



Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA HERRING FISHERY 1950-51: At the end of the 1950-51 season (March 17), the total herring catch was 187,200 metric tons, compared with the 1949-50 fall and winter season of 183,000 metric tons, according to the Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics for February 1951. The principal reason for the low herring landings during February is attributed to the fact that the quota had been filled by the northern districts in mid-January. For utilization of this herring in principal products see table.

British Columbia's Production of Herring Products		
Product	1950-51	1949-50
Meal (metric tons)	31,349	30,679
Oil ('000 gals.)	3,258	3,305
Dry-salted (metric tons)..	4,177	3,284
Canned ('000 cs.)	177	76

The results of the British Columbia herring production was 2,000 metric tons below the 1948-49 record. Presently, there is a steady demand for Canadian fish meal and oil. The increasing dry-salted herring production after the World War II is largely in response to the demand for these products from the Orient.

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FISHERIES RESEARCH BOARD OF CANADA REVIEWS ITS ACTIVITIES: Experiments and investigations of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada during 1940 were reviewed at the Board's annual meeting held at Ottawa during the first week of January, the January 1951 Trade News of the Department of Fisheries reported. Reports from the seven Board stations covered a broad range of subjects. These included newly-found stocks of capelin, rosefish, herring and cod in the Atlantic; the efficiency of new types of fishing gear tested in the Maritimes; an improved dory direction finder and a buoy radio transmitter; the control of temperatures in ships and in storage warehouses to maintain the quality of dried fish; the possibility of using seal oil for such things as margarine and soap; studies of the biology of the beluga, or white whale, in Hudson Bay; latest information on the goldeye; salmon conservation efforts and herring investigations in British Columbia, and the development of new types of fish-processing machines.

New Capelin Stocks: One of the most interesting discoveries was that of capelin, which were found to be spawning in seemingly limitless numbers on the Newfoundland offshore banks. The Director of the Newfoundland Biological Station at St. John's pointed out that it had always been assumed that capelin spawned only inshore on the beaches of Newfoundland and Labrador. The capelin population in the Newfoundland area is now estimated to be at least as great in weight as that of cod. Scientists found great numbers of capelin eggs attached to grains of sand in the stomachs of haddock. The eggs, which were in undigested condition, proved that they had been taken on the fishing banks some 250 miles offshore. In the same spawning area cod were also found to be feeding heavily on adult capelin.

Bonavista Long-Lining Experiments: During the summer and fall of last year long-lining experiments were carried out at Bonavista, Newfoundland. The successful experiments, originated by the federal Department of Fisheries to discover whether somewhat larger fishing vessels and equipment could be brought within financial reach of local fishermen, have shown that such a project could improve the supply by catching fish over a larger area and range of depth. Extensive fishing areas were found about 20 miles seaward from Cape Bonavista. Catches were made which were consistently greater than the average of the long-lining boats in their normal fishing off Lockeport, N. S. The cod were also reported to be larger than the in-shore cod and thus more suitable for salting.

Drift Nets for Atlantic Herring: Exploratory drift netting for herring, carried out in the Gulf of St. Lawrence by the Atlantic Biological Station, St. Andrews, N. B. gave excellent results. Good catches, sometimes exceeding 500 pounds of fish per 40-yard length of net, were made in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, comparing favorably with average drift-net catches in the North Sea. The exploratory fishing was carried out by the Board's research vessel, the Harengus, and the M. V. Eastern Explorer, which was on loan from the Newfoundland Division of the Department of Fisheries.

Light-Salted Fish Experiments: Progress of experiments on the artificial drying of light-salted fish, which may have important results for the fishermen of the Gaspé Coast and of some parts of Newfoundland, was reported by the Director of the Gaspé station. It is expected that the work now under way eventually will enable the station to give the trade definite specifications concerning this particular drying process.

In the meantime, a senior member of the Gaspé station engaged in these experiments, which have now reached the pilot plant stage, will visit Newfoundland to assess the possibilities of applying results to the Newfoundland product.

Plans for a modern tunnel-type dryer, to replace the old model used in the salt-fish industry, were prepared at the Gaspé station, which also supervised the installation of a commercial smokehouse. Another unit is to be built which will be in operation next season.

New Brining System: A new brining system for fresh and frozen fish, with which the station was experimenting, has been put into operation and has been found to be successful.

