International

MARINE RADAR CONFERENCE HELD IN WESTERN GERMANY

At the Marine Radar Conference held in May 1954 in Bremen, Western Germany, 32 speakers from France, Western Germany, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States discussed marine radar, including its use in fishing, reports the May 21 issue of The Fishing News, a British trade periodical. Dr. D. H. Cushing, Lowestoft (U.K.), spoke on "British Experiences in the Use of Echo Sounding for Fishing;" Dr. Kietz, Bremen (Western Germany), on "Recent German Echo Sounding Sets in use for Fishing;" Dr. Ahrens, Kiel (Western Germany), on "Horizontal Direction Findings as applied to Fishing;" Mr. Slink, Bremerhaven (Western Germany) on "Practical Experiences of Echo Sounding Sets in the German Fishing Industry."

SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE ON CONSERVATION OF MARITIME RESOURCES

The inaugural session of the Special Conference on the Exploitation and Conservation of the Maritime Resources of the South Pacific was held on October 4. The Conference was scheduled to terminate its sessions on October 9. Besides delegates of three participating countries--Chile, Peru, and Ecuador--the Ambassadors in Santiago of Columbia and Mexico and the Charge d'Affaires of El Salvador attended the meeting as observers, an October 6 United States Embassy dispatch from Santiago states.

The Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs, Roberto Aldunate Leon, in opening the Conference said that "The right to proclaim our sovereignty over the maritime zone which extends 200 miles out from the coast is indisputable and inalienable" and "we are meeting now to reaffirm our determination to defend this sovereignty, whatever the consequences may be, and to exercise that sovereignty in conformity with the high national interest of the signatories of the pact" (Declaration of Santiago of 1952). The Foreign Minister also said that now, as in the past, "necessity is the great generating source of law." He referred in support of his thesis to the revisions of legal principles implicit in the proclamation by the American Republics during the last war of the zone of security around the western hemisphere. Moreover, scientific and technical advances have outdated the old concept of three miles as the accepted extent of territorial waters. The permanent defense of the maritime resources in the waters adjacent to the coasts of the three powers cannot be assured through multilateral agreements because each party is free to denouce the agreement and by such an act to regain its freedom to exploit the maritime resources without any criterion other than its own particular interest. Sovereignty, on the other hand, invests with permanent authority, which can be exercised not only with respect to those countries which are parties to an agreement, but also with respect to countries that are not parties to the agreement. The Foreign Minister concluded by saying the claims made by the three countries would under no circumstances interfere with freedom of navigation in the waters within the areas claimed.

The local newspapers have given considerable prominence to the Conference, and the Chilean paper, La Nacion, on October 6, gave headline treatment to proposals

before the Conference for the creation of a joint whaling fleet by the three countries and for the establishment of a joint tribunal to try infractions of the 200-mile maritime zone. The same newspaper also reported that the Onassis whaling fleet had been located near Pearl Island. It reported that Peru had rejected the request made by Onassis through the Panamanian Government for permission to undertake whaling operations in the 200-mile zone off the Peruvian coast, offering to pay 40 percent of any profits derived from the operations. According to La Nacion the Peruvian Government replied that there would be no discussions of the subject until the Government of Panama recognized Peruvian sovereignty over the 200-mile zone.

According to local press reports, the Foreign Minister in an interview granted the Associated Press on the eve of the Conference declared that the purpose of the meeting is to protect the ichthyological species, whose extinction is threatened by piratical enterprises. He added that the United Nations "cannot and should not interfere in this matter." The parties to the Santiago Tripartite Declaration would attempt to prevent the General Assembly from considering the subject at the session, above all because these problems are to be considered in 1955 by a special inter-American conference.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

TWENTIETH SESSION FAO COUNCIL: The principal decisions having some effect on fisheries reached at the Twentieth Session of the FAO Council in Rome, Italy, early in October, were as follows, according to a U. S. Embassy dispatch (October 13) from Rome.

World Food and Agricultural Situation: 1. Adopted statement generally agreeing with Director General's assessment, emphasizing in spite of "surpluses," need to continue agricultural production in underdeveloped areas to exceed rate of population, to expand commodities in demand and in areas of need, and to increase consumption and raise nutritional standards. Endorsed continued national, regional consultations by FAO staff with member governments regarding selective expansion. Noted recommendations of Latin-American and North European regional Conference on this subject.

