



International

UNITED NATIONS

FISH FLOUR AS MILK SUBSTITUTE: A quart bottle of fish flour--suggested as a possible substitute for a quart of milk in countries where cows are scarce--was exhibited in New York to the 26-nation Executive Board of the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund on March 20. The sample was called, by representatives of UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture Organization, a deodorized, tasteless product rich in calcium, containing twice as much protein as skim milk, and costing about the same as milk.

To test the public response to fish flour, FAO hopes to conduct tests in Chile later this year, the Board was informed. As a country with a steady supply of fish, Chile would be especially suitable for trials, FAO believes.

The discussion of milk substitutes arose when a report on "Improvement of Child Nutrition" (Doc. E/ICEF/217), drawn up by a Technical Working Group on Long-Range Activities for Children, was introduced by a member of the UNICEF staff. The Working Group, he said, had decided at a recent meeting in Rome that soybean milk and fish flour were the most promising possibilities for milk substitutes. He then described the nutritional value of the products and mentioned the interest expressed by Indonesia, Guatemala, and Chile.

An FAO representative displayed the bottle of fish flour and said the product could be used in biscuits, soups, or mixed with corn meal. One important advantage, she said, was that fish flour contains vitamin B-12, essential for growth, which does not appear in the vegetable diets common in some countries. FAO, she said, was gathering samples of various types of fish flour and would select the most suitable for acceptability tests in Chile.



Australia

WHALING SEASON SUCCESSFUL IN 1952: The Australian 1952 whaling season was the most successful on record, according to the January 1953 Fisheries Newsletter published by the Commonwealth Director of Fisheries.

Unfortunately, the substantial drop in whale oil prices has had a marked effect on the total value of the production. This has been offset to some extent by improved efficiency in operations with a corresponding increased yield.

During the 1952 season four stations operated at Point Cloates, Carnarvon, and Albany on the west coast, and Moreton Island on the east coast. They processed 1,787 humpback whales for an oil production of 91,360 barrels, equal to 51.1 barrel per whale (see table). Female whales comprised 37.2 percent of the total and their average length was 40.5 feet, the same as in 1951. The average length of males was

lightly less than in 1951, being 39.7 feet and the average length of all whales at 40.1 feet was correspondingly lower.

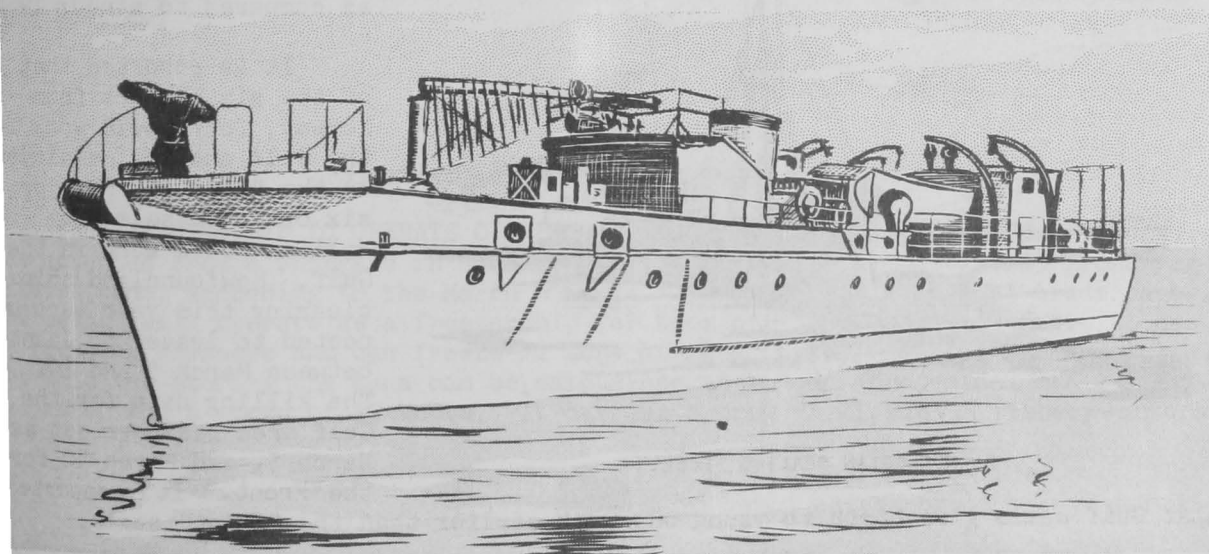
Australian Whaling Operations, 1949-52					
	1952	1951	1950	1949	
Number of stations operating	4	2	3 ¹ / ₇	1	
Number of whales caught	1,787	1,224	387	190	
Number of whales lost	7	4	1	0	
Number of whales processed	1,780	1,220	386	190	
Percentage of males	62.8	74.5	61.1	70.5	
Percentage of females	37.2	25.5	38.9	29.5	
Number of foetuses	65	18	25	4	
Percentage of females carrying foetus	9.9	5.8	16.6	7.1	
Average length {	males (feet)	39.7	40.2	39.8	40.3
	females (feet)	40.5	40.5	41.3	41.3
	animals (feet)	40.1	40.3	40.4	40.6
Oil production (barrels)	91,360	56,051	16,494	5,700	
Oil yield per whale (barrels)	51.1	45.9	42.8	30.0	

1/7 INCLUDES STATIONS OPERATED ONLY PART TIME.

The increase in oil yield per whale from 1949 to 1952 clearly indicates the improvements being made in processing the whales.

It will be noted that in 1952 there was a considerable increase in the percentage of female whales as compared with 1951. However, the percentage is less than in 1950, and the percentage of females carrying a foetus is also less than in 1950, but higher than 1951.

No exceptionally large whales were taken and no whale marks were found. There was a large number of sharks present off Point Cloates. The sharks were so



AN AUSTRALIAN WHALE CHASER. NOTE FOLDED MAST TO GET UNDER LOW BRIDGES AND ON FOREDECK THE TRACTOR WHICH SERVES AS A WINCH FOR PLAYING WHALES.

and that it was not possible to flag a whale outside the reef. Attempts to do so resulted in more than half the whale being eaten with a corresponding loss in oil production. A total of 80 sharks were shot while attacking a single whale alongside the catcher.



Canada

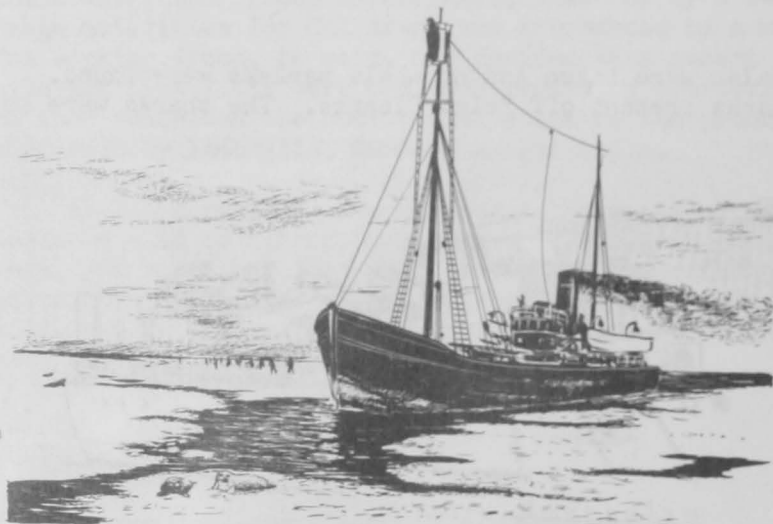
UNITED KINGDOM TO BUY BRITISH COLUMBIA CANNED SALMON: Great Britain has agreed to purchase C\$4,250,000 worth of British Columbia canned salmon, the Canadian Minister of Fisheries announced the latter part of March. Reports indicate the purchase will consist of about 200,000 cases of salmon.

Failure of Great Britain to purchase usual quantities of Canadian canned salmon in 1952 was mainly responsible for a large carry-over of 500,000 cases from the 1952 pack, reports a March 25 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Ottawa.