New Fish Processing Machines Designed: Widespread industrial use has been made both in Canada and other countries of fish processing machines designed by the Pacific Fisheries Experimental Station, Vancouver. The Director told the annual meeting that numerous requests had been received from Canada's fishing industry for demonstrations of the station's shrimp sorting and cleansing apparatus, fish washing machine, and the apparatus for preserving and glazing fish fillets and steaks. To date, 13 commercial installations have been made in Canada and elsewhere. No less than 112 inquiries from 15 foreign countries were made for information about a multi-purpose washing, scaling, and sorting machine designed at the station.

Other Projects: The Vancouver station is also experimenting in the use of fish in baby foods, and the preparation of canned corned whale meat. A new type of canned prefried fish cake has been developed and is now being marketed successfully.

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PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CREATED: The creation of a fisheries development committee for Prince Edward Island was announced on March 29 by the Provincial Government after consultation and in cooperation with the Federal Minister of Fisheries, according to the Canadian Fisheries Council Bulletin of April 6.

Made up of representatives of the federal and provincial governments and of the trade and fishermen, the five-man committee is charged with the formulation of a development program for the inshore and offshore fisheries of Prince Edward Island. A similar committee was created two months ago in Newfoundland.

The committee is to begin its work without delay. The committee is to examine and report on:

1. THE FISHERY RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE PROVINCE.
2. CATCHING METHODS NOW IN USE.
3. PRESENT METHODS OF PROCESSING AND MARKETING.
4. EXISTING HARBOR AND SHORE FACILITIES.

The committee will also make recommendations based on sound scientific, economic, and social considerations for the improvement of boat harbors, catching methods, processing facilities, and marketing practices. It will recommend a program capable of implementation by the Federal Government and Provincial Government and by those engaged in the fishing industry, outlining the respective contributions of each to such a program.

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RECORD HALIBUT CATCHES REPORTED IN 1950: Canada's Pacific and Atlantic coast fishermen in 1950 exceeded previously known record catches of halibut, the February 1951 Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries reports. On the Atlantic Coast a 40-year record was more than doubled with a catch of 10,045,000 pounds (dressed weight). Pacific Coast fishermen with landings totaling 18,773,000 pounds (dressed weight) broke a 35-year record of 18,406,000 pounds.

The previous record catch of Atlantic Coast halibut was in 1911, when fishermen landed 4,736,000 pounds.

Considerable interest has been created in world halibut production as a result of these increased catches and the recent halibut importations from Europe. Although U. S. halibut catches on the Atlantic Coast (about 465,000 pounds dressed weight) were about 9.5 million pounds below those of Canada's east coast, the U. S. catches in the Pacific exceeded Canada's by over 20,000,000 pounds.



Chile

FAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS INCLUDE FISHERIES: The field of fisheries is included in one of several supplemental agreements recently signed by Chilean and FAO representatives under the basic agreement of January 26, 1951, under which FAO undertook to provide Chile with technical assistance in the development of food and agricultural resources. The second supplemental agreement, signed on March 15,

1951, provides for help in the field of fisheries, including specifically the services of two experts, states a February 19 American Embassy dispatch from Santiago. One is to be a qualified fisheries biologist who will organize and initiate a survey of marine fisheries resources of Chile; and the second expert will study distribution and consumption of fisheries products in Chile in order to improve the diet of the population. The mission is to complete its work within six months' time and the Chilean Department of Fish and Wildlife under the Ministry of Economy and Commerce has been designated the central coordinating agency of the Chilean Government under the supplemental agreement.

The survey and assessment of the marine fisheries resources of Chile will concentrate particularly in the coastal region between Valparaiso and Talcahuano. Special attention will be directed to the hake fishery (*merluza* or *pescada*--*Meluccius gayi*) which forms the basis of the most important fishery of that region. The biologist will formulate a program of investigation into the life history, habits, and population problems of the species with the ultimate purpose of managing and regulating the fishery on a sound sustained-yield basis. The Government of Chile will provide qualified men and a suitable vessel and gear to assist in carrying out this enterprise.



German Federal Republic

LIFTING OF SHIPBUILDING RESTRICTIONS WILL AID FISHERIES: On Monday, April 2, 1951, the Allied High Commission for Germany agreed upon the relaxation of a considerable part of the production restrictions imposed upon the German industries of the Federal Republic. When the agreement was signed the next day, it was warmly welcomed by the German people, states an April 5 American consular dispatch from Bremerhaven.

