

TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Additions to the Fleet of U. S. Fishing Vessels

A total of 60 vessels of 5 net tons and over received their first documents as fishing craft during March 1952--8 more than in March 1951. Alaska and Washington led with 10 vessels each, followed by Louisiana with 6 vessels, according to the Bureau of Customs of the Treasury Department.

Section	March		Three months ending with March		Total 1951
	1952	1951	1952	1951	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
New England	1	2	4	5	36
Middle Atlantic	2	6	9	13	34
Chesapeake	8	2	17	4	36
South Atlantic	7	6	26	22	118
Gulf	11	20	26	47	173
Pacific Coast	18	12	34	38	284
Great Lakes	3	-	4	1	25
Alaska	10	3	24	11	71
Hawaii	-	1	-	1	3
Total	60	52	144	142	780



Federal Purchases of Fishery Products

FRESH AND FROZEN FISH PURCHASES BY DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, MARCH 1952: A total of 2,376,662 pounds (valued at \$1,103,526) of fresh and frozen fishery products were purchased during March 1951 for the military feeding of the U. S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force by the Army Quartermaster Corps. This was an increase of 9.4 percent in quantity and 6.0 percent in value as compared with the previous month and an increase of 15.2 percent in quantity and 34.4 percent in value as compared with March 1951 (see table).

Q U A N T I T Y				V A L U E			
March		January-March		March		January-March	
1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951	1952	1951
lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	\$	\$	\$	\$
2,376,662	2,062,200	6,867,389	5,917,810	1,103,526	821,164	3,229,644	2,488,471

Purchases for the first three months this year were greater by 16.0 percent in quantity and 29.8 percent in value than for the corresponding period in 1951.

The average price per pound of 47.0 cents paid for fresh and frozen fishery products in the first three months of 1952 was considerably higher than the 42.1 cents paid in January-March 1951.



Fish Cannery in Samoa Offered American Fish Packers

The Government of American Samoa is seeking to interest American fishpackers in purchasing or leasing the canning facilities which were recently acquired from a large American firm on the Pacific Coast, the Secretary of the Interior announced early in April. The territorial government purchased the canning equipment in order to prevent the sale and removal of the equipment to a foreign concern and to retain for the territory the wage-income potential from the operation of a cannery. In view of the depressed economic situation in Samoa, it is essential that all potential sources of income be developed for this American territory.

The territorial government is making every possible effort to interest an American cannery in either purchasing or leasing the cannery for local operation. There is no expectation that the production of the fish cannery in Samoa would reach such proportions as to affect the American mainland fishing industry.

Since American Samoa is a possession of the United States, its products may enter the United States without duty payment. United States tariffs do not apply in American Samoa and it is considered sound not to have them apply because of Samoa's distance from the mainland of the United States, its depressed economic situation, and its dependence upon Australia and New Zealand for many of its imports.

American canning concerns and others interested in the possibility of purchasing or leasing the canning equipment for operation in Samoa should communicate directly with the Governor of American Samoa, Pago Pago, Tutuila, American Samoa.



Maine Sardine Pack (Including Sea Herring), 1951

Maine sardines (including sea herring) packed in 1951 amounted to 1,676,764 standard cases, valued at \$14,635,352 to the packers (table 1). Compared with the previous year, this was a decrease of 56 percent in quantity and 31 percent in value. The 1951 pack was the smallest since 1941 when the amount canned totaled 1,117,748 cases (valued at \$3,736,394). Prior to 1949 the packs of fish canned as sardines and as sea herring were shown separately. However, in 1949 the packs

Table 1 - Pack of Maine Sardines (Including Sea Herring) by Style of Pack; and By Size of Can and Case, 1951
(Quantity in Standard and Actual Cases, and Value to the Cannery)

Style of Pack	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case	Can and Case Sizes	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case
	Std. Cases				Actual Cases		
Natural	61,811	184,562	2.99	3½ oz. net (100 cans)	1,555,029	14,141,807	9.09
In soybean or other vegetable oil	1,358,146	12,338,953	9.09	10 oz. net (48 cans) ..	36,105	283,299	7.85
In mustard sauce ...	204,907	1,682,039	8.21	15 oz. net (48 cans) ..	30,307	202,364	6.68
In olive oil	19,813	207,251	10.46	Other sizes (converted to 3½ oz. net)			
Klippered	16,911	106,709	6.31	(100 cans)	1,270	7,882	6.21
Other	15,176	115,838	7.53				
Total	1,676,764	14,635,352	8.73	Total	1,622,711	14,635,352	-

REPRESENT CASES OF VARIOUS SIZES CONVERTED TO 100 ¾-OIL CANS (3½ OZ. NET) TO THE CASE.

INCLUDES SPECIAL PACKS OF SARDINES (INCLUDING SEA HERRING) IN COTTONSEED OIL; PEANUT OIL; TOMATO SAUCE; AND BONELESS FILLETS IN SOYBEAN OR OTHER VEGETABLE OIL.

were combined. The comparative data in table 2 likewise represent the combined packs of the past ten years.

Sardines (including sea herring) in 1951 were canned in 45 plants in Maine and 3 in Massachusetts as compared with 1950 when 47 plants operated in Maine and 3 in Massachusetts.



SEA HERRING

Because of the small pack, the 1951 average price per standard case was the second highest on record--\$8.73 per case. The highest was in 1947 when a pack of 3,013,910 standard cases sold at an average of \$9.39 per standard case. Sardines in soybean or other vegetable oil (the bulk of the pack was put up in this style) in 1951 aver-

Table 2 - Pack of Maine Sardines (Including Sea Herring^{1/}), 1942-51
(Quantity in Standard Cases^{2/} and Value to the Cannery)

Year	Quantity Std. Cases ^{2/}	Total Value \$	Avg. Price Per Std. Case ^{2/}	Year	Quantity Std. Cases ^{2/}	Total Value \$	Avg. Price Per Std. Case ^{2/}
1951	1,676,764	14,635,352	8.73	1946	3,276,338	20,275,590	6.19
1950	3,844,164	21,209,033	5.52	1945	2,725,216	12,077,201	4.43
1949	3,074,523	21,051,675	6.85	1944	3,261,984	14,819,803	4.54
1948	3,682,392	29,359,114	7.97	1943	2,505,114	11,104,570	4.43
1947	3,013,910	28,310,674	9.39	1942	2,873,246	12,162,451	4.23

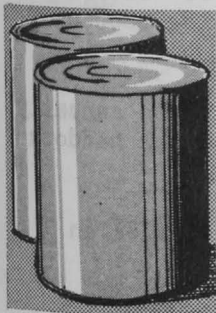
^{1/}THE PACK OF HERRING PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS CANNED SEA HERRING HAS BEEN CONVERTED TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 100 $\frac{1}{4}$ -OIL CANS ($3\frac{1}{2}$ OZ. NET) TO THE CASE AND INCLUDED WITH THE PACK OF SARDINES.
^{2/}CASES OF VARIOUS SIZES CONVERTED TO 100 $\frac{1}{4}$ -OIL CANS ($3\frac{1}{4}$ OZ. NET) TO THE CASE.

aged \$9.09 per standard case, compared with \$5.43 in 1950, and \$6.95 in 1949. Sardines in mustard sauce, the second in importance, averaged \$8.21 per standard case, compared with \$5.33 in 1950 and \$7.08 in 1949. Demand for the 1951 pack has been steady and good.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, JANUARY 1952, P. 26.