While it is reported that no conditions were attached to this purchase, it is hoped that the Canadian salmon industry would be able to increase its purchases of tin plate and fish nets from the United Kingdom. Particularly as tin plate is no longer in such short supply. The Canadian Minister of Fisheries endorsed this recommendation with the remark "that it was only by expanding her trade with this country that Britain could increase her purchases here," reports a March 30 U. S. Embassy dispatch from London.

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SEAL HUNTING PLANS FOR 1953: The Canadian Department of Fisheries states that about 18 vessels, Canadian and foreign, will go out after seals this spring, reports a February 27 dispatch from the U. S. consulate at St. John's, Newfoundland. This is a larger number than anticipated. Of these vessels, nine will operate on the "Front" and the remainder in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Only five Newfoundland vessels will hunt for seals this year as compared to nine in 1952.



NORWEGIAN SEALING VESSEL

It is reported that of the six sealers from Norway, four would work in the Gulf and the remainder on the "Front." Five or six other vessels from Halifax would work in the Gulf. Newfoundland ships clearing this year were expected to leave St. John's between March 5 and 10. The killing date for the Gulf area has been set as March 5, and March 10 for the "Front." It is reported

that Gulf seals give birth to young one week earlier than the "Front" seals.

Vessels planning to work the Gulf region estimate that about 115,000 animals will have to be taken in order to rate the catch as "good." It is estimated that a herd of about 200,000 seals moves annually in this area where few bedlamers and old seals are to be found. Newly-born seals constitute the main objective. Seal-spotting planes will again be used this year in both waters. The Newfoundland press states that up to the end of February there have been no reports of ice in the Gulf, causing some concern to sealers planning to operate there.

Due to adverse weather conditions in 1952 and the uncertainty of market prices, it was not believed that much effort would be made to hunt seals this spring. However, as all 1952 oil and skins were eventually disposed of, sealers have become more optimistic as it appears a ready market will be available for the 1953 skins. Seal oil is generally the primary reason for a seal hunt and unfortunately market quotations for oil this spring are 25 percent below those of 1952.



Egypt

FISHERMEN'S COOPERATIVES PLANNED: Fishermen's cooperatives in Egypt are being planned by the Department of Coastguards and Fisheries, a March 23 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Cairo states. Present plans call for cooperatives at Lake Manzala and Mariut, but the system could be extended to cover all lakes and sea fisheries. An appropriation of LE40,000 (US\$114,800) to finance the plan has been requested from the Egyptian Government. Of this total, one-half would be used as a loan fund to finance cooperative associations for the fishing industry, and one-half as a gift from the Government for building construction and purchase of refrigerated trucks.

The importance of the plan to the national economy was outlined by officials of the Department. It was explained that the cooperatives would be private. The government would assist in formulation not only because of the benefit to the national economy, but to improve the social welfare of Egypt's fishermen. The fishermen now live under worse conditions than other groups. Plans include building model communities for the fisherman, with improvements in health, education, and social conditions. Officials believe that the betterment of fishermen's living conditions will result in increased production to help meet Egypt's ever-growing food demands.



German Federal Republic

TUNA FREEZERSHIP TO OPERATE OFF PERU: A German whaling company in Hamburg has accepted from a shipyard in Cuxhaven the freezership Caribia, 1,163 gross registered tons, according to the March 6 Dansk Fiskeritidende, a Danish trade paper. The vessel will operate as a freezership for tuna off the Peruvian coast. It has 8 freezing chambers and can freeze 22 tons of tuna daily. Despite the tropic heat, the hold for storing the tuna can be maintained at -4° F. The vessel has a 1,200-h.p. motor and a speed of 12 knots. It carries a crew of 21, plus 12 fishery workers.



Iceland

EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS, 1952: Exports of fishery products from Iceland in 1952 amounted to 164,292 metric tons, valued at 580,221,000 kronur (US\$35,596,000), according to the National Bank of Iceland's January 1953 Statistical Bulletin (see table). This was a decrease of 21 percent in quantity and 14 percent in value when compared with 1951 exports of 207,354 metric tons, valued at 678,492,000 kronur (US\$41,625,000).

Uncured salted fish was the leading item (on the basis of quantity) shipped out of Iceland in 1952, followed by frozen fish (mostly fillets), and fresh fish.

Icelandic Exports of Fishery Products, 1951-52						
	1952			1951		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	1,000 kr.	US\$	Metric Tons	1,000 kr.	US\$
Fresh Fish	29,000	34,266	2,103,000	52,164	70,877	4,351,000
Frozen Fish:						
Herring	1,863	3,618	222,000	1,142	2,474	152,000
Other	29,057	173,720	10,649,000	35,182	177,582	10,886,000
Total	30,920	177,338	10,871,000	36,324	180,056	11,038,000
Salted Fish:						
Herring, cured	11,867	44,946	2,759,000	17,425	60,792	3,732,000
Other, uncured	41,799	153,455	9,420,000	23,373	62,614	3,844,000
" dried	5,309	33,847	2,078,000	11,775	66,759	4,098,000
" washed & pressed	-	-	-	597	1,626	100,000
" "wings"	2,611	7,589	466,000	1,054	2,308	142,000
Stockfish	2,356	19,649	1,206,000	1,045	7,665	471,000
Total	63,942	259,486	15,929,000	55,269	201,764	12,387,000
Fish Meal:						
Herring	4,500	9,729	596,000	5,131	10,743	659,000
Ocean perch	2,875	5,748	352,000	17,430	33,720	2,067,000
Other	15,684	32,384	1,985,000	13,884	27,316	1,674,000
Total	23,059	47,861	2,933,000	36,445	71,779	4,400,000
Fish Oil:						
Herring	1,588	6,808	417,000	11,708	72,020	4,415,000
Ocean perch	1,322	4,029	247,000	3,954	21,909	1,345,000
Cod liver	8,645	32,309	1,983,000	5,227	37,156	2,281,000
Total	11,555	43,146	2,647,000	20,889	131,085	8,041,000
Canned Fish	183	1,317	81,000	392	2,631	162,000
Miscellaneous:						
Roe, frozen	131	613	38,000	575	2,079	128,000
" salted	1,411	4,946	304,000	1,004	2,966	182,000
" salted for bait ..	1,296	2,058	126,000	1,096	1,964	121,000
Total	2,838	7,617	468,000	2,675	7,009	431,000
Whale Products:						
Meat, frozen	1,488	5,574	342,000	318	559	34,000
Meal	393	733	45,000	843	1,356	83,000
Oil	914	2,883	177,000	2,035	11,376	698,000
Total	2,795	9,190	564,000	3,196	13,291	815,000
Grand Total	164,292	580,221	35,596,000	207,354	678,492	41,625,000

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MOTOR BOAT CURRENCY RETENTION SCHEME EXTENDED: The Icelandic Currency Retention Scheme, commonly known as the "Motor Boat Currency," a form of indirect subsidy to the Icelandic motor boat fishing fleet, was extended for one year, effective February 5, 1953. The terms are unchanged, reports a February 16 U. S. consular dispatch from Reykjavik. The winter fishery began in January, before agreement had been reached on this extension, as the Icelandic Government had urged the industry to operate every day possible.

During the discussions of the scheme, the boat operators had made the collateral demand that the interest rate on operational loans to the industry by the National Bank and Fisheries Bank be again reduced to 5 percent. This rate was raised

to 7 percent in 1952. The Government acceded to this demand, but provided that the rate should be 5 percent for the first 6 months and 5½ percent for the second months.