For the shipyards the lifting of the restrictions will mean conversion of vessels under construction to larger sizes, and for plants manufacturing ship engines, a complete change-over.

In fishing circles, the repeal of the prohibition of a German whaling fleet is looked upon most favorably. Although Germany is not as yet a member of the "International Convention on Whaling," it is hoped that before long the Germans will also have floating factories and killer boats.



Indonesia

FISHERIES PRODUCTION, 1950: The 1950 yield of Indonesia's sea fisheries has not increased significantly above 1949 production estimated at 245,000 metric tons, a March 7 American consular dispatch from Djakarta reports. Production is much lower than before World War II because boats and fishing equipment have not been restored to prewar levels; civil unrest made some fishing areas inaccessible; and catches were smaller at Bagansiapiapi, Sumatra, one of the most productive fishing areas in Indonesia. On the other hand, sea fishing has expanded in Celebes and New Guinea since the war.

Production of the inland fisheries, however, has increased over the prewar production of 147,000 metric tons to more than 175,000 tons as a result of more

intensive fishing of rivers, lakes, and swamps in Borneo, Celebes, East Sumatra, and Java. Inland fisheries can be further expanded in all these areas, according to reports.

Motorized majang fishing vessels, engines, and miscellaneous supplies for the fishing industry will be provided under ECA aid to Indonesia.

Lack of protein is characteristic of the Indonesian diet, and efforts to increase fish production have the objective of enabling a higher domestic consumption to make up for this deficiency.

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FISHERIES ADVISOR NAMED FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM: The Indonesian Government is undertaking a five-year development of its offshore and inland fisheries. It aims at building up the industry to a commercial basis, with refrigerated trucks, freezing facilities, modern methods of handling, transportation and distribution in order to increase the protein food available for the Indonesian people.

In April, the Economic Cooperation Administration announced that Frank E. Firth of Milton, Mass., accepted a two-year assignment with the agency as fisheries officer and advisor to the Indonesian Ministry of Fisheries and Forestry. Firth will assist in developing the program and putting it into action; and he will help train Indonesian fisheries specialists. From 1928 to 1944 Firth was fisheries biologist and technologist for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior.



Israel

POINT FOUR AGREEMENT INCLUDES DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES: The conclusion of a Point Four General Agreement between the Governments of the United States and Israel was announced by the Technical Cooperation Administration on February 26, according to a Department of State news release. The pact signed at Hakiryia includes a request for technical assistance in developing a deep-sea fishing industry.

The agreement sets forth conditions of cooperation prescribed by the Act for International Development of 1950, which authorized the Point Four Program. Within the framework of this "umbrella agreement" specific projects will assist Israel by sending experts from the United States and by bringing trainees to the United States to enlarge their knowledge and experience in their specialized fields.

Areas in which Israel would like to have its own personnel trained in the United States include deep-sea fishing, railways, the ceramic industry, and ship repairing. All of these projects are related to the broad program of economic development projected in Israel's four-year plan and are designed to aid Israel's efforts to develop its resources and improve working and living conditions.



Japan

ANTARCTIC WHALING CATCH, 1950-51: Two Japanese whaling fleets took a total of 1,300.6 blue-whale units^{1/} and processed 57,232.4 metric tons of raw material for food during the 1950-51 Antarctic whaling season, according to the Weekly Summary of SCAP's Natural Resources Section dated March 4. The baleen whaling season officially closed on March 9, the date on which the International Whaling Commission quota of 16,000 blue-whale units for all nations had been filled. One Japanese factory ship and seven catchers remained for two additional weeks in the Antarctic area to conduct sperm-whaling activities.

^{1/}ONE BLUE-WHALE UNIT EQUALS 1 BLUE WHALE, 2 FIN WHALES, OR 2-1/2 HUMPBACK WHALES.

FIFTH TUNA EXPEDITION UNDER WAY: First units of Japan's fifth mothership-type tuna expedition left Japan on March 9 and 10 for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. These first units (eight catcher boats and an inspection vessel) will rendezvous with the remainder of the fleet (seven catchers, one inspection vessel, and one carrier) on the fishing grounds. The remainder of the fleet left March 15-April 15.

The expedition intends to begin operations in the vicinity of latitude 3° N. and longitude 140° E. and work eastward to about the 160th meridian during the period March 23-June 9.