Metal Cans--Shipments for Fishery Products, February 1952



Total shipments of metal cans for fishery products for February this year amounted to 4,932 short tons of steel (based on the amount of steel consumed in the manufacture of cans), which was considerably below 5,333 short tons of steel during the corresponding period in 1951. A decline in West Coast tuna canning and sardine canning were largely responsible for this drop in use of metal cans for packing of fishery products. This is based on a report issued by the Bureau of the Census on April 22.

NOTE: DATA CONVERTED TO SHORT TONS OF STEEL ARE ON THE BASIS OF 23.0 BASE BOXES OF STEEL PER SHORT TON OF STEEL.



North Atlantic Fishery Investigations

HADDOCK CATCH ON GEORGES BANK TO DECREASE IN 1952: The 1952 catch of haddock on Georges Bank will be 89.0 million pounds if the fishing effort is the same this year as last, it was announced by the Fish and Wildlife Service on April 29. This is a reduction of 2.3 million pounds or 2.5 percent of last year's catch of 91.3 million pounds.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has been studying the haddock populations on Georges Bank for many years and has now accumulated enough information on the life history of the fish to make predictions of catch possible.

The first prediction was made in April 1951 for the catch of that year, and proved to be 98.4 percent accurate. The 1952 prediction is made on the assumption that the haddock fleet will be fishing the same number of days as last year. If fishing is less intense, landings will be correspondingly less.

The degree to which Georges Bank is fished depends in part on the abundance of fish on the nearby Nova Scotian Banks. During the early months of 1952 large catches have been taken from these banks by the larger trawlers sailing out of Boston. If the great abundance of fish on Nova Scotian Banks continues, Georges Bank will be fished less this year than last.

The catch of haddock from Georges Bank has fluctuated from 223 million pounds in 1929 to 50 million pounds in 1934. Since 1934 it has fluctuated between 78 and 122 million pounds.

Service biologists at the Woods Hole, Mass., Laboratory are studying the causes of these fluctuations. Some of the variations in catch are due to economic conditions, but the greatest fluctuations are brought about by changes in the abundance of fish due to natural causes. The reasons for these natural fluctuations are still not clearly understood.

The ages of the fish that support the Georges Bank fishery range from one to nine years. The number of fish in each age group varies tremendously. In some years there are very successful broods; in others there are virtual failures. The causes of these variations in brood strengths are being studied.

The 1948 brood was unusually large and has been the main support of the Georges Bank fishery for two years. It will continue to contribute a large share of the haddock this year, but in smaller numbers in succeeding years. The future of the Georges Bank haddock depends upon the strengths of the oncoming broods of fish.

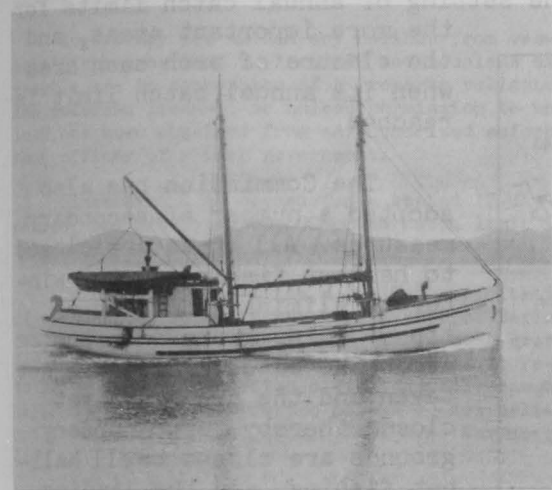
About 130 million pounds of haddock are landed at New England ports annually. In 1950 the value of the catch was \$12,000,000. About 70 percent of the haddock landed normally come from Georges Bank.

The catch of haddock surpasses that of the famous cod by over 50 million pounds annually.

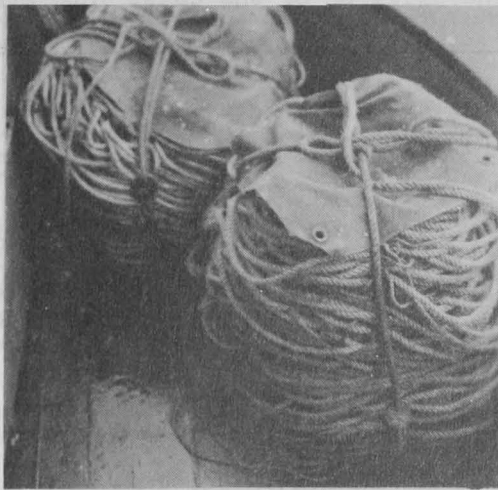


Pacific Coast Halibut Fishery

FISHING REGULATIONS FOR 1952 ANNOUNCED: The Pacific Coast halibut fishing season this year opened at 12:01 a.m. May 14. For quite a few years now the opening date has been May 1. It is estimated that the season this year will prob-



A TYPICAL PACIFIC COAST HALIBUT SCHOONER.



HALIBUT LONG-LINE GEAR READY FOR USE ABOARD A PACIFIC COAST HALIBUT SCHOONER.

ably be not much longer than last year, and maybe shorter if the weather is good. However, market conditions for halibut this year are considerably better than they were in May last year.