Following the agreement with the Government, the boat operators announced the prices to be paid to the fishermen for their shares in the catch (see table). The

Icelandic Ex-vessel Fish Prices for 1953, Established by the Union of Icelandic Fishing Vessel Owners (Motor-Boat Fleet Owners)

Species	1953				1952			
	To Fishermen		To Boat Owners		To Fishermen		To Boat Owners	
	I.Kronur Per Kilo	US\$ Per Cwt.	I.Kronur Per Kilo	US\$ Per Cwt.	I.Kronur Per Kilo	US\$ Per Cwt.	I.Kronur Per Kilo	US\$ Per Cwt.
Cod:								
A. Other than caught with nets:								
Drawn	1.05	2.92	1.00	2.78	1.05	2.92	1.00	2.78
Dressed	1.37	3.81	1.30	3.62	1.37	3.81	1.30	3.62
Round	0.88	2.45	0.83	2.31	0.88	2.45	0.83	2.31
Split	1.55	4.31	1.48	4.12	1.55	4.31	1.48	4.12
B. Caught with nets:								
1. After one night:								
Drawn	1.05	2.92	1.00	2.78	-	-	-	-
Dressed	1.37	3.81	1.30	3.62	-	-	-	-
Round	0.88	2.45	0.83	2.31	-	-	-	-
Split	1.55	4.31	1.48	4.12	-	-	-	-
2. After two nights:								
Drawn	0.95	2.65	0.90	2.50	-	-	-	-
Dressed	1.23	3.43	1.17	3.26	-	-	-	-
Round	0.79	2.20	0.75	2.09	-	-	-	-
Split	1.40	3.90	1.33	3.70	-	-	-	-
3. After three nights:								
Drawn	0.74	2.06	0.70	1.95	-	-	-	-
Dressed	0.96	2.67	0.91	2.54	-	-	-	-
Round	0.61	3.74	0.58	1.61	-	-	-	-
Split	1.09	3.04	1.04	2.90	-	-	-	-
Haddock, if kept separate in the boat:								
Drawn	1.21	3.36	1.15	3.20	1.15	3.20	1.09	3.04
Dressed	1.57	4.37	1.49	4.15	1.48	4.14	1.41	3.93
Round	1.00	2.78	0.95	2.64	0.95	2.64	0.90	2.50
Wolffish (catfish) in good condition:								
Drawn	0.95	2.64	0.90	2.50	0.77	2.15	0.73	2.03

NO PRICES ESTABLISHED IN 1952.

Basic price is for cod, gutted with head on, and was set at I.kr. 1.05 per kilogram (US\$2.92 per cwt.), the same price as was paid last year. The prices to be paid in 1953 to boat operators by the buyers and processors were also announced. The buyers and processors basic price is I.kr. 1.00 per kilogram (US\$2.79 per cwt.) of gutted cod with head on.

A new classification--"netfish"--was added to the price schedules this year. This refers to cod which lie in the net for a period of from 1 to 3 nights, and prices the fish according to freshness. This reflects the fact that many boats are unable to take up all their nets when returning to port, but must return to the grounds the following day or later to collect them, and is an attempt to improve uniformity and quality at the processing plants.

Both price schedules show increases only for haddock, wolffish (catfish), and haddock and wolffish are the most desired Icelandic species on the U. S. market, but represent only a small proportion of the total catch in Icelandic waters.

Since the operators have agreed to pay the fishermen I.kr. 1.05 per kilo (US\$2.92 per cwt.) for cod and will receive only I.kr. 1.00 (US\$2.79 per cwt.) from the processing plants, it is obvious that they are depending upon the indirect subsidy of the motor-boat currency scheme to break even or show a profit. Since the fishermen won a substantial increase in their wage guarantee in the agreement which

preceded the price announcements, the success of the small boat operators depends more than ever upon the catch this year. They are placing great hopes that the extension of Icelandic territorial waters to four miles will result in an increased catch.

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FISH PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION, 1952: Production of fishery products in Iceland during 1952 totaled 336,760 metric tons, 9 percent less than in 1951 and 4 percent greater than in 1950 (see table), reports the February Statistical Bulletin of the National Bank of Iceland. Production of fish used for food increased over 1951--102 percent more fish was utilized for salting and 34 percent more fish was filleted. There was a big drop in the amount of fish used for fish meal and oil in 1952--the herring catch was 87 percent less than in 1951, while the utilization of other fish for reduction purposes was 90 percent less.

Iceland's Fish Production, 1952 with Comparisons			
How Utilized	C a t c h		
	1952	1951	1950
 (Metric Tons)		
Herring ¹ / for:			
Meal and oil	7,677	59,360	27,171
Bait, frozen	8,085	5,060	7,272
Salting	16,185	20,090	27,257
Other fish ² / (cod, etc.) for:			
Fresh, iced	28,755	52,300	32,178
Freezing and filleting	124,892	93,183	57,041
Canning	339	125	86
Salting	127,103	63,007	99,343
Stockfish	14,715	6,832	493
Home consumption	2,427	3,238	2,110
Meal and oil	6,582	67,460	70,076
Total	336,760	370,655	323,027

¹/WHOLE FISH.

²/DRAWN FISH.



Japan

POLICY ON TUNA EXPORTS IN 1953: Japanese Government officials and members of the tuna industry are holding discussions to formulate the policy on exports of tuna for the new Japanese fiscal year, April 1, 1953, to March 31, 1954. No official Government announcement has been issued as yet, but is expected shortly, reports a March 17 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.

Reports indicate the Government favors continuing the policy of a quota and check prices on exports to the United States as was in effect during the past fiscal year. The last fiscal year's quota on frozen tuna was 21,000 short tons, but was originally established at 12,000 tons; canned tuna quota is 1,150,000 cases, originally fixed at 1,000,000 cases.

A discussion by producers and exporters indicates a strong desire for an initial quota of 30,000 tons for 1953. The canners have declared a production goal of 1,500,000 cases of tuna, but are withholding comment on the quota desired by them for export pending further study.

The Chairman of the Council on Tuna Exports (including producers of frozen tuna and canners) has proposed a meeting between tuna representatives of the United States and Japan to discuss the problem of exports before deciding on the Japanese policy for 1953. No agreement has been reached on this suggestion by members of the Council. Some elements in the Japanese tuna industry are optimistic that no definite action will be taken to apply a tariff on imports of frozen tuna into the United States. This feeling is influenced by (a) the defeat in the U. S. Senate (June 1952) of the bill to place a temporary tariff of 3 cents per pound on imports of fresh and frozen tuna; (b) a recent report that a bill had been defeated in the California State Assembly to levy a state tax equivalent to 3 cents per pound on frozen tuna imported from Japan (Mainichi, March 10); and (c) expectation of continued and added support from some United States canners opposing a tariff on imports of frozen tuna because they need Japanese tuna to meet their full production requirements.

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PROPOSAL TO REMOVE FUR-SEALING BAN: The recently organized League for the promotion of Japanese Fur Sealing has proposed that the Japanese Government's ban on pelagic fur sealing be removed to permit operations in the coastal waters of Japan. According to a recent press item (Nippon Kaizai, March 10), the League gave the following reasons for its proposals:

1. Results of the joint investigation of fur seals in coastal waters of Japan in 1952 by Canada, United States, and Japan have revealed that the continued restriction on fur-seal hunting would not substantially increase the supply of fur seals in Japanese waters.
2. The fur seals which migrate to Japanese waters feed on fish, hence are harmful to the Japanese fishing industry.
3. Approximately US\$2,800,000 per year could be realized from the sale of 10,000 pelts exported at an estimated value of US\$56 per pelt.

The League further proposed that, if operations are resumed, (a) the season should be from April through August, (b) hunting should be principally off Hokkaido and the eastern (Pacific) coast of Honshu, (c) the Government should license approximately 60 catcher boats averaging 20 to 30 gross tons each, and (d) the Government should limit the catch to less than 50,000 seals a year "to conserve the resource." It is also suggested that an association be formed to handle the sale and exports of the pelts. The Japanese Government has made no announcement on this proposal, reports a March 13 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.

