The keel of a 23,000-deadweight-metric-ton whaling factory ship (the largest of its type to be built since World War II) was laid during October in Japan. Costing about 1.3 billion yen (approximately \$3,611,000), the factory vessel is to be equipped with the most modern equipment available, radar, and other improvements, and is scheduled for launching next June for use in the 1951-52 Antarctic whaling expedition, a November 7 American consular dispatch from Tokyo reports.



Mexico

SHRIMP EXPORT DUTIES CHANGED: Mexico's shrimp export duties have been changed by three separate regulations issued during November 1950 by the Mexican Government, according to a report from the U. S. Fishery Mission to Mexico.

Mexico has two export taxes--(1) a general export tax and (2) an additional 15 percent ad-valorem tax. To the sum of these taxes is added an additional tax of two percent.

A decree appearing in the Diario Oficial of November 4 affected the general export tax by rescinding Paragraph 11-11 which previously classified shrimp for export purposes as "shrimp, fresh, raw, dried or peeled," and in place of paragraph 11-11 substituted the following:

Par. 11-13 Dried shrimp, with or without shell, even when it is pulverized

Par. 11-14 Fresh or iced shrimp

Par. 11-15 Frozen shrimp

The changes, however, did not affect the general export duty, which remains for these three classifications at 30 centavos (approx. 3.5 cents) plus 10 percent ad valorem per 100 net kilos (220 pounds).

In the November 9 Diario Oficial, a circular appeared which modified the specific values for the assessment of the additional 15 percent ad-valorem tax on exported shrimp. Paragraph 11-14 (fresh or iced shrimp) now places on this category a specific official value of 6,050 pesos per metric ton (about 31.7 cents per pound). The same value applies for Paragraph 11-15 (frozen shrimp). This is the specific official value upon which the general export duty of 10 percent ad valorem and the additional tax of 15 percent ad valorem are based. Previously, the specific official value for shrimp was 4,212 pesos per ton (22.1 cents per pound).

In addition, the November 18 Diario Oficial contained a decree which gave an 80 percent exemption to the 15 percent ad-valorem tax applying to Paragraph 11-15 (frozen shrimp) and Paragraph 63-12 (canned shrimp in bottles, jars, or tins).

Mexican Shrimp Export Duties as of November 1950

Type of Export Tax	Frozen Shrimp		Fresh or Iced Shrimp	
	In Pesos per Metric Ton	In U. S. \$ per 100 lbs.	In Pesos per Metric Ton	In U. S. \$ per 100 lbs.
General Export Tax:				
30 centavos (3.5 cents per 100 net kilos (220 lbs.)	3	.02	3	.02
10 percent ad valorem ..	605	3.17	605	3.17
Total general export tax ..	608	3.19	608	3.19
Additional Taxes:				
15 percent ad-valorem ..	907.50	4.76	907.50	4.76
Less 80 percent exemption	-726.00	-3.81	-	-
Total	181.50	.95	907.50	4.76
Total: general export tax plus 15 percent ad-valorem tax	789.50	4.14	1,515.50	7.95
Plus additional 2 percent	15.79	.08	30.31	.16
Total export taxes for shrimp	805.29	4.22	1,545.81	8.11

Taking all of the export taxes into consideration (see table), the Mexican export taxes in U. S. Currency amount to approximately \$178.85 per metric ton (\$8.11 per 100 pounds) for fresh shrimp and \$93.17 per metric ton (4.22 per 100 pounds) for frozen shrimp. This gives the frozen shrimp an advantage of approximately \$85.68 per ton (almost \$3.89 per 100 pounds) over the fresh shrimp. These changes in the export taxes for shrimp will encourage the exportation of frozen shrimp and discourage the exportation of fresh shrimp from Mexico.

NOTE: VALUES IN U. S. \$ BASED ON 1 MEXICAN PESO EQUALS U. S. \$0.1157.