The 1952 regulations for the Pacific halibut fishery were approved by the President of the United States and the Governor General of Canada and became

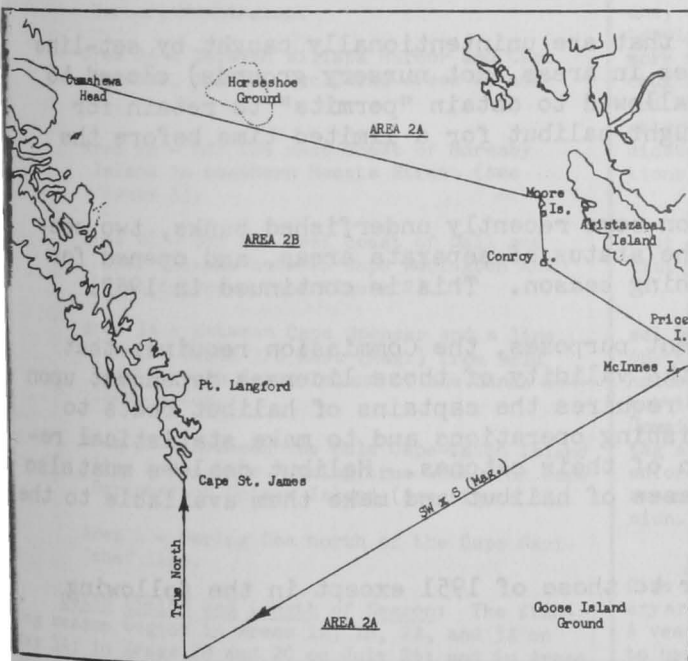


FIGURE 1 - AREA 2B. SHALL INCLUDE ALL CONVENTION WATERS IN THE SOUTHERN PART OF HECATE STRAITS OFF THE COAST OF BRITISH COLUMBIA WITHIN THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARY: FROM THE EASTERN EXTREMITY OF CUNSEWA HEAD ON MORESBY ISLAND, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 53°02'00" N., LONGITUDE 131°36'20" W., TO LATITUDE 52°40'05" N., LONGITUDE 129°25'32" W.; THENCE TO THE NORTHERN EXTREMITY OF CONROY ISLAND, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 52°32'05" N., LONGITUDE 129°24'15" W.; THENCE TO MCINNES ISLAND LIGHT ON SOUTH APPROXIMATELY 99 MILES TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 51°28'55" N., LONGITUDE 131°00'56" W.; THENCE TRUE NORTH THROUGH CAPE ST. JAMES LIGHT TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHERN END OF KUNGHIT ISLAND, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 51°56'42" N., LONGITUDE 131°00'54" W.; THENCE ALONG THE EASTERN SHORE OF KUNGHIT ISLAND TO MOORE HEAD, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 52°09'48" N., LONGITUDE 131°00'30" W.; THENCE TO POINT LANGFORD, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 52°09'48" N., LONGITUDE 131°02'36" W., ON MORESBY ISLAND; THENCE ALONG THE EASTERN SHORE OF MORESBY ISLAND TO THE POINT OF ORIGIN ON CUMSEWA HEAD.

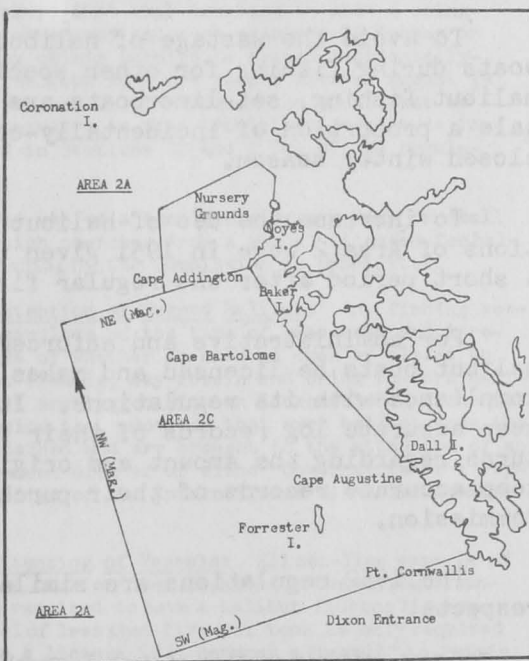


FIGURE 2 - AREA 2C. INCLUDES ALL CONVENTION WATERS OFF THE COAST OF SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA WITHIN THE FOLLOWING BOUNDARY: FROM THE SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF CAPE ADDINGTON, NOYES ISLAND, LATITUDE 55°26'11" N., LONGITUDE 133°49'12" W., TO THE SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF GRANITE POINT, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 55°18'57" N., LONGITUDE 133°41'25" W.; ON BAKER ISLAND; THENCE ALONG THE SOUTHERN SHORE OF BAKER ISLAND TO CAPE BARTOLOME, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 55°14'13" N., LONGITUDE 133°16'42" W.; THENCE TO CAPE AUGUSTINE, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 54°25'56" N., LONGITUDE 133°09'58" W., ON DALL ISLAND; THENCE ALONG THE SHORE OF DALL ISLAND TO POINT CORNWALLIS, APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 54°42'03" N., LONGITUDE 132°52'30" W.; THENCE SOUTHWEST FIFTY MILES TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 54°27'20" N., LONGITUDE 134°14'10" W.; THENCE NORTHEAST FIFTY-THREE MILES TO A POINT APPROXIMATELY LATITUDE 55°17'43" N., LONGITUDE 134°40'00" W.; THENCE NORTHEAST TO THE POINT OF ORIGIN ON CAPE ADDINGTON.

effective on April 22, 1952, according to an announcement by the International Fisheries Commission. These regulations apply to the catching and landing of halibut on the coasts of the United States, Canada, and Alaska.

In regulating the halibut fishery, the Commission has depended principally upon the division of the coast into areas, the setting of annual catch limits for the more important areas, and the closure of each such area when its annual catch limit is reached.

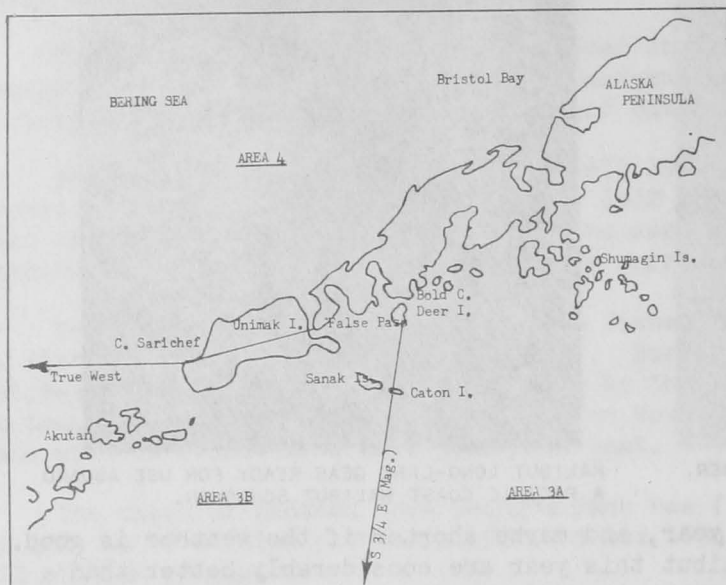


FIGURE 3 - AREA 3B, AS DESCRIBED IN THE PACIFIC HALIBUT REGULATIONS FOR 1952, INCLUDES ALL CONVENTION WATERS OFF THE COAST OF ALASKA THAT ARE BETWEEN A STRAIGHT LINE RUNNING APPROXIMATELY S. 3/4 E. FROM THE ALASKA PENINSULA, NEAR BOLD CAPE, THROUGH THE HIGHEST POINT ON DEER ISLAND AND THROUGH THE HIGHEST POINT ON CATON ISLAND AND A LINE RUNNING FROM THE LIGHT ON CAPE SARICHEF AT THE HEAD OF AKUTAN BAY TO CAPE SARICHEF LIGHT AT THE WEST END OF UNIMAK ISLAND, THENCE TRUE WEST. THE EXACT LOCATIONS OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED POINTS ARE GIVEN IN THE REGULATIONS.