Program and Budget: 1. Program Committee of Council examined Director-General's 1955 program and budget in considerable detail, with assistance of Director General and Division Directors. Council re-emphasized importance of the four principles developed by Working Party on Long-Term Program (of 1951), and program criteria. Council decided program for 1955 conforms to these criteria and priorities. Endorsed greater attention to nutrition, interagency coordination, FAO regional activities, and made various specific recommendations to technical divisions.

2. Endorsed Director-General's proposal to draw up preliminary recommendations for long-term assessment of world's agricultural resources to help meet the challenge of the world's growing population.

3. Budgetary adjustments approved, including reduction in the assessments to member governments in 1955 from US$5,944,000 to US$5,890,000 because of increased miscellaneous income from US$56,000 to US$110,000.

Latin American Fisheries Commission: Approved unanimously. United States only recorded abstention.

International Food Additives: Approved resolution authorizing the Director-General to examine, after examination by FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Nutrition in October, the possible role of FAO in promoting study or action regarding technical and legal standards for food additives.

Date and Place of Conference and Council: Council decided that the 8th Conference Session should be held on November 4, 1955, in Rome; and that the 21st Council Session should be held on June 6, 1955, in Rome. The latter decision was taken following a long discussion over invitation to go to Madrid. The Council decided, in the absence of more specific financial and administrative information, to place on the agenda of the next Council Session the "question of desirability of holding Council sessions in cities other than Rome should be more fully considered both from standpoint of value of such a step for the Organization and for member nations and also in relation to administrative and financial implications."

INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION

EXPERTS ON FISHERMEN'S WORKING CONDITIONS TO MEET: International action to improve the working conditions of fishermen will be considered by a committee of 12 experts at a meeting at International Labor Organization (ILO) headquarters in Geneva from October 25 to November 5.

The meeting, called by the ILO's Governing Body, will discuss four aspects of employment conditions--minimum age for fishermen, medical examinations, articles of agreement between fishermen and fishing-boat owners, and accident insurance.

The experts have been asked to make recommendations to the Governing Body "concerning those aspects which appear ripe for international action, and, where appropriate, the form and scope which such action might take."

As a basis for the experts' discussion, reports have been prepared by the Maritime Division and the Social Security Division of the International Labor Office, ILO's secretariat. Recommendations will be submitted to the ILO Governing Body at its next session, to be held November 16-19 at Rome.

Four of the experts have been nominated by the employer members of the Governing Body, four by the worker members, and four by Governments (Chile, France, Japan, and the Netherlands) chosen by the government members of the Governing Body. The group includes the following:

Nominated by governments: A. Vezzani Solar, Judge of the Labor Court, Punta Arenas, Chile; P. R. Schmitz, Ministry of the Merchant Marine, France; N. Kameyama, Chief, Labor Standard Section, Seamen Bureau, Japan; H. Thurmer, Fisheries Counselor of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Supply, Netherlands.

Nominated by employers: Haji Pir Mohamed Jooma, President, Fish Exporters' Association, Pakistan; Harold E. Lokken, Manager, Fishing Vessel Owners' Association, Seattle, Washington, United States; A. Owre, inspector, Kristiansund, Norway; and H. W. Wilson, Director, Derwent Trawlers Ltd., United Kingdom.

Nominated by workers: T. Birkett, National Secretary, Fisheries' Group, Transport and General Workers Union, United Kingdom; G. Hauge, Vice President, Norwegian Seamen's Union; P. McHugh, First Vice President, Seafarers' International Union of North America; Kumajiro Takahashi, Head of the Fishery Department, Japan Seamen's Union.

NORTH EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES CONVENTION

THIRD MEETING OF PERMANENT COMMISSION: The Third Meeting of the Permanent Commission set up under the International Fisheries Convention of 1946 took place from May 4 to 12 in Copenhagen, Denmark, at the invitation of the Danish Government. Delegations attended from all the Member Governments, namely Belgium, Denmark, France, Iceland, the Irish Republic, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom. Observers were present from the Government of Western Germany and informed the Commission that notice of their Government's accession to the Convention might be expected very shortly. Observers were also present from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, and FAO.

The main items on the Commission's agenda were questions arising out of industrial fisheries, the application of conservation measures south of the present Convention boundary, the arrangements for the enforcement of the Convention provisions affecting the mesh of nets and the size limits of fish, and the problem of the appropriate mesh size for light trawls.