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NEW VESSELS AND FREEZERS FOR WEST COAST SHRIMP INDUSTRY: About 25 boats are still under construction for the Mexican shrimp industry operating from the State of Sinaloa, and approximately an equal number have not yet arrived from the United States where they were purchased, a November 7 American consular dispatch from Mazatlan reports.

The West Coast shrimp fishing season opened early in October with 125 boats going to sea from Mazatlan, compared with only 80 boats last season. With the opening of the shrimp fishing industry, it is reported that about 1,500 men have found employment. Most of them will work on a percentage bases on the amount of shrimp brought in per trip.

The construction of a new freezing plant is actively underway at Mazatlan, Sinaloa, and it is expected to be ready for operation by February 1, 1951. The plant will freeze 18 metric tons of shrimp and 25 tons of ice a day. It will have a storage capacity of 250 tons of ice and 200 tons each of frozen and fresh shrimp. An investment of 5,000,000 pesos (\$578,500) was made in this plant, which includes the purchase of ten fishing boats.

A smaller freezing plant is also under construction in Sinaloa and will be ready for operation by November 20. It will freeze five tons of shrimp a day, and will have a storage capacity of 30 tons of fresh shrimp and 40 tons of frozen shrimp. This project involves an investment of 400,000 pesos (\$46,280).

Another freezing plant, scheduled to begin operations on November 15, has a storage capacity of 600 tons of frozen shrimp and 300 tons of ice, and will freeze 25 tons of shrimp and 30 tons of ice a day. An investment of 5,000,000 pesos (\$347,100) in this plant included the purchase of eight fishing boats.

One company exported on consignment 180,000 pounds of shrimp during the month of October. Shrimp at present is being bought from the fishermen at 5.50 pesos a kilo (29 cents per pound).



Nigeria

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES ENCOURAGED: Nigeria's fisheries resources are being explored to determine whether or not they can be developed, the Director of Commerce and Industries of the Nigerian Government reported in a lecture on the functions of his Department.

With reference to fisheries, the Director states that the Department has a woodworking officer stationed at Opobo working on improvements in the design and construction of fishing vessels, according to a November 3 American consular dispatch from Lagos.

One of the Government's main objects in Nigeria will be to explore every possibility of increasing its foodstuffs, and a Fisheries Development team has been carrying out investigations for increasing the country's fish supplies, the Director stated. There are three aspects to the work in progress: inland and river fishing; coastal and inshore fishing; and fish farming.

From the experience gained through operating a small vessel off Lagos during the latter part of 1950, it seems likely that fishing could be profitably undertaken for a distance of several miles beyond the range at present covered by canoes.

In addition, a fish-farming expert has been engaged. It is thought that fish farming methods, if successfully applied in Nigeria, would make a remarkable contribution to the country's food supplies.



Norway

NORWAY PLANS TO EXPORT HERRING MEAL TO U. S.: It should be possible to export important quantities of Norwegian herring meal to the United States, according to a Haugesund fish-meal plant operator who recently visited the United States. He is quoted in Fiskaren as having stated to his local newspaper that first, however, Norwegian herring meal production would have to be standardized and a lighter meal produced. The meal must be ground more uniformly and packed in jute sacks holding 50 kilos (110 lbs.). One-half million sacks for export purposes have recently been purchased from Calcutta for division among Norwegian fish-meal producers.

In entering the U. S. market, the Norwegian operator pointed out that there would be competition with Japanese, Canadian, and African producers. There has been, according to him, considerable interest among U. S. buyers, some of whom already had received samples of Norwegian meal from the past season's production.

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NEW-TYPE VESSEL LAUNCHED: A new type of fishing vessel was launched on November 11, 1950, at a shipyard in the vicinity of Bergen, reports a November 30 American Embassy dispatch from Oslo. It is of steel, welded construction, and the deckhouse of aluminum. The boat, 100 feet long, is powered by two 250 h.p. Diesel motors with an auxiliary motor to power the generator, bilge pump, and the hydraulic winch pump. It is said to have a cargo space of 8,100 cubic feet, with quarters for 20 men. The cost of the vessel is reported to be much cheaper than the usual wooden boats and has aroused a great deal of interest in Norway.