This effort to remove the restrictions on Japanese fur sealing reflects a part of the policy and charges of the prewar period which led to the abrogation by Japan of the Fur Seal Convention in October 1941. One of the principal reasons given by the Japanese for that action was the charge that the fur seals were adversely affecting the fisheries by consuming large quantities of commercially valuable fish. Insufficient knowledge of fur-seal biology existed at that time to answer satisfactorily the criticism by the Japanese fishermen and other interests. Occupation authorities in October 1945 advised the Japanese Government that pelagic sealing would not be countenanced, in recognition of the provisions of the Fur Seal Convention of 1911. Evidence indicates that some illicit pelagic sealing was conducted despite this order.

By a cooperative arrangement of the Japanese Government and the Occupation Government, pelagic fur-seal investigations in the coastal waters of Japan were

begun in 1949 and continued in 1950. In 1952, the joint investigation was conducted on an intensive scale from February through June. Preliminary analysis of the 1952 data reveals that approximately 69 percent of the stomach contents of the seals examined (2,312) had no commercial value. The most important item in the fur seal's diet is lantern fishes. Answers to other questions on the source and maintenance of the fur seal resource in Japanese coastal waters are expected to be provided with the completion of the analysis of the 1952 data.

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PEARL-SHELL FISHING IN ARAFURA SEA POSTPONED: The sailing date of the pearl-shell fishing expedition to the Arafura Sea (north of Australia) has been postponed by the Japanese Government. The Australian Government requested that the expedition's departure date be postponed until a Japan-Australia Fisheries Agreement has been reached. The Japanese Government has already accepted the proposal from the Australian Government to open negotiations for such an agreement at Canberra on April 13, 1953. In case an agreement is not reached within one month after the commencement of negotiations, the sailing of the pearl-shell fishing expedition will be subject to further consideration by the two governments.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT



Malaya

EXPERIMENTS WITH RING-NET FISHING GEAR: Experiments being conducted in the use of the ring-net type of fishing gear have shown very encouraging results, according to a recent report of the Federation of Malaya's Fisheries Department. Since December 1952, the Trustful IV, a fishing smack purchased in Scotland and manned by a Scotch crew, has been used in experimental ring-net fishing operations off the coast of Perak. At first, the mesh (designed for herring) proved to be too large for use in Malayan waters. However, after switching to a net of smaller mesh, results improved at once, reports a March 18 U. S. consular dispatch from Kaula Lumpur.

The Scotch crew is now training Malays in the use of a ring-net designed for use in Malayan seas. It combines the features of Malayan and European nets. The Department of Fisheries says that the fishing operation is almost completely mechanized, from shooting out the net to hauling in the fish. The experimental fishing unit, which has been operating with one large boat and one smaller boat, has been catching as much fish as the most modern local craft, the Fisheries Department claimed. Moreover, the Trustful IV is manned by only 8 fishermen (4 Scotch and 4 Malays) as compared to 24 men who operate one of the modern local fishing boats. The fishermen on the Trustful IV were especially proud when on a recent expedition they brought in a ton of fish, whereas the local craft operating in the same area caught no fish at all. Machinery is also used for unloading the fish.

The Fisheries Department plans to have the fishing unit operated entirely by Malays by the end of August 1953. The Trustful IV, already commanded by a Malay, will then be used for demonstration and training of additional fishing crews in the Federation. A spokesman of the Fisheries Department said that local fishermen will also be taught how to use the ring-net gear to increase their catch of ikan kembong, a low-priced fish much in demand by the Malayan workers and farmers.



Mexico

REVIEW OF THE FISHERIES, 1940-49: The Mexican catch of fishery products in 1949 totaled 71,866 metric tons, valued at 103.8 million pesos (US\$12 million). There has been a steady increase in the Mexican fish catch each year since 1940 (table 1); the increase has averaged about 13 percent each year. However, it is

Table 1 - Mexican Fisheries Catch, 1940-49

Year	Shrimp			Sardine			Other Species			Total		
	Qty.	Landed Value		Qty.	Landed Value		Qty.	Landed Value		Qty.	Landed Value	
	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$
1949	18,499	42.3	4.9	18,696	26.4	3.0	34,671	35.1	4.1	71,866	103.8	12.0
1948	18,844	44.9	6.5	17,372	23.5	3.4	31,168	39.6	5.8	67,384	108.0	15.7
1947	11,894	23.5	4.8	11,495	14.9	3.1	30,861	51.2	10.5	54,250	89.6	18.4
1946	10,462	14.4	3.0	12,555	12.2	2.5	31,755	33.9	7.0	54,772	60.5	12.5
1945	7,401	7.5	1.5	8,180	7.5	1.5	36,638	28.8	6.0	52,219	43.8	9.0
1944	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	39,901	2/	2/
1943	4,666	4.2	.9	2,892	2.1	.4	25,432	15.1	3.1	32,990	21.4	4.4
1942	4,612	3.8	.8	1,937	1.4	.3	21,425	16.7	3.4	27,974	21.9	4.5
1941	3,209	2.0	.4	2,877	3.4	.7	19,951	9.2	1.9	26,037	14.6	3.1
1940	5,102	3.4	.7	2,660	1.4	.3	15,961	8.9	1.8	23,623	13.7	2.8

CONVERTED TO US\$ AS FOLLOWS: 1940--4.85 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1941-47--4.86 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1948--6.88 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1949--8.65 PESOS PER US\$1.00.
/DATA NOT AVAILABLE.

not likely to increase at this pace in the future because of reduced supplies of the main export species and the slow expansion of the domestic market. This is based on the "Fisheries" section of The Economic Development of Mexico, a recent report issued in Mexico. The report is a study made by the Combined Mexican Working Party of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Mexican Government (Nacional Financiera).

The most important development in the Mexican fisheries since 1940 has been the great increase in the shrimp and sardine catches, which now account for more than half the total catch. The shrimp catch, most of which is exported, rose from 18,500 metric tons in 1940 to 18,500 metric tons in 1949. The sardine catch, consumed almost entirely within the country, increased from 2,700 to 18,700 tons in the same period. The catch of other species, sold mainly in the domestic market without processing, more than doubled between 1940 and 1945, but decreased somewhat since then because of the concentration on shrimp and sardine fishing in the Gulf of California and Lower California.

The catch increase was made possible by the expansion of the Mexican fishing fleet--from 7,900 tons in 1941 to 23,500 tons in 1949 (table 2)--and by the establishment of a fish canning and freezing industry. In 1950 this industry included 18 plants, mainly for processing shrimp and sardine. These are located mostly on the Gulf of California and in Lower California.

Fish exports, principally shrimp and small amounts of abalone and lobster, have increased from 8,200 metric tons, valued at 7 million pesos (US\$1.4 million) in 1940 to 22,900 tons and 163 million pesos (US\$18.8 million) in 1949 (table 3). In each year, exports were equivalent to about one-third of the total production.

Although the United States market could absorb more Mexican shrimp and abalone at remunerative prices, there is no outlook for a substantial expansion of these exports because of the scarcity of these species. The shrimp catch in the Gulf of California, the main producing center, has been declining sharply in the 1950/51 and 1951/52 seasons. It is possible, nevertheless, that the adoption of conservation methods, towards which some recent measures have been directed, could raise the catch again to former or even somewhat higher levels. New fishing areas are being opened near Mazatlan and Salina Cruz on the Pacific Coast and further expansion

in Campeche on the Mexican Gulf Coast is possible. Increased production in these regions could compensate for the decline in the Gulf of California area and allow for some increase over the 1949 level if production in the Gulf of California again increases. There seems to be no possibility of expanding the catch of the better type of abalone now being taken; prices are much lower for the other available types.