At the Second Meeting of the Commission in November 1953, the question of the industrial fishery for herring involving the capture of undersized whiting had been considered at the insistance of the Danish Government, who had been asked if they would study the question further and make proposals to the Commission at the present meeting for the regulation of this type of fishery. At the same time, the Commission had decided to ask the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea for their scientific advice as to the conditions under which industrial fisheries involving the capture of undersized fish, which the Convention was designed to protect, should be carried out.

At the present meeting the Commission was informed that the investigations which the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea thought necessary would take some further time and the Danish delegation proposed that the Convention size limit for whiting should not be given effect until these investigations had been concluded.

The Commission recognized the difficulties facing the Danish Government in enforcing the provisions of the Convention as regards the minimum size of whiting in relation to their newly-developed industrial fishery for herring, which is of great importance to the economy of Danish fishermen. The Commission felt it necessary to stress, however, that the purpose of the Convention was to protect immature fish in order to maintain the fisheries at the highest level and that it was the responsibility of every member nation to seek to prevent a diminution in the conservation effect of the Convention. Accordingly, the Commission was of the opinion that any concession which would weaken the protective effect of the Convention in order to meet special problems should be limited as far as possible.

After considering various proposals, including that from the Danish Delegation, the Commission came to the conclusion that the most appropriate course was to recommend the governments of the member countries to accept an alteration of Article 6 of the Convention dealing with fisheries for herring and other species which are not protected under the Convention. This alteration is to the effect that herring fishermen and other fishermen not fishing for protected species may land up to 10 percent undersized fish in landings not for human consumption in the form of fish. This proposal was accepted by all delegations except the Swedish, who reserved their vote for the moment and stated that they would inform the President of the Commission at a later date whether or not they could accept.

The Commission was informed of the discussions that had recently been taking place between the French, Portuguese, and Spanish Governments regarding measures for regulating the sizes of mesh of nets that may be used in, and the minimum sizes of fish that may be landed from, the waters between latitudes 48° N. and 36° N. covering the Atlantic coasts of the three countries from Brittany to the Straits of Gibraltar. The Commission noted that proposals covering this area were now under consideration by the three governments but felt that, for the time being at least, these proposals could not be suitably merged into the 1946 Convention and should be the subject of a separate convention for the area in question. It was felt, however, that the practicability of assimilating the two conventions might be reconsidered at a later date.

On the question of the enforcement of the provision of the 1946 Convention, there was agreement that each member country should periodically inform the Commission of the general arrangements that it was making in regard to its own fishermen.

An interim report was received from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea on the subject of the investigations so far carried out into the relative "selectivity" of light trawls and heavy trawls; that is to say, into differences between the effect of light and heavy trawls as regards the minimum sizes of the fish they take. The conclusion from this report, which was accepted by the Commission, was that the evidence available is not yet sufficient to warrant any action by the Commission but that a case had been made out for the continued investigation of the fishing effect of different types of trawl.

The Commission decided to meet annually in the future and the fourth meeting will be held in London starting May 3, 1955.

TERRITORIAL WATERS

CERTAIN SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES CONTINUE TO CLAIM 200 MILES: The Peruvian Government has not acceded to the request from a whaling fleet flying the Panamanian flag to engage in whaling in Peruvian territorial waters, that is within the 200-mile zone, according to an editorial in the September 15 issue of La Nacion transmitted by the U. S. Embassy at Buenos Aires. The Peruvian authorities are determined to maintain the ban on foreign ships to fish or hunt within that zone. The Chilean and Ecuadoran Governments have joined Peru in its attitude, thereby putting into practice the joint declarations which they made two years ago, when they expressed their decision to exercise their rights relative to the exploitation and conservation of the riches of the sea in the zone in question. The dimension of 200 nautical miles measured from the coast was indicated in their respective decrees in 1947.

The editorial further commented that it is not an innovation, but rather a most ancient custom universally practiced, to reserve fisheries for the people inhabiting seacoasts. This right, reserved exclusively for the population of the seacoast, did not cover great distances; it was limited to "territorial waters," a stretch 3 or 4 miles wide along the coast. The reason is obvious: fishing boats, small and with sails, did not venture far from the coast, and the fish they caught, rapidly perishable, had to be consumed immediately.

These features of fishing have changed in the course of the present century, continues the editorial. While fishing for edible species is still naturally engaged in for local consumption, whaling made its appearance as a large-scale industry. Fleets of vessels accompanied by whale-oil factoryships come every year from the remotest parts of the world to catch and cut up whales and immediately to carry the valuable products to great markets situated in other continents and even in the antipodes. And inasmuch as the whale industry proves highly profitable, the interested concerns have increased their fleets to the extent that the number of whales caught each year runs into thousands. It was soon found that whales were fast disappearing.