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NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN FISHING: During the period October 1947 to September 1948, the number of persons in Norway engaged in fishing totaled 85,518, according to the first results of the Norwegian Central Statistical Bureau's compilation of statistics on the fishing industry, begun in October 1948. Of this total, 16,737 were engaged solely in fishing and 51,705 were engaged in some other activity as well.

The average time spent by each participant in fishing was 20.7 weeks during the period October 1, 1947, to September 30, 1948. Time spent by participants whose only occupation was fishing was 31.2 weeks; by participants whose main occupation was fishing, 20.4 weeks; and by others, 11.4 weeks.

Of the 85,518 fishermen, 83,431 participated actively in fishing during the period October 1, 1947, to September 30, 1948; 2,087 fishermen did not participate during this period because of military service, illness, school attendance, or temporary participation in some other type of work. Participation in the most important fisheries during this period was:

TYPE OF FISHERY	NUMBER OF FISHERMEN
COD FISHING IN LOFOTEN AREA.....	20,111
OTHER COD FISHING AND WINTER COD FISHING.....	11,148
SPRING FISHING IN FINMARK AREA (COD).....	8,523
COAL FISHING.....	11,718
WINTER HERRING FISHING.....	20,026
FISHING FOR BEFORE-THE-SEASON HERRING, FAT HERRING, BAY HERRING, AND SMALL HERRING.....	13,891
BRISLING FISHING.....	3,019
HERRING FISHING OFF ICELAND.....	2,721
MACKEREL FISHING.....	6,323
FISHING ON THE BANKS OF THE NORTH SEA AND NORWEGIAN SEA.....	5,610

The above information appeared in an article published in the November 7, 1950, issue of Sunnmørsposten, a daily newspaper published in Aalesund, and was translated and reported upon by the American Consulate at Bergen in a November 27 dispatch.

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NEW GROUNDS FOR SUMMER HERRING FISHING: According to reports from fishermen and from results obtained through experimental fishing, it appears that the waters around Jan Mayen will supplant Iceland as a field for Norwegian herring fishing during the summer months, according to an October 31 American consular dispatch from Oslo. From the results of the G. O. Sars, the Fishery Directorate's experimental vessel, it has been established that catches of 100 barrels per boat per night are not unusual.

NORWEGIAN GREENLAND FISHERY: Twenty-two of the twenty-four Norwegian fishing vessels which have been fishing off West Greenland during the past summer have returned to Norway. It is estimated that the total catch will amount to between 11,000 and 12,000 metric tons of salt cod. The operators of the vessels are said to be well pleased with the results and it is estimated that the crew's share of the catch will amount to between \$700 to \$800 per man.



Pakistan

CENTRAL FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO BE ESTABLISHED: The Government of Pakistan has decided to establish a Central Fisheries Department under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in order to develop the country's fishery industries, reports a December 2 American consular dispatch from Karachi.

This new Department will operate motorized craft in order to demonstrate commercial fishing methods; aid in the mechanization of the country's craft; train men in the operation of motorized craft; develop a marine weather service and other advisory services; introduce pond culture methods; develop fish-curing yards; aid in the development of fish markets, transportation facilities for inland distribution, and other allied industries; and study the social and economic conditions of the country's fishermen and adopt measures for their general welfare.

In the field of research, the Department will undertake studies on salted and dried fish, and other fishery products; and the general biology of the important groups of fish common to Pakistan.



Trieste

ADDS TUNA VESSELS TO FISHING FLEET: Three new fishing boats to specialize in tunny fishing will form the basis of a new tuna industry in the Free Territory of Trieste. These vessels, being built in Italy, are the first of their kind to be built in that country, according to a November 24 news release from the Economic Cooperation Administration. The 90-ton boats will have engines forward, as in American tuna vessels.