The Commission has also adopted a number of secondary measures. All areas are closed to halibut fishing in the winter to eliminate fishing on the spawning grounds in the event the catch limits are not taken and the areas not yet closed thereby. Two nursery grounds are closed to all halibut fishing, and the landing of halibut below a certain size is prohibited to prevent the destruction of small fish which are very important to the future supply. Certain types of gear which are considered destructive of small halibut are barred from the fishery.

To avoid the wastage of halibut that are unintentionally caught by set-line boats during fishing for other species in areas (not nursery grounds) closed to halibut fishing, set-line boats are allowed to obtain "permits" to retain for sale a proportion of incidentally-caught halibut for a limited time before the closed winter season.

To increase the use of halibut on some recently underfished banks, two sections of Area 2 were in 1951 given the status of separate areas, and opened for a short period after the regular fishing season. This is continued in 1952.

For administrative and enforcement purposes, the Commission requires that halibut boats be licensed and makes the validity of those licenses dependent upon compliance with its regulations. It requires the captains of halibut boats to keep accurate log records of their fishing operations and to make statistical returns regarding the amount and origin of their catches. Halibut dealers must also keep accurate records of their purchases of halibut and make them available to the Commission.

The 1952 regulations are similar to those of 1951 except in the following respects.

The most westerly portion of Area 3, Sanak Islands and westward, is designated as a separate area, namely Area 3B. The remaining portion of old Area 3 is designated as Area 3A. Area 3B and Area 4 which includes the Bering Sea are closed to halibut fishing during the regular fishing season and are opened for 17 days beginning on August 2, at

the season when these grounds formerly produced their best catches.

All halibut vessels fishing Areas 3B and 4 must previously have their licenses validated by an officer stationed at False Pass. This validation may not be secured earlier than July 31,

i.e. 48 hours before the opening of the area on August 2.

All halibut vessels, after fishing in Areas 3B and 4 and prior to unloading any halibut caught in those areas must have their license first endorsed by the officer at False Pass.

Buyers may not unload any halibut from vessels fishing halibut in Areas 3B and 4 unless said vessels are in possession of a properly validated and endorsed license, or unless permission to unload has been obtained from an authorized enforcement officer of either government.

Since Area 4 is opened for a stated 17-day period, the previous 500,000-pound catch limit is removed.

To explore and provide a limited exploitation of the halibut found in the Area 4 part of Bering Sea, crab-fishing trawlers using large-mesh gear (12 inches or over) are permitted in 1952 to retain for sale a proportion of incidentally-caught halibut after the expiration of the 17-day halibut fishing season and until 12:01 a.m. November 14.

A few minor changes are also made to provide for conditions arising from the division of old Area 3 and the issuance of permits to vessels fishing crab with bottom trawls in the Bering Sea.

Regulatory Areas: The regulatory areas are approximately as follows:

Area 1A - South of Cape Blanco, Oregon.

Area 1B - Between Cape Blanco and Willapa Harbor, Washington.

Area 2A - Between Willapa Harbor and Cape Spencer, Alaska, excluding Areas 2B and 2C.

Area 2B - Off the east coast of Moresby Island in southern Hecate Strait (see figure 1).

Area 2C - Off the west coast of Dall and other Islands between Cape Addington and Dixon Entrance (see figure 2).

Area 3A - Between Cape Spencer and a line running South 3/4 East (Mag.) from Bold Cape through Caton Island of the Sanak Islands group.

Area 3B - Between the Bold Cape-Caton Island line and a line running true west from Cape Sarichef on Unimak Island (see figure 3).

Area 4 - Bering Sea north of the Cape Sarichef line.

Catch Limits and Length of Season: The fishing season begins in Areas 1A, 1B, 2A, and 3A on May 14; in Areas 2B and 2C on July 26; and in Areas 3B and 4 on August 2.

Catch limits are placed on Areas 2A and 3A only. These are 25,500,000 pounds, and 28,000,000 pounds, respectively. All weights are to be computed as with heads off and entrails removed.

Areas 2A and 3A are closed to halibut fishing on dates announced by the Commission during the season. These dates are those by which the Commission estimates that the respective catch limits will be caught. Area 1A closes with Area 2A or Area 3A, whichever is later; Area 1B closes with Area 2A. Areas 2B and 2C are closed at 12:01 a.m. August 5. Areas 3B and 4 are closed at 12:01 a.m. August 19.

The fishing season in all areas automatically closes at 12:01 a.m. December 1, if not already closed by catch limit or date. This closure continues until the season is opened in the following year.

Minimum Size Limit: The possession of halibut of less than 26 inches in length from the tip of the lower jaw to the middle of the tail, or of halibut of less than 5 pounds in weight with heads off and entrails removed is prohibited at all times. This applies to both fishermen and dealers.

Closed Nursery Grounds: Two nursery grounds, one located off Timbered Islet in southeastern Alaska and the other off Masset at the north end of the Queen Charlotte Islands and including Masset Inlet, are closed to halibut fishing at all times.

Boats may fish for species other than halibut in these nursery areas but may not have any halibut in their possession, regardless of where it was caught, while they are fishing in these areas.

Nets and Dory Gear Prohibited: It is illegal for a vessel to retain halibut taken with a net of any kind or to possess any halibut while carrying on fishing with a net other than a bait net which is used only to capture bait for the vessel's own use, except that crab trawlers in Area 4 using trawls whose cod end mesh measures 12 inches or more may obtain permits to retain incidentally-caught halibut that are caught between August 19 and November 14. The possession of halibut by other trawlers is thus prohibited, except as indicated in Sections 12 and 5 (b) of the regulations.

The use of a hand gurdy by any dory or small boat which operates from a vessel licensed for halibut fishing by the Commission is prohibited.