Sea riches are not inexhaustible, although they were thought to be so where herring and sardines were concerned, but major species seemed to be threatened with extinction. This alarming situation was observed principally in the waters of the South Atlantic and the Antarctic regions. The fact was denounced and the remedy was suggested by our government authorities as well as naval officers and university professors, points out the editorial. They found the solution in the notion of "continental platform," or "submarine plain." Geographers had long since pointed out how certain coasts, especially when they are regular and smooth, descend into the sea in a gentle slope, so that the bottom is at a relatively small depth up to a distance which often greatly exceeds the measure of 3 or 4 miles assigned to the "territorial sea." Other scholars subsequently found that plankton, which constitutes the nourishment of fish, develops in the seas down to a depth of not more than 200 meters, because that is as far as sunlight penetrates. This is the reason why it is in the "submarine plain" as long as it is not situated at a greater depth that large fishing banks are to be found which attract other major species such as whales. . . . It is therefore incumbent on the State adjacent to the "submarine plain" to exploit and watch over the riches of the sea in order to assure the best use and conservation thereof.

The editorial continues: "This theory, solidly founded, was not long in being put into practice. On September 28, 1945, President Truman issued two proclamations, one of them relative to fishing, declaring the existence of a 'zone of conservation,' within which fishing is reserved for nationals and subject to regulation and control by the United States; the other declaring that the natural wealth of the subsoil and of the bed of the continental platform in the high sea adjacent to the coasts of the United States are subject to its jurisdiction and control without detriment to the freedom of the seas. One year earlier, on January 24, 1944, the Argentine Government had issued a decree declaring the 'epicontinental sea' to be a temporary zone of mining reserves. One month after President Truman issued his proclamations, the Mexican Government dictated a similar decree. On October 9, 1946, our Government issued a decree stating that 'the epicontinental sea and the continental platform are subject to the sovereignty of the Nation,' but this does not affect the freedom of the seas. This action spread rapidly. On November 26, 1948, the United Kingdom defined the jurisdiction between the Bahama Islands and Jamaica, establishing that it is extended in such a way 'as to comprise the area of the continental platform underlying the adjacent sea.' The same rule was adopted by other countries in succession, those of the Persian Gulf, the Philippine Islands, Brazil, Pakistan, Israel, and Australia. In view of this, the United Nations entrusted the study of the subject to its technical branch, the International Law Commission, which passed on the matter last year, stating that in the submarine areas adjacent to the coast, but outside of the territorial sea and at a depth of 200 meters, the adjacent State exercises the right of sovereignty for the purpose of exploiting and exploring the natural wealth existing therein.

"In the southern part of the American continent situated on the Pacific Ocean there is no 'submarine plain' properly speaking, because the coast descends abruptly into great depths; however, a phenomenon similar to that which occurs in the continental platform has been observed there: The Peruvian or Humboldt current, which flows from the polar region, runs in a wide stretch along the Chilean and Peruvian coasts until it reaches the equator, and this cold current, being full of fish in extraordinary abundance, is the natural habitat of major species--whales and tunas--that find their feed therein, and this current also attracts and feeds innumerable flocks of sea fowls which have formed considerable guano deposits in the Peruvian islands. Even though the Chilean and Peruvian decrees do not make express mention of this fact, it has doubtless been borne in mind as a solid basis, for this phenomenon is universally known.

"The industrialization of fishing and hunting in the sea, as well as their eventual prejudicial consequences, make it necessary effectively to protect the wealth contained in the waters close to the seacoast. Collective agreements have been agreed upon imposing on the contracting States the obligation for their ships to abstain from catching certain species of whales; but this step proved insufficient, as is shown by the number of successive reforms which have been introduced in the said agreements. The States adjacent to these rich seacoasts are more interested than any others in exploiting this wealth and assuring the conservation thereof. Hence the measures to which reference is made here, adopted by several States during the last ten years. In view of the need to coordinate these various unilateral acts, the Tenth American International Conference recently held in Caracas, asked the Council of the Organization of American States to summon a special conference to be held next year, for the purpose of studying the various aspects of the legal and economic systems governing the submarine plain, ocean waters and their natural wealth."