The Marshall Plan has contributed some \$80,000 in counterpart funds towards the \$250,000 cost of the boats.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, AUGUST 1950, PP.58-9.



United Kingdom

ROTATION SYSTEM INAUGURATED FOR LONG-DISTANCE FISHING FLEET: It is hoped that improvements in the white fish industry^{1/} will be brought about by the White Fish Authority recently set up by the British Government, but meanwhile long-distance fishing vessel owners in the ports of Grimsby and Hull have inaugurated a development scheme^{2/} designed to improve the quality of fish landed. This scheme came into operation on September 1, 1950, states a November 28 American Embassy dispatch from London.

The scheme was inaugurated by the trawler owners themselves and as yet it has no backing from the Government or the White Fish Authority. It was decided by the Trawler Owners Committee that 20 percent of the long-distance fishing fleet should be laid up, the other 80 percent being sufficient to bring in all the fish which is required. The trawlers would work on a rotation system. Plans are being made to bring in fish in a better condition than during the years of control when there was no incentive to pay much attention to quality. There has been a marked improvement in the quality of fish since this scheme came into effect.

The Trawler Owners Committee decided that 20 percent of the long-distance fleet would be a good average to be laid up, inasmuch as without the scheme perhaps 40-50 percent of the trawlers would be unable to go out. However, during the recent bad weather the number of trawlers unable to go out has been nearer 40 percent than 20 percent.

Since the domestic fishing industry has complained for some time about the imports of fish, the whole question of fish imports probably will be taken up by the White Fish Authority when it begins its operations.

HEAVY INCREASE IN FISH PRICES TOWARDS END OF 1950: In some extreme cases, fish prices in Great Britain towards the end of the third quarter of 1950 rose over 200 percent. The increase resulted from a shortage of supplies caused by continued bad

^{1/} SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, AUGUST 1950, PP. 59-60.

^{2/} SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, SEPTEMBER 1950, PP. 57-8.

weather at sea and the recent laying-up of trawlers. Demand for fish was still very good during the period in question, but the consumers showed some reluctance in paying the increased prices. Housewives were again showing signs of boycotting fish as a result of the high prices.

The rise in fish prices can also be attributed to a large extent to the fishermen's labor dispute in Iceland.^{3/} Iceland is the biggest supplier of fish to the United Kingdom. This Icelandic tie-up occurred when the British fleet was not catching a sufficient supply for consumer demand. The Icelandic seamen's dispute was settled on November 6 and fish imports from that country were again arriving in Great Britain.

As a result of this recently heavy increase in fish prices, a warning hint has been given to fish dealers by the Economic Secretary of the Treasury that the Government is considering a return to controls where they seem to be necessary.

As anticipated, the removal of controls and the maximum prices of fish has brought about a big improvement on the quality of fish landed. There is now good quality fish available to suit everyone although plaice, halibut, sole, and a few other kinds will inevitably be expensively priced since they cannot be produced in large quantities.

^{3/} ALSO SEE P. 62 OF THIS ISSUE.

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PERIOD FOR LOANS TO INSHORE FISHERMEN EXTENDED: An order was enacted by the British Government in December 1950 extending until December 9, 1952, the period during which grants and loans for boats and equipment may be made by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries to inshore fishermen and persons entering the industry. The Inshore Fishing Industry Act 1945 (Extension of Period) Order, 1950, became effective on December 10, 1950. In the original act, the period during which these grants and loans could be made expired on December 9, 1950.



CANNED FISH AND BYPRODUCTS--1949

DO YOU KNOW...

That the 1949 production of fishery byproducts in the United States and Alaska was valued at \$78,472,495--2 percent less than in the previous year. The principal byproducts were marine-animal oils, 17,694,887 gallons (valued at \$17,364,977); marine-animal scrap and meal, 237,180 tons (valued at \$35,652,142); marine and fresh-water shell buttons valued at \$10,478,733; and fish solubles valued at \$5,144,111. Byproducts were produced in 314 plants in 24 States and Alaska in 1949.

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