A representative of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers accompanies the expedition to observe compliance by the Japanese with SCAP directives and instructions. An observer for the High Commissioner, Trust Territory, joined the expedition to ensure compliance with fishing and navigational regulations of the High Commissioner; he will obtain biological and fishing data for use by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Pacific Oceanic Fisheries Investigations, Honolulu, Hawaii.

It is anticipated that the expedition will catch about 1,770 metric tons of tuna, spearfish, and shark. About 800 tons of tuna will be frozen in the round and may be suitable to be offered for export. Around 700 tons of swordfish may be filleted and frozen for export.

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PROGRESS IN FISHERIES REFORM PROGRAM: One year ago Japan inaugurated a reform program to modernize and democratize the age-old system of fisheries rights,^{1/} states the March 17 Weekly Summary issued by SCAP's Natural Resources Section. The progress made in the first year of the program indicates that the reform can have a lasting affect upon the fishing industry and can be an important factor in sustaining democracy in Japan.

The program is progressing on schedule. There is every reason to believe that the present rights will be cancelled and the new rights and licenses will be issued by March 14, 1952, as provided in the law. The nature of the reform and the magnitude of the problems involved have made it necessary to devote the first year of the program to preparatory and planning actions. Principle accomplishments have been (1) division of the sea coasts into 179 sea areas of similar economic and social characteristics, (2) election by resident fishermen of a Commission in each sea area to administer the program, and (3) planning by the fishermen and the Commission for the future utilization of fishing grounds.

^{1/}THE FISHERIES LAW BECAME EFFECTIVE MARCH 14, 1950. IT WAS ENACTED BY THE DIET NOVEMBER 29, 1949.

The results of the Sea Area Adjustment Commission elections in August 1950 were an outstanding example of the fishermen's reaction to their newly granted voice in the management of their sources of livelihood. In these elections 88.6 per cent of the eligible voters cast ballots.

The planning for the future utilization of the fishing grounds has been a gigantic task in itself. Kinds and density of fisheries best suited to further the welfare of the individual fisherman and at the same time promote the national interest through maximum sustained production are being determined for each segment of Japan's coastal waters. Such planning includes establishing the number, location, and contents of rights and licenses to be issued in each Sea Area. This planned use of the fishing grounds will have far-reaching effects upon the fishing industry. It is the first large-scale attempt to plan for optimum use of water areas in the same manner that land-use planning is applied to land areas. The results attained by Japan will be of interest to all nations utilizing the sea as a source of food.

The Sea Area Adjustment Commissions are responsible for developing the plans. However, the plans actually are being originated and formulated by the fishermen in the villages. The final fishing grounds plans will probably be completed in April of this year.

A review of the current status of the reform program makes it apparent that the fishermen have extended every effort to make the reform a success. This is particularly notable because the material benefits to be derived from these efforts are not scheduled to reach the fishermen until the second year of the program. The schedule for the coming year calls for the actual cancelling of the existing rights and the issuance of the new rights to the working fishermen. The period immediately following the issuance of the new rights will be a crucial one for the fishermen and for the nation, both from the standpoint of democratization and for the production of aquatic products. Despite progress made to date, many obstacles must be overcome before the ultimate success of the reform is achieved and the goal of democratizing the fishing industry is wholly attained.

The most serious of these obstacles, and the one which poses the greatest threat to success of the reform, is lack of finances. No sound means have been provided for the fishermen to procure the necessary funds or credit with which to purchase the gear and boats necessary to operate the new fishing rights and licenses that will be granted him. Even though the rights are reallocated to working fishermen, the former rights owners will continue to own the gear and boats unless the new owner can obtain the necessary financing. The ultimate objectives of the reform cannot be attained unless the fisherman can get legitimate and reasonable credit with which to carry on his operations. Other obstacles include necessity for better management in cooperatives, excessive numbers of fishermen, and lack of enforcement of sound conservation and administrative measures.

These obstacles can be overcome, but doing so will require the assistance of the Japanese Government and legislators. Given such assistance, Japan's fisheries can become a model of an economy and industry based on democratic concepts and operated according to procedures for properly utilizing an important natural resource.

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STUDY OF EXPANDING WATER USES AND EFFECT ON FISHERIES: A study of the expanding water uses in Japan in relation to proper consideration of fisheries in various watersheds in which water resources development for industrial uses is in progress or planned will be conducted by Dr. Van Cleve, Director, School of Fisheries, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington. He arrived in Tokyo on March 20 for a 90-day special assignment as a visiting expert consultant to SCAP's Natural Resources Section, according to the March 24 Weekly Summary issued by that agency.