TRADE AGREEMENTS

HEARINGS HELD ON U. S.-PHILIPPINE TRADE AGREEMENTS: Hearings on the possible modification of the 1946 Agreement on Trade and Related Matters between the United States and the Philippines were held beginning November 1 in Washington, the U. S. Delegation announced on September 28.

The negotiations covered all aspects of the 1946 Agreement and particularly the provisions regarding tariff preferences (Article I), commodity quotas and their allocation (Articles II and III), exchange rates and controls (Article V), national treatment for Americans in the development of Philippine natural resources (Article VII), and nondiscrimination and termination (Article X).

Persons with views or information which they wished to present to the Delegation with respect to possible modification of the 1946 Agreement in these or other respects were invited to do so in the public hearings which were held before the Delegation beginning November 1. The Delegation also invited information and views in writing.

UNITED NATIONS

STATISTICAL COMMISSION'S EIGHTH SESSION: The Eighth Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission took place in Geneva from April 5-22, 1954. L. P. D. Gertenbach, FAO Economist, attended the meetings of the Session as an FAO representative on behalf of the Fisheries Division, points out the July-September 1954 FAO Fisheries Bulletin.

The agenda included a review of international statistics and the Commission discussed a report of the United Nations Secretary-General (E/CN.3/170) which covered, principally, the status of work in the development and application of standards, concepts, definitions, and methods. The section on the program of work of FAO in this field did not cover fisheries statistics.

Gertenbach, speaking at the invitation of the chairman, made a statement supplying the missing information on fisheries statistics. The summary of this statement, incorporated in the Summary Record of the 102nd Meeting (E/CN.3/SR.102), is as follows:

Statistical data relating to certain aspects of fishery industries had been published from time to time in the FAO Fisheries Bulletin (which was now appearing every quarter) and, more occasionally, in the Monthly Bulletin on Agricultural Economics and Statistics, but most of the statistical material collected and prepared by the Fisheries Division of the FAO Secretariat was issued in the Yearbook of Fisheries Statistics, which appeared every two years. The first two year books--those for 1947 and 1948-49--might be considered as "trial" issues. In the third--that for 1950-51--a reasonably adequate standard of presentation had been reached in the case of detailed data relating to foreign trade in fishery products. Statistics on catches and landings and on the production of processed commodities (frozen, cured and canned

fish, crustaceans and molluscs, fish oils, meals, fertilizers, and the like) had not been entirely adequate in the past. It was hoped that the next issue of the yearbook, which would be the fourth in the series and was due to appear before the end of 1954, would show great progress in those fields.

Comments received by FAO suggested that, highly desirable though international comparability might be, it should not be achieved at the expense of more detailed statistics for individual countries, where such detailed data reflected in an accurate and realistic way the basic patterns of fisheries. For example, the Yearbook for 1950-51 presented data relating to catches on the basis of groups of species; while that grouping was being retained to make international comparability easier, the group totals would, wherever feasible, be broken down to give details for principal individual species.

Requests were being received for time series, covering fairly long periods, of data on total landings and landings of the principal species, such as herring, sardines, tuna, mackerel, cod, haddock, etc. Although it was not possible to present such tables in more than one issue of the yearbook, it was hoped that the requests would be met by presenting data for the period 1910-1953.

At the last session of the FAO Conference, a request had been made for the publication of a bibliography listing national sources of statistical material on fisheries and related matters; the first draft of that indispensable document should be ready towards the end of the year.

FAO maintained continual and close cooperation on statistical matters with the various international fishery bodies, such as, for example, the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, and others, for the first named of which the Secretariat was preparing handbooks of fisheries statistics. Technical papers on statistical subjects relevant to the fishery industries were also issued from time to time, and very useful documents had been prepared by those who had taken part in the First International Meeting on Fisheries Statistics, sponsored by FAO and held in Copenhagen in May 1952. Spanish-speaking countries would no doubt be interested in the publication of the Elementos de Estadistica Aplicada a la Pesca, based on a series of lectures given at one of several training centers dealing with fisheries

At its previous session, the Statistical Commission had requested the United Nations Secretary-General to consult Member Governments on various problems related to external trade statistics. Supplementary features of this subject included the problem of fish landed directly by foreign fishing craft. This problem was discussed at the 105th Meeting, April 6, 1954. FAO's representative stressed that the problem of fish landed directly in foreign countries should not be examined solely from the point of view of external trade statistics. The logical solution would be to insure that the statistical treatment of direct foreign landings of fish should be reflected consistently, not only in external trade statistics, but also in the statistics on fish catches and landings and on statistics of fish processing industries.