Retention of Tagged Halibut: Any fishing vessel regardless of the type of gear used and irrespective of whether an area is open or closed to halibut fishing, may retain and bring to port halibut that are tagged with an International Fisheries Commission tag, provided that such halibut have the tag attached and are brought to the attention of an enforcement officer of either Governments or a representative of the International Fisheries Commission.

Licensing of Vessels: All set-line vessels of five net tons or over engaging in the halibut fishery are required to have a halibut fishing license. A vessel of less than five net tons is only required to have a license if it secures a "permit" to retain halibut taken incidentally while fishing for other species in an area closed to halibut fishing.

Vessels, such as strollers, which fish with hook and line but do not use set-lines need not be licensed regardless of size. These boats may retain and sell such halibut as they may catch in areas open to halibut fishing.

Vessels other than set-line boats are not eligible for permits and may not have any halibut in their possession while fishing in any area closed to halibut fishing, except as provided for trawlers fishing crab in Bering Sea with trawls whose cod end meshes measure 12 inches or more between knots.

Conditions Limiting Validity of Licenses: The halibut license of a vessel must be validated by a Customs or fishery officer before departure from port for each halibut fishing operation for which statistical returns are required.

The license of any vessel fishing for halibut in Area 1A after the closure of Areas 1B and 2A must be validated at a port or place within Area 1A prior to each trip.

The license of any vessel fishing for halibut in Area 3B and/or Area 4 must be validated at False Pass prior to such fishing and must be endorsed at False Pass after such fishing and prior to unloading the fare.

The license may not be validated unless statistical returns have been made for all previous halibut fishing operations.

The license must be carried on board at all times while the vessel is at sea whether halibut fishing or permit fishing and is subject to inspection by authorized enforcement officers at any time.

No license is valid for halibut fishing in more than one area during any one trip except in the case of Areas 3B and 4 or can be validated for halibut fishing in another area while the vessel has any halibut on board. The area for which a license is valid is shown on the license.

No vessel is permitted to possess any halibut in any area other than that for which the license is validated except while it is in actual transit through the other area or within a port of sale and except as indicated in the following paragraph.

No vessel with a license validated for fishing in Area 3A and with baited gear on board may possess halibut outside Area 3A except within 25 miles of Cape Spencer Light, and no boat with a license validated for fishing in Area 2B or 2C and with baited gear on board may possess halibut outside Area 2B or 2C, respectively, except within 20 miles of its boundary. The exceptions allow vessels to seek shelter in Area 2A harbors when fishing in the exposed adjacent parts of Areas 3A, 2B and 2C.

No license may be validated for departure for halibut fishing prior to the following dates.

12:01 a.m. of May 9, for Area 3A validations secured outside Area 3A;

12:01 a.m. of May 12, for Area 3A validations secured inside Area 3A;

12:01 a.m. of May 12, for Area 1A, 1B or 2A validations;

12:01 a.m. of July 24, for Area 2B and 2C validations;

12:01 a.m. of July 31, for Area 3B and/or Area 4 validations.

Permits to Retain Incidentally Caught Halibut:

Any set-line boat which fishes for other species in any area (not a nursery ground) which is closed to halibut fishing may have its halibut license endorsed as a "permit" to retain for sale one pound of halibut for each seven pounds of salable fish, actually utilized, exclusive of salmon or tuna. All weights are to be computed as with heads off and entrails removed.

Permits may be secured for more than one close halibut area per trip.

Set-line vessels with "permits" may have halibut in their possession in excess of the amount which they are allowed to sell, provided that such excess does not exceed 30 percent of the amount they can legally sell and provided that such excess is surrendered to an enforcement officer. The permit of any set-line vessel becomes invalid if the vessel has in its possession more halibut than the permit allows.

For example, a set-line vessel having a net weighed-out amount of 14,000 pounds of heads-off salable fish of other species, not including salmon or tuna, can sell 2,000 pounds of halibut. It can possess up to 600 pounds of additional halibut (30 percent of 2,000) which must be forfeited. If it possesses more than this 30 percent excess, it is violating the regulations.

All permits for set-line boats become invalid for the retention or possession of halibut at 12:01 a.m. November 16. This means that such permit boats must actually unload their halibut by the above date.

Crab trawlers with permits for Area 4 may retain for sale incidentally-caught halibut not to exceed one pound of halibut for each five pounds drained weight, or the equivalent, of picked crab meat.

Crab trawlers retaining incidentally-caught halibut in Area 4 cannot retain any halibut caught after 12:01 a.m. November 14 but are permitted to possess previously-caught halibut until 12:01 a.m. December 14. This is to permit such vessels to complete their crab-fishing operations and to return to their home ports for unloading of their fares.

Crab trawlers retaining halibut under permit in Area 4 must provide documentary evidence of date of departure from the area subsequent to such fishing. This evidence may be secured at some place within Area 4 or at Akutan.

Permits cannot be secured for any area until after the close of the halibut fishing season in that area.

Any halibut on board a vessel at the time the vessel secures a permit is to be treated as though actually caught under that permit.

Halibut retained under permit may not be filleted, fletched, steaked, or butchered beyond the removal of the head and entrails while on board the catching vessel.

Halibut taken under permit is not to be unloaded until all halibut on board have been reported by the captain and dealer to a Customs or fish-

ery officer. The unloading is to be done under such supervision as the officer deems advisable.

A permit terminates at the time of first landing after its issuance and a new permit must be secured before any subsequent fishing trip for which a permit is required.

The above provisions make it necessary for boats fishing under permit to sell or land their fares at ports where Customs or other authorized enforcement officers are available.

Statistical Returns by Vessels: Statistical returns, as to the amount of each species, port of landing, and regulatory area in which the fish were caught, must be made to an authorized Customs or fishery officer by the operator of every licensed vessel. This must be done within 96 hours after landing halibut, except when the landing is made at a port where there is no authorized officer. In this event, a return must be made within 96 hours of the first subsequent entry into a port where an officer is located.

Operators of licensed vessels must keep an accurate log record of all fishing operations for the benefit of the Commission.

Dealers Records: All dealers must keep detailed records of their purchases of halibut and other species landed with the halibut. They must furnish these records to the Commission and to enforcement officers on request.

A dealer receiving fish from any vessel fishing under a permit must within 48 hours make statistical return to an authorized enforcement officer.

A dealer buying fish from any vessel fishing in Area 3B and/or Area 4 may not unload any halibut from said vessel unless the vessel's license has been validated at False Pass subsequent to such fishing or unless permission to unload such halibut has been received from an enforcement officer of either Government.

The possession by dealers of halibut taken by a vessel without a license or a permit when such license or permit is required, is prohibited.