Prospects for developing exports of additional fishery products are not good. The output of sardines could be increased substantially even with existing equip-

Table 2 - Mexican Fishing Fleet, 1941-49 (No. of Registered Vessels and Net Tonnage)

No. of Registered Vessels	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1 to 3 Tons	4,562	4,183	3,928	4,712	4,015	3,934	3,510	3,463	3,185
3.1 to 10 Tons	561	598	562	729	620	738	612	493	334
10.1 to 50 Tons	407	385	350	296	260	158	141	97	29
50.1 to 100 Tons	33	29	18	12	15	2	1	3	-
Over 100 Tons	17	18	7	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Vessels	5,580	5,213	4,865	5,749	4,910	4,832	4,264	4,056	3,548
	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons	Tons
1 to 3 Tons	6,178	5,883	5,279	6,713	6,163	6,107	5,663	5,895	4,987
3.1 to 10 Tons	3,478	3,281	3,213	4,697	3,936	4,784	3,872	3,054	2,317
10.1 to 50 Tons	9,008	8,033	6,422	9,006	5,206	2,633	2,987	1,886	577
50.1 to 100 Tons	2,216	1,948	1,228	770	822	124	60	228	-
Over 100 Tons	1/2,622	3,528	942	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Tonnage	23,502	22,673	17,084	21,186	16,127	13,548	12,582	11,063	7,881

1/IN ADDITION, RENTED FOREIGN VESSELS OF MORE THAN 100 TONS TOTALED 816 TONS IN 1949
NOTE: DATA FROM NACIONAL FINANCIERS UNPUBLISHED STUDY ON MEXICAN FISHERIES.

ment and facilities, but exports to the United States are hampered by high tariffs. Tuna fishing on the high seas would require a basic reorientation of the Mexican fishing industry and considerable new investment. A Mexican tuna-fishing industry must also expect to encounter difficulties in competing with the tuna industries of other countries because the Mexican labor law requirements would result in high

Table 3 - Mexican Exports of Principal Fishery Products, 1940-50

Year	Shrimp			Spiny Lobster			Abalone			Sardine		
	Qty.	Export Value		Qty.	Export Value		Qty.	Export Value		Qty.	Export Value	
	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$	Metric Tons	Millions of Pesos	Millions of US\$
1950	17,953	159.1	18.4	927	4.0	.5	3,580	11.4	1.3	57	0.1	-
1949	19,115	144.0	16.6	845	2.4	.3	3,771	12.8	1.5	347	0.7	.1
1948	11,002	64.9	9.4	979	1.9	.3	3,023	7.8	1.1	681	1.2	.2
1947	6,146	25.5	5.2	737	1.5	.3	2,343	6.5	1.3	391	0.8	.2
1946	6,254	20.1	4.1	813	1.4	.3	2,033	5.8	1.2	136	0.3	.1
1945	4,711	15.1	3.1	493	0.7	.1	755	1.4	.3	580	1.0	.2
1944	3,753	11.9	2.4	474	1.1	.2	597	1.1	.2	-	-	-
1943	3,863	9.7	2.0	956	1.1	.2	574	0.9	.2	2	-	-
1942	2,583	2.7	.5	563	0.3	.1	552	0.7	.1	-	-	-
1941	1,356	1.2	.2	810	0.4	.1	1,248	1.7	.3	-	-	-
1940	4,120	3.6	.7	537	0.3	.1	1,715	1.7	.4	-	-	-

1/CONVERTED TO US\$ AS FOLLOWS: 1940--4.85 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1941-47--4.86 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1948--6.88 PESOS PER US\$1.00; 1949--8.65 PESOS PER US\$1.00.

operating costs. Moreover, it can be assumed that the United States, the only major market, would take whatever steps may be necessary to protect its own tuna-fishing industry if confronted with increased supplies of tuna from abroad. On the whole, therefore, it is improbable that the volume of fishery products exports from Mexico will continue to expand more than slightly over the present level.

In view of the not too favorable outlook for exports, the best opportunity for expanding Mexican fisheries therefore lies in production for the domestic market.

Although a remarkable increase in the consumption of fish occurred during World War II, when consumption more than doubled in five years, the amount of fishery products consumed annually in Mexico is still less than 2 kilograms (4.4 pounds) per person (table 4). The level of consumption has been almost stationary since

Table 4 - Mexico's Apparent Consumption of Fishery Products, 1940-49

Year	Production (plus)	Imports (minus)	Exports	Total Apparent Consumption	Per-Capita Consumption
 (Metric Tons)				<u>Lbs.</u>
1949	71,866	278	22,949	49,195	4.4
1948	67,384	1,098	15,503	52,979	4.8
1947	54,250	1,365	9,752	45,863	4.3
1946	54,772	1,618	11,422	44,968	4.3
1945	52,219	556	13,284	39,491	3.9
1944	39,901	680	9,092	31,489	3.2
1943	32,990	237	11,415	21,812	2.3
1942	27,974	327	7,363	20,938	2.2
1941	26,037	675	5,492	21,220	2.3
1940	23,623	874	8,155	16,342	1.8

1946. There are no imminent limits on the supply of species consumed in the domestic market; however, the low level of incomes, inadequate facilities for transporting and handling fish, and an inefficient distribution system operating with high margins seriously restrict the local market and the possibilities for expansion.

* * * * *

SINALOA SHRIMP FISHERY TRENDS, FEBRUARY 1953: Sinaloa shrimp exports to the United States in February totaled 560,616 pounds, 45 percent less than in January, but 87 percent more than in February 1952 (see table).

Sinaloa Shrimp Exports to United States, February 1953 with Comparisons

Port	February 1953	January 1953	February 1952
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
Mazatlan.....	517,366	667,019	300,291
Topolobampo..	43,250	346,030	-
Total.....	560,616	1,013,049	300,291

The season for shrimp fishing in the bays on the west coast of Mexico was declared closed from March 1 to April 15, 1953, by the Secretaria de Marina, a March 9 U. S. consular dispatch from Mazatlan states. This will be an experiment

in an effort to stem the reported depletion of shrimp stocks off the West Coast. It is believed that during the 45-day period that shrimp fishing will be banned, the shrimp will migrate to the bays and estuaries for spawning, later returning to the sea to grow. However, unlike last year, deep-sea shrimp fishing will continue to the end of the season on July 1.



Colony of Mozambique

REVIEW OF THE FISHERIES, 1950: The total catch of fishery products in Mozambique during 1950 amounted to 9,271,280 pounds as compared with the 1949 catch of 557,289 pounds, reports a recent dispatch from Lourenco Marques. However, even with this increase there was still not sufficient fish to supply the domestic requirements. The 1950 catch consisted of 7,916,713 pounds of fresh fish, 181,072 pounds of shellfish, and 1,173,493 pounds of miscellaneous fishery products.

The two fishing companies that operated in Mozambique in 1949 dissolved during 1950. This placed increased importance on the activities of small and independent fishermen. Goanese and native fishermen operating with small trawlers and sailing vessels were the backbone of the industry. In 1950 a total of 6,177 persons were engaged in fishing as compared with 4,753 in 1949. There were 12 trawlers and 1,303 sailing vessels operating in 1950 as against 7 trawlers and 1,042 sailing vessels in 1949.

A United States citizen has chartered a trawling vessel from the Mozambique Government and entered the spiny lobster fishing business. Under the terms of the contract all fish taken on each voyage will be sold on the local market at fixed prices, thus augmenting the local food supply. The spiny lobsters will be exported to the United States. Aside from increasing the food supply, the dollar revenue of the province will be increased.



Norway

EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS, 1952: Although the quantity of fishery products exported by Norway in 1952 was somewhat below that of 1951, the over-all value was somewhat higher. The principal exports were fish meal, salted herring, fresh and iced herring, klipfish (salted and sun-dried cod), fresh and iced fish other than herring, frozen herring, stockfish (unsalted dried groundfish), and canned fish (table 1).