On behalf of FAO, the view was expressed that countries receiving fish directly from foreign fishing craft should include these with their import statistics. In a similar way, countries making direct deliveries of fish by fishing craft to other countries should include these quantities with their export statistics. With regard to catches and landings, the domestic production should include also landings by domestic fishing craft in foreign ports, but exclude all receipts delivered by foreign fishing craft in domestic ports.

Countries should try to include, as part of their industrial statistics dealing with secondary manufacturing activities, processing activities on board craft. When such processed products (frozen fillets, canned commodities, oils and meals, etc.) are landed in the home country, they should not be considered as imports; when landed directly in another country, the recipient should treat them as imports and the country making the delivery should consider them as part of their exports.

Paragraph 13 of the Report to the Economic and Social Council on the 8th Session of the Statistical Commission, reads as follows:

Fish landed from the original fishing craft is at present treated differently in the statistics of different countries, but, since the countries having important trade of this kind wished it to be included in the statistics and since the representative from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization felt that such an inclusion would be useful in compiling trade and production figures for fish.

The Statistical Commission Recommends that, wherever the size of landings is of importance and wherever it is possible to do so, countries should include in their import statistics fish landed directly from foreign fishing craft and include in their export statistics fish landed abroad by domestic fishing craft.

It was the opinion of the Commission that the attribution of provenance by flag of fishing craft would usually produce figures reasonably equivalent to country of provenance.

It was pointed out that the definition of fish and fishing craft would require further consideration by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization.

As soon as a satisfactory solution has been evolved by the FAO Fisheries Division and the United Nations Statistical Office, the definitions will be published in the FAO Fisheries Bulletin.

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CONTINENTAL SHELF AND FISHERIES ITEMS FOR NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY: The United States on August 20 joined with other United Nations members in requesting the inclusion of two items in the supplementary list of the provisional agenda of the ninth General Assembly. The items are entitled: "Draft Articles on the Continental Shelf" and "Economic Development of Fisheries and Question of Fishery Conservation and Regulation," the September 20 issue of The Department of State Bulletin reports.

A new series of draft articles covering the continental shelf and deep-sea fishing were drawn up by the United Nations International Law Commission at its fifth session at Geneva in mid-1953. These draft articles were presented as recommendations to the eighth U. N. General Assembly, but the Assembly decided "not to deal with any aspect of the regime of the high seas or of the regime of territorial waters until all the problems involved have been studied by the International Law Commission and reported upon by it to the General Assembly" (resolution 798, VIII).

Following are the texts of the requests addressed to the U. N. Secretary General:

ITEM RELATING TO CONTINENTAL SHELF

U.N. doc. A/2706 dated August 23

NEW YORK, *20 August 1954*

We have the honour, on instructions from our Governments, to request that the following item be included in the supplementary list for the provisional agenda of the ninth regular session of the United Nations General Assembly:

"Draft articles on the continental shelf."

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum is attached.

(Signed)

SHUHSI HSU
Alternate Representative of China on the Security Council

ERNESTO LEME
Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations

D. J. VON BALLUSECK
Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations

JAMES J. WADSWORTH
Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations

PETER E. RAMSBOTHAM
for the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations

L. K. MUNRO
Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations

CECIL D. B. KING
Acting Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations

Explanatory Memorandum

At its fourth session, the General Assembly recommended that the International Law Commission study the régime of the high seas and the régime of Territorial waters (resolution 374 (IV)). At its fifth session, the International Law Commission completed its work on the continental shelf, and it recommended to the Assembly that it give favourable consideration to the draft articles on the continental shelf.[1] At its eighth session, the Assembly decided "not to deal with any aspect of the régime of the high seas or of the régime of territorial waters until all the problems involved have been studied by the International Law Commission and reported upon by it to the General Assembly" (resolution 798 (VIII)).

Since the passage of resolution 798 (VIII), the co-sponsors have come to the conclusion that it would be desirable for the Assembly to consider and attempt to solve, one at a time, the numerous segments of the very broad general subject of the régime of the high seas and territorial waters, as those segments are completed by the International Law Commission. This would seem to accord with the views of the International Law Commission itself, which has recommended consideration of its draft articles on the continental shelf and on fisheries.