CATCH AND SEASONS, 1950-51: The United States and Canadian Pacific halibut catch in 1951 totaled 56,347,524 pounds, compared with 57,018,010 pounds in 1950 (see table). The season for the principal fishing areas (1A, 1B, 2A, and 3A) in

United States and Canadian Landings of Pacific Halibut, 1950-51

Port	12 Months 1951			12 Months 1950		
	U.S. Vessels Pounds	Canadian Vessels Pounds	Total Pounds	U.S. Vessels Pounds	Canadian Vessels Pounds	Total Pounds
Alaska:						
Juneau	2,392,000	55,000	2,447,000	3,797,408	32,285	3,829,693
Ketchikan (includes Craig & Taku) ..	5,376,000	-	5,376,000	6,984,510	12,840	6,997,350
Pelican City	2,264,000	267,000	2,531,000	3,358,040	-	3,358,040
Petersburg (includes Tyee)	2,808,000	-	2,808,000	3,141,332	-	3,141,332
Sitka	2,064,000	42,000	2,106,000	3,087,591	15,257	3,102,848
Central Alaska (Ports west Cape Spencer)	3,729,000	218,000	3,947,000	4,365,048	-	4,365,048
Other Alaska Ports (Wrangell, etc.) ..	496,000	-	496,000	562,892	9,075	571,967
Total Alaska	19,129,000	582,000	19,711,000	25,296,821	69,457	25,366,278
British Columbia:						
Prince Rupert (includes Namu, Bute- dale, Klamtu, and others)	4,383,000	15,399,000	19,782,000	3,683,686	15,762,822	19,446,508
Vancouver (includes Vancouver Is- land, New Westminster, etc.)	8,000	5,485,000	5,493,000	-	2,941,364	2,941,364
Total British Columbia	4,391,000	20,884,000	25,275,000	3,683,686	18,704,186	22,387,872
Washington:						
Seattle	9,640,524	-	9,640,524	7,383,577	-	7,383,577
Other Washington Ports	1,439,000	-	1,439,000	1,290,229	-	1,290,229
Total Washington	11,079,524	-	11,079,524	8,673,806	-	8,673,806
Oregon	282,000	-	282,000	590,054	-	590,054
Total	34,881,524	21,466,000	56,347,524	38,244,367	18,773,643	57,018,010

NOTE: INCLUDES INCIDENTALLY-CAUGHT HALIBUT.

1951 was the shortest on record. The 1951 over-all season for the areas mentioned was 56 days long as compared with 66 days in 1950, 73 days in 1949, 72 days in 1948, and 109 days in 1947.

The regular halibut season in 1951 opened on May 1 for all areas except 2B and 2C. Areas 2A and 1B closed at midnight May 28, 1951, and Areas 3, 1A, and 4 closed at midnight June 25, 1951. Two new areas established in 1951 (Areas 2B and 2C) opened for 10 days of fishing on July 26.

In 1950 the season also opened on May 1. Areas 2 and 1B closed at midnight June 1 and Areas 3, 1A, and 4 closed at midnight July 5, 1950. For 1950 there was no additional short season as in 1951.



U.S. Canned Tuna and Tuna-Like Fish Pack, 1951

The United States canned tuna and tuna-like fish pack in 1951 amounted to 8,236,725 standard cases, valued at \$99,046,206 to the packer. This was a decline of 9 percent in quantity and 12 percent in value as compared with the pre-

Species	CALIFORNIA			WASHINGTON AND OREGON			ATLANTIC COAST		
	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case
	Std. Cases	\$	\$	Std. Cases	\$	\$	Std. Cases	\$	\$
Tuna:									
Albacore	1,171,482	14,462,416	12.35	392,271	5,496,189	14.01	-	-	-
Yellowfin	3,818,034	45,207,651	11.84	3/252,961	3/3,157,774	12.68	-	-	-
Bluefin	2/71,922	2/797,817	11.09	-	-	-	-	-	-
Skipjack	2,126,800	25,238,212	11.87	3/	3/	-	-	-	-
Tonno	160,626	2,140,231	13.57	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/137,178	4/1,561,939	11.39
Total tuna	7,348,864	87,896,327	11.96	545,232	8,653,963	13.41	137,178	1,561,939	11.39
Tuna-Like Fish:									
Bonito	14,469	134,364	9.29	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellowtail	90,982	809,612	8.90	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total tuna-like fish	105,451	943,977	8.95	-	-	-	-	-	-
1951 Grand Total .	7,454,315	88,830,304	11.92	545,232	8,653,963	13.41	137,178	1,561,939	11.39
1950 Grand Total .	7,971,897	98,404,253	12.34	957,585	13,458,922	14.06	87,059	966,919	11.11
1949 Grand Total .	6,566,268	87,703,519	13.36	647,716	9,202,517	14.21	76,334	804,289	10.54

1/CASES OF VARIOUS SIZES CONVERTED TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 48 NO. 1 TUNA CANS TO THE CASE, EACH CAN 7 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF SOLID MEAT OR 6 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF FLAKES, CHUNKS, OR GRATED.
2/SMALL PRODUCTION OF BIG-EYED TUNA INCLUDED WITH BLUEFIN PRODUCTION.
3/SMALL PRODUCTION OF SKIPJACK TUNA INCLUDED WITH YELLOWFIN PRODUCTION.
4/INCLUDES ALBACORE, BLUEFIN, LITTLE, AND YELLOWFIN TUNA.
NOTE: DIETETIC TUNA PACK INCLUDED IN ABOVE FIGURES.

vious year's pack (see table 2). Although the bulk of the pack was produced from tuna caught by domestic vessels, a small percentage was produced from imported frozen tuna mainly from Japan, Peru, and Chile.