At the conclusion of his field investigations he will submit to SCAP a report which will include specific recommendations on policies to insure protection and proper development of fisheries in these areas.

Water utilization projects often conflict with maintenance of fisheries resources. Creation of dams and power plants without the erection of fish ladders to permit passage of fish up and down stream would eliminate fisheries as a source of food and income for many interior communities. Conversely, impoundment of water resources from such dams combined with a properly managed stocking program could be the source of higher fish production. This in turn would contribute materially to providing much-needed animal protein food for these inland communities.



Mexico

GUAYMAS SHRIMP INDUSTRY OVEREXPANDED: Though some well-established firms in the shrimp fishing and freezing business in Guaymas, Mexico, are managing not to lose money under present conditions of catch and market, most Guaymas plant and boat owners find themselves overexpanded, short of capital, and unable to cover all of the fixed costs which are a result of their enthusiastic preparation for a record 1950-51 shrimp season. The leaders of the Mexican industry continue to beseech their government for relief from export taxes, and are at present on a special mission to Mexico City where they will request the Federal Government to assist them in establishing a credit organization which will assist in the financing of the industry's future operations, according to an April 6 American consular dispatch from that city.



Norway

ANTARCTIC WHALING, 1950-51: The 1950-51 season for pelagic whale hunting in Antarctic waters, which ended March 9, netted the 10 Norwegian expeditions a total of 1,053,674 barrels (177,534 metric tons) of oil (see table). Thus, the total

Norwegian Production of Whale Oil, 1950-51		
	1950-51	1949-50
	Metric Tons	Metric Tons
Whale oil ...	157,805	167,317
Sperm oil	20,621	10,217
Total	178,426	177,534

season's production was practically the same as that of the previous season, but with the important difference that whale oil production was about 10,000 tons less and sperm oil production about 10,000 tons more than last year, according to a report from the Norwegian Information Service in a March 29 news release.

Meanwhile, the Norwegian Whaling Journal has figured out that the present whaling fleet operating in Antarctic waters already includes three expeditions more than necessary to catch the maximum 16,000 blue-whale units available each season under the International Whaling Convention.

Observing that three additional expeditions apparently will participate in the 1951-52 whale hunt, the newspaper adds: "The only result will be that the capacity of existing expeditions will be used to an even smaller degree than now. The total production of whale oil will not be increased."

NORWAY'S BIGGEST TRAWLER COOPERATIVE VENTURE: Norway's largest and most modern trawler, Moretraal I, is owned jointly by the crew, fish exporters, and the municipality of Kristiansund--one-third share each.

Built in Kiel, Germany, at a cost of 2 million kroner (about \$280,000), the 630-metric ton trawler is a self-contained floating factory, designed to utilize every particle of the catch. It is equipped with machinery to produce 20 tons of fish meal a day, and has also an oil-extracting plant aboard, as well as ample refrigeration facilities.

Moretraal I also boasts the latest in electronic devices and other modern instruments, including two echo sounders. One of these is coupled to a radar screen, which besides giving accurate depth readings, also enables the shipmaster to determine not only the position and concentration of fish shoals, but also the size and shape of the individual fish. Thus, it is possible to see whether the prospective booty consists of cod or herring, or other fish.

In contrast to the primitive quarters usually provided aboard trawlers, Moretraal I has comfortable one- and two-man cabins, as well as bright, sanitary dining rooms for crew and officers.

Local interests in Kristiansund have ordered two more trawlers of the same type as the Moretraal I. These, too, will be cooperatively financed and operated.

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COD PURSE SEINING REPORTED SUCCESSFUL: The results of purse seining in the Lofoten cod fisheries have surpassed all expectations states Norway's Fisheries Minister Reidar Carlsen in an April 12 news release from the Norwegian Information Service. Of the total 88,000 metric tons of cod that had been caught at the latest count, more than 50,000 tons were credited to the less than 600 purse seiners participating in the Northern Norway fisheries.

Still in the experimental stage, purse seining will in the next several years be the subject of careful studies, before attempts are made to draw up laws to regulate the use of this successful gear. Carlsen told the press that special attention would be given the quality of cod caught by purse seiners, to make sure that it measures up to the strict requirements of Norwegian fishing.