Product	1952		1951	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Metric Tons	US\$	Metric Tons	US\$
Herring, fresh & iced	49,784	2,991,713	61,394	3,578,103
Herring, frozen	25,372	1,945,365	20,225	1,487,273
Other fish, fresh & iced	25,910	6,497,893	22,466	4,853,986
Fillets, frozen	12,661	4,559,129	11,374	3,477,762
Fish, whole, frozen	11,254	3,190,129	10,096	3,070,210
Stockfish (unsalted dried groundfish) ...	23,385	15,222,893	20,809	10,886,713
Klipfish (salted & sun-dried cod)	58,630	30,080,337	50,923	23,732,168
Herring, salted	73,936	9,041,573	72,231	7,452,587
Herring, spiced	2/	2/	5,697	1,025,454
Herring, smoked	2/	2/	2,806	554,965
Salted fish	813	215,730	7,062	1,455,944
Canned fish	24,374	15,541,152	34,532	20,361,259
Meal, herring and other fish	125,256	14,734,551	129,283	4,879,441
Lobster	2/	2/	572	925,455
Shrimp	2/	2/	1,340	878,881
	<u>US Gals.</u>	<u>US\$</u>	<u>US Gals.</u>	<u>US\$</u>
Cod-liver oil, medicinal	1,334,676	1,799,157	2/	2/
Cod-liver oil, other than medicinal	4,839,126	5,571,208	2/	2/

^{1/}IN THE 1952 STATISTICS SOME MINOR PRODUCTS ARE NOT INCLUDED.
^{2/}DATA NOT AVAILABLE FOR 1952.

The principal items exported to the United States were fish meal, canned fish and shellfish, and frozen fillets (table 2). Of the 125,256 metric tons of fish

Table 2 - Principal Norwegian Fishery Products Exports to United States, 1952^{1/}

Product	Quantity		Value	
	Metric Tons	US\$	US Gallons	US\$
Fillets, frozen	6,142	2,347,612		
Stockfish	545	432,022		
Herring, salted	4,092	903,511		
Fish, salted	172	37,500		
Canned fishery products	9,580	6,274,579		
Meal, herring and other fish	38,110	4,366,994		
Cod-liver oil, medicinal	236,236	334,270		
Cod-liver oil, other than medicinal	175,180	261,517		

^{1/}SOME MINOR PRODUCTS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

meal exported by Norway, 30 percent or 38,110 tons were shipped to the United States. Canned fish and shellfish exports to the United States amounted to 9,580 tons--39 percent of the total Norwegian exports. Norway's exports of frozen fish fillets totaled 12,661 tons, of which 6,142 tons or 49 percent were shipped to the United States.

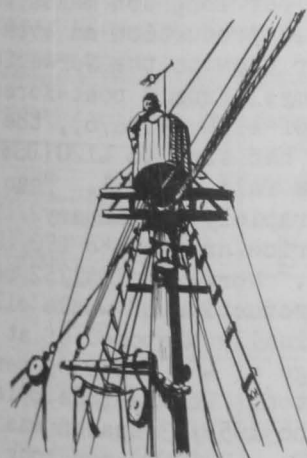
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AUTOMATIC WEIGHING MACHINE FOR HERRING: Herring are automatically weighed into boxes at a large plant in Bergen, Norway, by a weighing machine designed by Magnus K. Johannessen of that city. He has specialized in the design and construction of packaging and weighing machines, according to the February 25 issue of Fiskaren, a Norwegian trade paper. His solution to the problem of whether it is better to weigh or measure herring is a machine which has a capacity of 200 weighings per hour and is accurate to within one or two herring. The herring are weighed in a rotating drum and flow evenly from the drum into the box. Although the equipment is designed for weighings of small quantities, the same system can be used with herring for reduction plants. Weighing machines with a capacity of 100 tons per hour or more can be built, it is claimed.

* * * * *

WHALE AND SPERM OIL PRODUCTION, 1952/53: Norway's production of whale and sperm oil in the 1952/53 season was 135,200 long tons, including production of the Antarctic whaling fleets and production at the Norwegian land station at Husvik Harbour, South Georgia, but not including production at shore stations in Norway.

The 1953 Antarctic pelagic whaling season ended at midnight, March 16, 1953, with the Norwegian share of the total catch reduced approximately in proportion to her reduced participation this year. Norway entered the race for whales with only 7 expeditions, compared to 10 in 1952 (other countries sent a total of nine expeditions each time). Three Norwegian floating whale factories were transferred to more profitable tanker operations.



The Norwegian Antarctic pelagic whaling fleets this season produced 738,100 barrels of whale oil and 27,400 barrels of sperm oil (6 barrels equal 1 long ton), compared with 971,800 barrels of whale oil and 116,300 barrels of sperm oil during the 1951/52 season (table 1). As in previous years, the Norwegian companies which engage in pelagic whaling sold their 1952/53 catch through a common marketing pool.

While most of the seven Norwegian expeditions which participated this season accounted for more whale oil

than they did in 1952, the total catch was only 76 percent of last season's. The production of sperm oil this season was uniformly poor, with the result that the total was down to 23 percent of last season's. Because of the poor market for sperm oil this year, the Norwegian whaling fleet arrived in the Antarctic just prior to the opening of the blue-whale season, thus missing the usual pre-season sperm-whale operations. The entire fleet, furthermore, returned directly to Norway at the close of the regular season.

Season	Antarctic Whaling Fleets		Land Station (Husvik Harbor, South Georgia)	
	Whale Oil	Sperm Oil	Whale Oil	Sperm Oil
1952/53 ^{2/}	Bbls.1/ 738,117	Bbls.1/ 27,387	Bbls.1/ 43,308	Bbls.1/ 2,332
1951/52 ^{2/}	971,829	116,256	47,077	1,481
1950/51 ^{3/}	935,821	126,439	50,996	3,028
1949/50	988,096	60,336	55,085	2,970
1948/49	935,968	114,152	55,283	2,624
1947/48	939,827	55,288	54,453	1,263
1946/47	903,661	33,667	42,448	1,072

1/SIX BARRELS EQUAL 1 LONG TON.
2/PRELIMINARY.
3/REVISED.

for the first time, helicopters and modern ultrasonic by some of the Norwegian expeditions, the authorities of about 800,000 barrels. Helicopters were used this Norhval expeditions; ultrasonic equipment designed to bring whales to the surface was installed on some of the catchers on an experimental basis. After the first favorable reports began coming in, moreover, it appeared that the Government's estimate had been pessimistic. However, during the latter part of the season, some of the Norwegian expeditions were hampered by bad weather.

The total catch for the expeditions of all countries participating this year did not come so close to the international limit of 16,000 blue-whale units^{1/} as it had in 1952. With 7 of the 16 expeditions participating this year, Norway accounted for about 5,000 of the approximately 15,000 units reported. Last year the proportion was 7,151 out of 15,875 units.

Use	1952/53 ^{2/}	1951/52 ^{3/}	1950/51 ^{3/}
 (Long Tons)		
Export--To:			
United Kingdom	47,000	8,500	29,800
Sweden	5,000	9,000	7,500
Western Germany	21,200	40,600	12,500
Denmark	10,000	6,000	3,000
Belgium	3,300	5,000	-
Netherlands	13,000	6,000	5,000
France	8,000	6,000	-
Total	107,500	81,100	57,800
For processing and subsequent export ..	-	50,000	50,000
For processing and domestic consumption	23,000	40,000	41,300

1/FROM TRADE SOURCES. 2/PRELIMINARY. 3/REVISED.

^{1/}ONE BLUE-WHALE UNIT EQUALS 1 BLUE WHALE, 2 FIN WHALES, OR 2½ HUMPBACK WHALES.

Since the average number of catchers per expedition was larger this year and since, equipment were taken along had been counting on a catch year by the Thorshavet and

Table 2 - Whale and Sperm Oil Production by Shore Stations in Norway, 1947-50

Year ^{2/}	Whale Oil	Sperm Oil
	Bbls.1/	Bbls.1/
1952	12,224	2,537
1951	11,045	3,734
1950 ^{3/}	12,133	3,846
1949	10,444	1,043
1948	8,495	2,766
1947	10,030	841

1/SIX BARRELS EQUAL 1 LONG TON.
2/SUMMER SEASON.
3/REVISED.

The stabilization of the whale-oil price at the comparatively low level of £70 (US \$196) per long ton makes the reduced production an even harder blow to the Norwegian economy. From a post-Korea high of £170 (US\$476), the price had sunk to £120 (US\$336) by the fall of 1951. Then, very rapidly in January 1952 the price dropped to £70 (US \$196). Norway's 1951/52 season production of whale oil was finally disposed of at an average of £82 (US\$230) per long ton. The average price for the 1952/53 season was £71 10s. (US\$200) per long ton.