It has become more apparent since last year that if the Law Commission is to do its best work on these thorny problems, it may require several more years to complete its task. For example, it is felt that the Commission might not be able to reach final decisions regarding the breadth of territorial waters in the immediate future. Consultations

[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Eighth Session, Supplement No. 9*, doc. A/2456.

with States and further useful deliberations on the part of the Commission will probably consume several more years. Hence this one aspect of the régime of the high seas and territorial waters may well require additional time before final recommendations can be sent by the Commission to the Assembly. Moreover, the problem of the régime of the high seas and territorial waters contains the following sub-items on which little or no work has yet been done by the Commission: nationality of ships, collision, safety of life at sea, the right of approach, slave trade, submarine telegraph cables, and the right of pursuit. Meanwhile, the number and intensity of international disputes relating to high seas and territorial waters seem to be increasing. Hence, the need for agreed solutions for these problems or any part of them is apparent.

Although the simultaneous solution of these problems might appear more logical, in practice, international law has frequently been advanced only by concentration and agreement on one small segment at a time. Frequently the process is one of reaching agreement on the less controversial segments first, and only then attempting to solve the more controversial aspects. In the view of the co-sponsors, the multisided field of the law known as the régime of the high seas and territorial waters may well be a good example of an instance in which such a process will prove very useful. Also, it may be an instance in which the reverse process of simultaneous consideration of all segments might prove unworkable. At best simultaneous consideration will greatly delay settlement of all of the problems in this field.

For example, there does not seem to be any basic disagreement among nations as to the conclusions reached by the International Law Commission concerning the exploration and exploitation of the resources of the continental shelf. On the other hand, there is nothing to indicate that there will be general acceptance of any solution of the question of breadth of territorial waters which might ultimately be recommended by the Law Commission. Since the whole project of the régime of the high seas and territorial waters contains a number of controversial problems, the solution of the less controversial should not be tied to the solution of the more controversial. To do so might delay indefinitely the solution of the whole project.

It has been argued that since the various segments of the problem are inter-related, it will be impossible to solve one segment without prejudging or prejudicing the other segments. However, this difficulty can be overcome by disclaiming specifically any such prejudgment or prejudice. For example, in the final Assembly resolution relating to the draft articles on the continental shelf, a preambular paragraph could be inserted to the effect that the articles would not purport to prejudge or prejudice future decisions relating to such matters as base lines for territorial waters, the width of territorial waters, and fishery resources of the superjacent waters. Such a technique should reassure those States which have expressed a fear that the solution of one segment will prejudice the solution of another.

The co-sponsors believe that consideration of the Law Commission's draft articles on the continental shelf by the Assembly should not be postponed for an indefinite, and possibly great, number of years. However, since a number of Governments have indicated that they would prefer to study the draft articles further before reaching conclusions in relation to all of their details, it is believed desirable to delay substantive consideration of them until the tenth session of the Assembly. This additional year should provide sufficient time for thorough study by all Governments. The co-sponsors believe that in order to avoid undue delay the Assembly should decide at its ninth session to place on the provisional agenda of its tenth session the question of substantive consideration of the draft articles on the continental shelf.

ITEM RELATING TO FISHERIES

U.N. doc. A/2707 dated August 23

NEW YORK, *20 August 1954*

We have the honor, on instructions from our Governments, to request that the following item be included in the supplementary list for the provisional agenda of the ninth regular session of the United Nations General Assembly:

"Economic development of fisheries and question of fishery conservation and regulation."

In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, an explanatory memorandum is attached.

(Signed)

SHUHSI HSU
Alternate Representative of China on the Security Council

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Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations

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Explanatory Memorandum

As part of its work relating to the régime of the high seas and territorial waters, the International Law Commission drafted certain articles on fisheries.[2] These draft articles are the result primarily of consideration of the legal aspects of high seas fisheries. It is the view of a number of States that these draft articles do not adequately meet certain very important technical problems of the world fishing industry. In recommending the

drafting and consideration of international conventions relating to conservation of fisheries, the Law Commission itself stated: "The matter is of a technical character; as such it is outside the competence of the Commission." [3]

At its eighth session, the Assembly decided "not to deal with any aspect of the régime of the high seas or of the régime of territorial waters until all the problems involved have been studied by the International Law Commission and reported upon by it to the General Assembly." (resolution 798 (VIII)). This process may consume a great number of years. Meanwhile the number and intensity of fisheries disputes might well continue to grow and remain unsolved.