Peru

NEW REGULATIONS FOR IMPORTATION AND SALE OF AQUATIC FOOD PRODUCTS: In Peru new regulations affecting the importation and sale of aquatic food products were established, according to a recent American Embassy dispatch from Lima. The regulations, embodied in a Supreme Resolution dated January 29, 1951, and published February 7, 1951, apply to both foreign and domestic products. The resolution provides that all imported food products of aquatic origin, however preserved, must be inspected by the laboratory of the Peruvian Bureau of Fish and Wildlife, Ministry of Agriculture. The Bureau will issue certificates of quality and goods may not be cleared by customhouses without these certificates.

Quality examinations are to be in conformity with the established regulations of the Bureau regarding such products. Goods found to be adulterated or fraudulently labeled will be subject to reexportation or confiscation.

Domestic products destined for domestic consumption will also be examined by the Bureau and those found unfit for human consumption will be confiscated. A period of 90 days from the date of the resolution was allowed for local fish preservers for the codification (serial number, date, and time of processing) of their products in order to identify their origin. Companies which fail to fulfill this requirement will not be permitted to undertake or continue processing activities.

The measure was put into effect, according to the preamble of the Resolution, because certain preserved fish and shellfish products, both foreign and domestic, had been found to be unsuitable for human consumption and, in some cases, fraudulently labeled.



Republic of the Philippines

EXCHANGE TAX REFUND FOR CANNED FISH: A bill passed by the Philippine Congress instituting a tax on foreign-exchange transactions was signed by President Quirino on March 28, 1951, and became Republic Act 601. The special excise tax on sales of foreign exchange, which became effective on March 29, 1951, is set at 17 percent and will remain in force for two years. However, a refund of the exchange tax may be applied for when foreign exchange is used to pay for imports of certain commodities if proof of importation can be provided. Canned fish is included among those commodities that are eligible for a refund of the exchange tax.



United Kingdom

NEW QUICK-FREEZE FACTORY SHIP: The Salvesen, a new quick-freeze factory ship, is now being built in Great Britain. It will be an improvement over the Fairfree, the largest and most modern of the present British quick-freeze fishing vessels. The new vessel will incorporate improvements based on the experience obtained from operating the Fairfree. It is anticipated that the new ship will be in operation sometime in 1952, according to the British periodical, The Fishing News of March 17, 1951.

1/SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, NOVEMBER 1949, P. 65.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE "SALVESEN"

LENGTH OVER-ALL 240 FT., WIDTH 40 FT.
 FACTORY SPACE SOME 100 FT. (A CONSIDERABLE IMPROVEMENT ON THE FILLETING
 AND HANDLING SECTION OF THE FAIRFREE).
 REFRIGERATED HOLD CAPACITY SOME 500 METRIC TONS.
 FISH MEAL STORAGE CAPACITY SOME 100 TONS.
 CREW OF ABOUT 80 OF WHOM 20 WILL BE ENGAGED IN FILLETING.

A new development for this type of vessel is the incorporation of a fish-meal plant aboard, permitting the processing of offal. A liver-oil plant is also being installed. This new trawler will be able to operate at sea for as long as 90 days.

This ship is being constructed in an effort to duplicate the Fairfree, reported to be operating with considerable success in the White Sea, Faroes, and off of Newfoundland, and landing substantial catches of quick-frozen fish at Glasgow.



Union of South Africa

NEW INDUSTRY FOR ALGINATE MAY BE ESTABLISHED: Investigations of the suitability of South African seaweed for the extraction of chemicals and salts, undertaken by one of the Union of South Africa's principal fishing companies, were favorable, according to a recent American consular dispatch from Pretoria. A new industry for the production of alginates and other seaweed derivatives is expected to be established. Operations are expected to begin by mid-1951.

An outlet for these products will be sought in the United States.



FISHERIES OF FRANCE

An important factor in France's high level of fisheries production during 1948 and 1949 was the reconstruction and modernization of the French fishing fleet that was undertaken immediately after World War II and is now nearing completion.

At present, problems of production are considered by the fishery trade to be secondary to the problems of marketing. Considerable attention has been given to improving transportation facilities, especially by expanding the use of refrigeration and to stimulating the demand for fish by propaganda and educational methods.

The production of canned fish has been increasing steadily in recent years. The supply of raw materials, that continued to limit operation for several years after the war, is no longer a critical problem.

Considerable progress is being made in France in the utilization of fish rejected for consumption purposes or otherwise wasted, by processing it into meal and oil. There is still much to be done in the field, however, and it is estimated that at present only 20 to 30 percent of the fish available for processing is so used.