In spite of a few advance sales at higher prices, the average price for this season's production has been only £71 10s. (US\$200) per long ton. This year, for a change, practically the entire production had been sold before the close of the season. Considering both the reduced production and lower average price, it appears that Norway's income from pelagic whaling in 1953 will be less than two-thirds of the 1952 figure.

Most of Norway's whale-oil production was exported (table 3).

The Norwegian shore station on South Georgia this season produced 43,300 barrels of whale oil and 2,300 barrels of sperm oil (table 1). This was less than the previous season's production of 47,100 barrels of whale oil and 1,500 barrels of sperm oil, an April 29 American Embassy dispatch from Oslo points out.

In addition to the above, shore stations in Norway produced 14,800 barrels of sperm and whale oil--about the same as during the previous season (table 2).



Republic of the Philippines

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS, 1951-52: Philippine total imports of fishery products from all countries in 1952 were valued at 15,826,000 pesos (US\$7,913,000), a decrease of 33 percent from the 1951 value of 23,709,000 pesos (US\$11,854,500). The Philippines normally import large quantities of California sardines, but in 1952 that fishery was almost a complete failure; this no doubt accounted for the large drop in imports of fishery products.

Philippine exports of fishery products to all countries in 1952 were valued at 96,000 pesos (US\$48,000), 2 percent less than in 1951 when exports were valued at 98,000 pesos (US\$49,000).



Portugal

COD INDUSTRY: Production of Salted Cod, 1952/53: The landings of wet-salted cod in Portugal during the 1952/53 season by the fleets fishing on the banks off Newfoundland and Greenland amounted to 53,240 metric tons (table 1). This is a 9-percent increase over the catch for the 1951/52 season, reports a March 20 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Lisbon. The amount of dried cod obtained from this catch is

Table 1 - Portuguese Cod Landings from Banks Off Newfoundland and Greenland, 1950/51-1952/53

Season	C a t c h						P r o d u c t i o n					
	Wet-Salted Cod			Dry-Salted Cod			Cod-Liver Oil			Other Byproducts ^{1/}		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	Contos	US\$	Metric Tons	Contos	US\$	Metric Tons	Contos	US\$	Metric Tons	Contos	US\$
1952/53 season:												
45 schooners	23,453	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
21 trawlers	29,787	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
Total	53,240	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/	2/
1951/52 season:												
45 schooners	24,528	147,168	5,083,000	17,840	188,797	6,521,000	284	1,424	49,000	276	1,074	37,100
20 trawlers	24,431	146,587	5,063,000	17,938	189,828	6,557,000	1,385	7,762	268,000	141	607	21,000
Total	48,959	293,755	10,146,000	35,778	378,625	13,078,000	1,169	9,186	317,000	417	1,681	58,000
1950/51 season:												
45 schooners	24,105	144,629	4,995,000	17,512	179,293	6,193,000	154	1,208	42,000	336	1,270	43,900
18 trawlers	27,367	164,206	5,672,000	19,367	193,384	6,679,000	986	6,066	210,000	231	979	33,800
Total	51,472	308,835	10,667,000	36,879	372,677	12,872,000	1,140	7,274	251,000	567	2,249	77,700

^{1/}HEADS, TONGUES, ETC.

2/NOT AVAILABLE.

not yet available as the fish is still in the process of drying; however, it is expected to total about 38,680 metric tons. Total production of cod-liver oil and other byproducts from the 1952/53 catch are not yet available.

Imports of Salted Cod, 1951-52: Portuguese imports of salted cod in 1952 totaled 11,693 metric tons (table 2), valued at 99,189 contos (US\$3,426,000). This is 47 percent less than the 22,027 metric tons imported in 1951, valued at 204,334 contos (US\$7,058,000). France was the leading supplier for the first time, while

Country of Origin	1952	1951
	.. (Metric Tons) ..	
Canada	3,430	7,938
United Kingdom	294	225
France	4,179	-
Norway	3,682	10,923
Ireland	-	1,550
Denmark	-	1,050
Greenland	-	341
Others	108	-
Total: Quantity	11,693	22,027
Value (Contos)	99,189	204,334
Value (US\$)	3,426,000	7,058,000

imports from traditional sources fell substantially. In 1952 Norwegian shipments decreased 66 percent and Canadian shipments were off 57 percent from 1951. The reduction appears to have been due to high prices and, in the case of Canada, to the fact that payment in dollars was required for the first time. Previously, payment in sterling had been accepted, even after Newfoundland became a part of Canada. The Portuguese Supply Commission absorbed losses due to higher prices of imported cod in 1952.

In December retail price increases of 18 to 23 percent were announced for imported cod to offset the 25-percent increase in the cost of importing. At the same time, it was announced that "yellow-cured"¹ cod will be produced in Portugal for sale at the same price as the imported product.

The Minister of Economy stated that consumption for 1953 is estimated at 79.2 million pounds, of which 15.8 million pounds will be imported and 63.4 million pounds supplied by the Portuguese fishing fleet. Of the latter, 10.6 million pounds will be "yellow-cured."

The supply of salted cod appeared to be adequate throughout 1952 despite the substantial reduction in imports. It would appear that a further reduction in imports is anticipated for 1953.

All cod produced and imported was for domestic consumption. There were no exports.

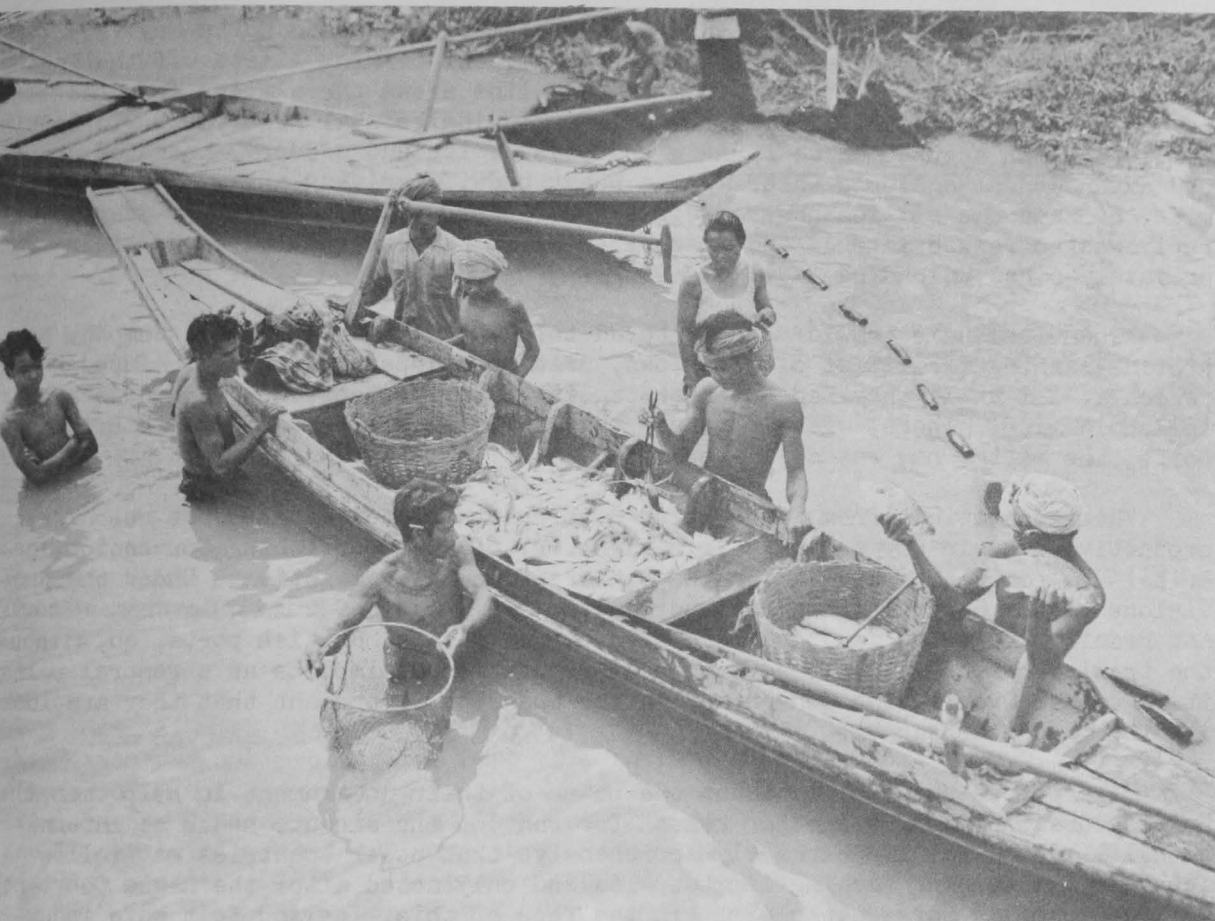
¹/IMPORTED COD IS "YELLOW-CURED" AND IS MUCH DRIER THAN PORTUGUESE NATIONAL CURED.