California accounted for 7,454,315 cases (or 90 percent of the total), followed by Oregon with 542,401 cases, Washington 102,831 cases, and the States of

Species	1951 Total			1950 Total			1949 Total		
	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case	Quantity	Total Value	Avg. Price Per Std. Case
	Std. Cases	\$	\$	Std. Cases	\$	\$	Std. Cases	\$	\$
Tuna:									
Albacore	1,563,753	19,958,605	12.76	2,052,842	28,877,954	14.06	1,466,849	21,750,314	14.83
Yellowfin	2/4,070,995	2/48,365,425	11.88	4,245,346	51,225,806	12.07	3,902,763	51,412,937	13.17
Bluefin	2/71,922	2/797,817	11.09	3/51,390	3/564,160	10.99	76,877	992,642	13.00
Skipjack	2/2,126,800	2/25,238,212	11.87	3/2,262,351	3/27,032,399	11.95	4/1,438,988	4/18,492,672	12.85
Tonno	160,626	2,180,231	13.57	244,610	3,469,125	14.18	168,642	2,579,943	15.30
Miscellaneous ...	5/137,178	5/1,561,939	11.39	5/87,059	5/966,919	11.11	5/76,334	5/804,289	10.54
Total tuna	8,131,274	98,102,229	12.06	8,944,598	112,136,363	12.54	7,130,453	96,039,797	13.47
Tuna-Like Fish:									
Bonito	14,469	134,364	9.29	12,951	122,411	9.45	33,734	365,444	10.83
Yellowtail	90,982	809,612	8.90	58,992	571,320	9.68	126,133	1,305,084	10.35
Total tuna-like fish	105,451	943,977	8.95	71,943	693,731	9.64	159,867	1,670,528	10.45
Grand total	8,236,725	99,046,206	12.02	9,016,541	112,830,094	12.51	7,290,320	97,710,325	13.40

1/CASES OF VARIOUS SIZES CONVERTED TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 48 NO. 1 TUNA CANS TO THE CASE, EACH CAN 7 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF SOLID MEAT OR 6 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF FLAKES, CHUNKS, OR GRATED.
2/SMALL PRODUCTION OF SKIPJACK TUNA INCLUDED WITH BLUEFIN PRODUCTION.
3/SMALL PRODUCTION OF BLUEFIN TUNA INCLUDED WITH SKIPJACK PRODUCTION.
4/INCLUDES A SMALL PRODUCTION OF LITTLE TUNA.
5/INCLUDES ALBACORE, BLUEFIN, LITTLE, AND YELLOWFIN TUNA.

Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, and South Carolina with the remainder of 137,178 cases (see table 1).

From the standpoint of quantity, the 1951 pack was the second highest on record. The record pack was canned in 1950 when 9,016,541 cases were produced (table 3). On the basis of value to the packer, the 1951 pack was the third highest on record--\$99,046,206. The value of the 1950 pack was the highest on record--\$112,830,094, followed by the 1948 pack (7,037,758 cases)--\$112,612,296.

Since 1948 when the pack was sold at an average price of \$16.00 per standard case, the price has steadily declined. In 1949 the average price was \$13.40, in 1950 \$12.51, and in 1951 it dropped again to \$12.02--the lowest average price since 1945 when it reached a low of \$10.46 per standard case. A high inventory at the

beginning of 1951 and a substantial increase in imports of canned tuna and tuna-like fish towards the end of 1950 resulted in a supply which exceeded demand.

Table 3 - Pack of Canned Tuna and Tuna-Like Fish Pack, 1940-51
(Quantity in Standard Cases and Value to the Cannery)

Year	Quantity Std. Cases ^{1/}	Total Value \$	Avg. Price Per Std. Case ^{1/} \$	Year	Quantity Std. Cases ^{1/}	Total Value \$	Avg. Price Per Std. Case ^{1/} \$
1951 ..	8,236,725	99,046,206	12.02	1945 ..	4,531,565	47,407,451	10.46
1950 ..	9,016,541	112,830,094	12.51	1944 ..	3,560,020	40,836,117	11.80
1949 ..	7,290,320	97,710,325	13.40	1943 ..	2,696,073	31,430,189	11.66
1948 ..	7,037,758	112,612,296	16.00	1942 ..	2,484,749	30,742,493	12.37
1947 ..	5,894,495	90,609,175	15.37	1941 ..	2,931,581	19,397,887	6.62
1946 ..	4,784,484	59,135,823	12.36	1940 ..	4,188,460	23,727,560	5.66

^{1/}CASES OF VARIOUS SIZES CONVERTED TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 48 NO. 1 TUNA CANS TO THE CASE, EACH CAN 7 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF SOLID-PACKED MEAT OR 6 OUNCES NET WEIGHT OF FLAKES, CHUNKS, OR GRATED.

When the packers found that during the summer of 1951 the stocks were not moving as readily as they should be during the high consumption season of the year, prices were cut substantially. The adverse market situation for canned tuna resulted in the curtailment of tuna fishing towards the end of that year. However, the inventory at the end of 1951 was still too high. Although early in 1952 the market for canned tuna improved slightly, it was still not in a healthy state.



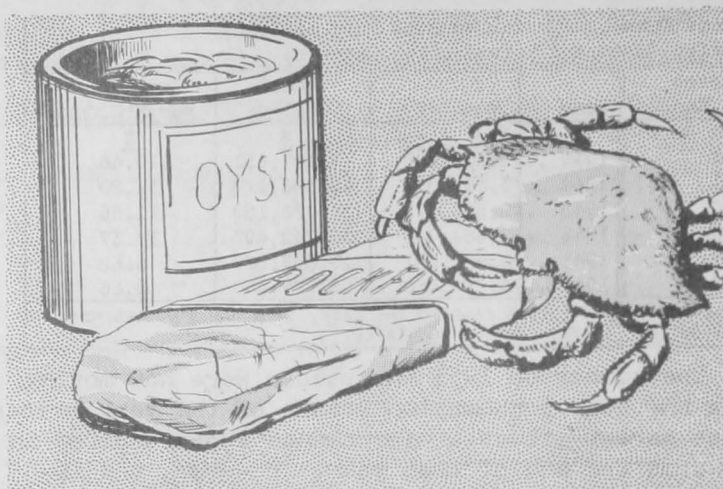
Wholesale and Retail Prices

WHOLESALE PRICES, MARCH 1952: Although the wholesale price index for edible fishery products again started to climb during March this year, there were a number of items included in the index that showed substantial price declines. The usual seasonal climb in production in New England during the month accounted for the lower prices reported for fresh and frozen fishery products originating from that area. The edible fish and shellfish (fresh, frozen, and canned) revised wholesale price index for March 1952 was 109.5 percent of the 1947-49 average--0.5 percent lower than during the same month a year earlier, but 1.2 percent higher than the previous month (see table 1).

In March, most salt-water species of fresh dressed or whole fin fish sold substantially below February, while prices for fresh-water varieties were considerably higher since both United States and Canadian Great Lakes production was reported at a low level. Drawn, dressed, or whole fin-fish prices in March 1952 were 1.0 percent below the previous month, but 1.1 percent higher than in March last year. Fresh large offshore haddock prices, which had dropped considerably from January to February this year, continued their downward trend. During the month, prices for this variety were 9.7 percent less than in February and 2.4 percent less than in March 1951. Frozen Western halibut prices at New York City, which already had been rising steadily for several months, rose 1.5 percent more in March, but they were still 2.3 percent below the same month in 1951. On the other hand, all fresh-water species were reported selling at prices considerably higher than during March 1951.