Thailand

GOVERNMENT-SUPERVISED WHOLESALE FISH MARKET: The new wholesale fish market recently completed at Bangkok commenced operations in April under the supervision of the Thai Government, states a March 6 dispatch from the U. S. Embassy at Bangkok. The new market was built at a cost of 6 million baht (US\$478,000). A sum of 11 million baht (US\$876,000) has been appropriated from the 1953 national budget for the installation of an ice and cold-storage plant.

Thirteen fish-auctioneering companies (including one that is government-sponsored) have registered to operate at the market. Previously, 9 brokers controlled the fresh marine-fish trade in Bangkok.



THAILAND FISHERMEN CULLING THEIR CATCH ACCORDING TO SPECIES AND SIZE. WOMAN IN CENTER IS A FISH BUYER.

The objectives of this project are: (1) to encourage the organization of fisherman's cooperatives, (2) to more closely supervise the lending practices of the brokers; and (3) to improve distribution and marketing methods.



United Kingdom

STATUS OF ICELANDIC-BRITISH FISHING DISPUTE: There is some speculation that the Icelandic-British fishing dispute may be considered at the meeting of the Permanent Commission of the North European Overfishing Convention which is scheduled to take place in London on May 5. This possibility was reported in the April 6 issue of the Manchester Guardian.

The article traces the course of the dispute through its protracted negotiations on several levels, and attempts to assess the attitude of the trawler owners. The consideration of the dispute by the Permanent Commission, reports an April 13 United States Embassy dispatch from London. Excerpts from the article follow:

"...Here, on the Humber, leaders of the trawling industry at Grimsby and Hull are eagerly awaiting the meeting of the permanent commission, confident that their condemnation of Iceland's action and subsequent attitude will be upheld.

"The Icelandic Government, it will be remembered, announced in May (1950) that, as a measure to conserve fishing grounds, the fishing limits off the Icelandic coasts would be extended from the old line drawn three miles from the coast to a new limit drawn four miles from a line linking coastal headlands. To British trawlers, long accustomed to fish in the bays of Iceland's deeply-indented coast, the extension of enclosed waters was a heavy blow, depriving them, as they estimate, of some one million hundredweights of better quality fish every year. Their reply was to refuse at Hull and Grimsby to allow the Icelanders to use their own privately-owned unloading facilities.

"When Icelandic trawlermen countered this with a plan to form a company to provide landing facilities of their own, British skippers and mates refused to put to sea at all until they had an understanding from merchants not to handle any Icelandic fish. There, with Icelandic trawlers virtually excluded from British ports, the matter now rests in a stalemate.

"Representations from the British Government to Iceland have not been very productive, and in any case, being a signatory of the Overfishing Convention, Britain is somewhat inhibited in the matter of unilateral action. Under the provisions of the General Agreements on Tariffs and Trade the British Government could not readily limit the landing of foreign-caught fish at British ports, so, although the trawler-owners advocate governmental regulation of imports as a general policy, it is to the Overfishing Convention rather than the Government that they are looking for immediate support.

"Apart from uncertainty about the power of their Government to help them, the British trawlermen have another reason for wanting the dispute heard at international level. They are extremely apprehensive that other countries may follow Iceland in extending fishing limits. Iceland only acted after the Hague Court had upheld a similar Norwegian claim. In the face of this, Iceland felt safe in extending her limits, and so, say the men of Hull and Grimsby, might Denmark; and, in doing so, close the valuable grounds around the Faroe Islands. Again, Iceland, and later others like her, might not for long be content with the headland line. It is believed in Grimsby that the line of the Continental Shelf, the hundred-fathom line, is already being talked about.

"Iceland at present forbids her own trawlers to fish where those of other nations are prohibited; but there are many in Grimsby who have no faith that she will retain this equality of treatment once the new territorial-water line has been established and internationally recognized...."



Venezuela

FISHING REGULATIONS: Two decrees restricting the methods of fishing were issued recently by the Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture, states a March 5 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Caracas. These decrees, numbers 3 and 4, were published in Gaceta Oficial on March 3.

Decree No. 3 states: "Article 1--It is prohibited to use the system of tapas regardless of the material of which these are made. Article 2--It is also prohibited to fish with nets known as chinchorros, palms, tree bark, or vines. Article 3--Violations will be penalized with fines ranging from Bolivares 50 to Bolivares 10,000 (US\$15-\$3,000) and the confiscation of the materials."

Decree No. 4 states: "Article 1--It is prohibited to fish with electric, gasoline, or any other lamps in the interior waters or within a distance of 9,200 meters or 5 miles of the coast. Article 2--The use in fishing of lines of argollas, circles of nets, tarrafas, purse seines, is prohibited in the waters of the interior or within 9,200 meters or 5 miles of the coast. Article 3--The use filetes cariteros, tendidos de hilo, or ahorque in the interior waters or within a distance of 9,200 meters or 5 miles of the coast are also prohibited. Article 4--Infractions will be penalized with fines ranging from Bolivares 50 to Bolivares 10,000 (US\$15-\$3,000) and the confiscation of the materials."

The Venezuelan Ministry of Agriculture states that the several local names used above are: Article 1, forms of purse seines; Article 2, gill nets. Evidently there are numerous forms of netting differing somewhat in various regions of the country. In this resolution an attempt is being made to prohibit two general types of nets--purse seines and gill nets.

In an interpretation of the new regulations, the Minister of Agriculture stated that they do not apply to large streams such as the Orinoco, a dispatch from the U. S. Embassy at Caracas states. In that river the methods prohibited for small streams will not apply.

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PEARL FISHING IN 1953 SEASON NOT PROFITABLE: The 1953 Venezuelan pearl-oyster season was not profitable, reports a March 9 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Caracas. A total of 219 boats engaged in the fishery this year off the Island of Margarita from January 1 to April 1. The total average catch for the fleet was between 30 and 50 carats of pearls per day, about 35 percent lower than the last previous pearling season in 1951. The pearls are valued at between 1 and 1½ bolivares (29 and 45 U. S. cents) per carat, not much lower than in 1951.

In 1912 pearls averaged about 6 bolivares (US\$1.79¹/₂) per carat, but have never been as high since. In 1940 the Banco Agricola y Pecuario established a floor price for the principal grade "small round" of 2.20 bolivares (69 U. S. cents²/₁₀₀) per carat and had to purchase almost the entire harvest. This year, it is stated, the Bank finally disposed of 100,000 carats of its several years supply at 1.80 bolivares (54 U. S. cents¹/₁₀₀).

It is believed that the world-wide changing tastes in jewels has reduced the demand for pearls.

¹/ BASED ON CURRENT EXCHANGE RATE: 3.35 BOLIVARES EQUAL US\$1.00.

²/ 1940 EXCHANGE RATE: 3.19 BOLIVARES EQUAL US\$1.00.