Processed fresh fish and shellfish prices in March were 2.5 percent above February and 9.4 percent above March 1951. This was mainly due to an increase in the price of fresh shrimp at New York City--7.7 percent higher than in February and 22.6 percent higher than in March 1951. On the other hand, fresh haddock fillet prices dropped 8.1 percent from February to March this year and were 3.3 percent below the same period last year.

Lower prices for all frozen fillets accounted for the drop in the processed frozen fish and shellfish index of 1.2 percent from February to March; however,



this index was still 3.3 percent higher than in March 1951. Although March frozen fillet prices were substantially below the previous month, prices for haddock fillets were still 25.7 percent higher and flounder fillets 4.7 percent higher than in March 1951, while ocean perch fillets were 18.9 percent lower. The frozen shrimp market continued strong and March prices rose 8.7 percent above February levels and were 12.1 percent above March a year ago.

The index for canned fishery products in March this year was 7.2 percent below the same month a year earlier but 3.0 percent above February. Prices went up 9.6 percent for tuna and 7.0 percent for California sardines from February to March, and the former were 5.0 percent

Table 1 - Revised Wholesale Price Indexes for Edible Fish and Shellfish, March 1952, with Comparative Data

GROUP, SUBGROUP, AND ITEM SPECIFICATION	POINT OF PRICING	INDEXES (1947-49 = 100)			
		Mar. 1952	Feb. 1952	Jan. 1952	Mar. 1951
ALL FISH AND SHELLFISH (Fresh, Frozen, and Canned)		109.5	108.2	114.5	110.1
Fresh and Frozen Fishery Products:		114.4	114.3	125.1	110.2
Drawn, Dressed, or Whole Fin Fish:		117.2	118.4	136.4	115.9
Haddock, large, offshore, drawn, fresh	Boston	108.3	120.0	174.7	111.0
Halibut, Western, 20/80 lbs., dressed, fresh or frozen	New York City	108.4	106.8	102.2	110.9
Salmon, king, lge. & med., dressed, fresh or frozen	" "	118.6	120.9	120.9	117.6
Whitefish mostly Lake Superior, drawn (dressed), fresh	Chicago	161.1	156.2	156.2	147.5
Whitefish, mostly Lake Erie pound net, round, fresh	New York City	156.7	106.2	88.0	135.0
Lake trout, domestic, mostly No. 1, drawn (dressed), fresh	Chicago	133.2	133.2	129.1	122.5
Yellow pike, mostly Michigan (Lakes Michigan & Huron), round, fresh	New York City	155.9	99.7	99.7	125.7
Processed, Fresh (Fish and Shellfish):		111.5	108.8	111.9	101.9
Fillets, haddock, small, skins on, 20-lb. tins	Boston	115.7	125.9	154.9	119.6
Shrimp, lge. (26-30 count), headless, fresh or frozen	New York City	110.7	102.8	81.4	90.3
Oysters, shucked, standards	Norfolk area	111.3	111.3	136.1	110.5
Processed, Frozen (Fish and Shellfish):		109.6	110.9	110.5	106.1
Fillets: Flounder (yellowtail), skin- less, 10-lb. pkg.	Boston	136.7	143.7	143.7	130.6
Haddock, small, 10-lb. cello- pack	"	113.4	122.7	122.7	90.2
Ocean perch (rosefish), 10-lb. cello-pack	Gloucester	113.2	120.4	125.2	139.6
Shrimp, lge. (26-30 count), 5-lb. pkg.	Chicago	96.4	88.7	84.8	86.0
Canned Fishery Products:		102.2	99.2	98.9	110.1
Salmon, pink, No. 1 tall (16 oz.), 48 cans per case	Seattle	109.6	109.6	109.6	130.4
Tuna, light meat, solid pack, No. 1/2 tuna (7 oz.), 48 cans per case	Los Angeles	89.0	81.2	81.2	93.7
Sardines (pilchards), California, tomato pack, No. 1 oval (15 oz.), 48 cans per case	" "	109.4	102.2	102.2	78.8
Sardines, Maine, keyless oil, No. 1/4 drawn (3 1/2 oz.), 100 cans per case	New York City	105.9	105.9	102.7	68.5

lower and the latter 38.8 percent higher than in March 1951. Pink salmon and Maine sardine prices this March remained steady at February levels, but pink salmon sold 16.0 percent below and Maine sardines sold 54.6 percent above March a year ago.

RETAIL PRICES, MARCH 1952: There was no change in the prices paid for all foods by urban families of moderate incomes between mid-February and mid-March this year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor. However, the retail price index for all foods this March 15 was 0.6 percent above a year earlier.

Following the usual seasonal trend, retail prices for fresh, frozen, and canned fin-fish products dropped 1.1 percent from mid-February to mid-March and were 1.0 percent below the same period a year earlier.

Table 2 - Adjusted Retail Price Indexes for Foods and Fin Fish, March 15, 1952, with Comparative Data

Item	Base	I N D E X E S		
		Mar. 15, 1952	Feb. 15, 1952	Mar. 15, 1951
All foods	1935-39 = 100	227.6	227.5	226.2
All fin fish (fresh, frozen, and canned)	do	347.6	351.3	351.2
Fresh and frozen fin fish	1938-39 = 100	296.7	300.1	287.6
Canned salmon: pink	do	460.9	467.1	502.4

Fresh and frozen fin-fish prices dropped 1.0 percent from February 15 to March 15, but they were still 3.2 percent above mid-March 1951. Canned fin-fish prices declined 1.3 percent from mid-February to mid-March and were 8.3 percent below the corresponding period the previous year.

Table 3 - Average Retail Prices and Price Ranges of Individual Fin-Fish Products, March 15, 1952

Product	Unit	United States	
		Average	Range of Prices
Frozen Fin Fish Fillets:			
Ocean perch ^{1/}	lb.	45.9	29-69
Haddock ^{2/}	lb.	51.8	35-79
Canned Fin Fish:			
Salmon, pink ^{3/}	16-oz. can	57.0	42-78

^{1/} PRICED IN 46 CITIES OUT OF 56.
^{2/} PRICED IN 47 CITIES OUT OF 56.
^{3/} PRICED IN 56 CITIES.

Retail prices on March 15 for frozen ocean perch fillets averaged 45.9 cents per pound in 46 cities, while frozen haddock fillets averaged 51.8 cents per pound in 47 cities. The previous year frozen ocean perch fillets retailed at 46.7 cents and frozen haddock fillets at 50.4 cents per pound. Canned pink salmon this March sold at 57.0 cents per 16-oz. can as compared with 62.2 cents per can in mid-March 1951.