It is believed that the philosophy underlying Assembly resolution 798 (VIII) is that the International Law Commission and the General Assembly can solve at one time all of the complex problems arising out of the régime of the high seas and territorial waters. Without putting in issue the wisdom or the validity of this philosophy, the question of high seas fisheries presents a number of special problems which are probably capable of solution only with the assistance of a specialized body. These problems are in large measure of an economic and technical character. Even assuming that the Assembly will wait a number of years before discussing any draft articles on fisheries, such a discussion by the Assembly of these articles on fisheries would probably not be productive unless the Assembly has before it the views of fisheries experts on the problems. No reason can be seen for delaying the meeting of such experts until or after the Assembly discussion. Conversely, it is felt that it is logical to have them meet as soon as possible in order that their conclusions can be forwarded to the Assembly promptly and without necessitating a delay in fruitful Assembly consideration of fisheries problems.

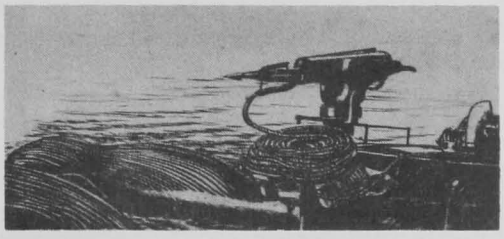
The co-sponsors suggest to the General Committee and the Assembly that this item on fisheries be sent to the Second Committee, since it is economic development of fisheries and problems of fishery conservation and regulation that need consideration. The co-sponsors believe that after the discussion of the problem, a resolution should be adopted whereby problems of the economics and conservation of high seas fisheries would be referred either to the Food and Agriculture Organization or to a special governmental conference of experts for consideration and recommendations. The co-sponsors do not wish to submit a draft resolution at this time, because they feel that many useful points will be made in the course of discussion, and that the appropriate resolution can more easily be drafted at the conclusion of such discussion.

[2] *Ibid.*, p. 17.
[3] *Ibid.*, paragraph 104.

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, June 1954, p. 25.

WHALING

EARLY HUNT FOR SPERM WHALES: Most of the British and Norwegian whaling expeditions are setting out from Europe earlier than usual this year. They plan to catch sperm whales before the hunt for blue and fin whales starts on January 7, 1955. Increased sperm oil production is anticipated from the Antarctic. The price is reported to have risen to £70 (US$196) per short ton, states the September 24 issue of The Fishing News, a British fishery paper.



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ANTARCTIC EXPEDITIONS SAIL: Sailing from Sandefjord early in October the Kosmos IV became the first Norwegian floating factory to set off for the annual pelagic whaling in the Antarctic, according to an October 14 bulletin from the Norwegian Information Service. The other eight were due to leave Norwegian ports in the next few weeks. In addition to the nine Norwegian whaling expeditions, there will be three each from Japan and Great Britian, one each from South Africa, the Netherlands, and the Soviet Union, plus the Panama-registered Olympic Challenger.

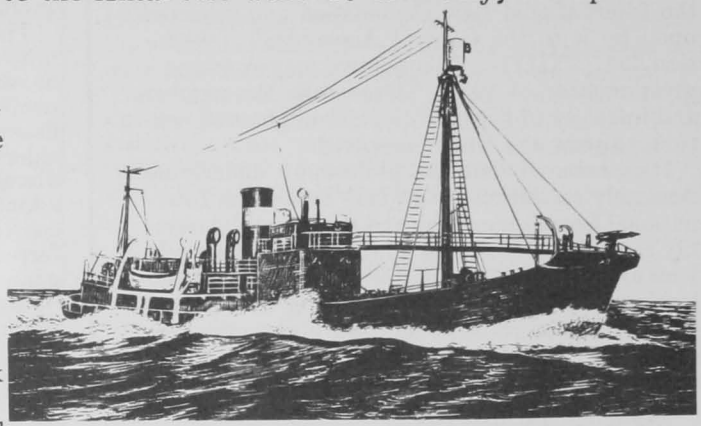
The total catch for the 1955 Antarctic whaling is limited to 15,500 blue-whale units (2 fin whales, or $2\frac{1}{2}$ humpback whales, or 6 sei whales), as it was last season. The International Whaling Commission, at its last meeting decided that the fin-whale hunt shall not begin until January 7, instead of January 2. The blue-whale season will start even later next year, on January 21 rather than January 7. By delaying the opening of the hunting season it is estimated that the whales will grow bigger and yield more oil. It is expected that the 19 factoryships, accompanied by

253 fast catcher vessels, will have used up the internationally approved quota by the middle of next March.

Manning the floating factories, catcher vessels, and three shore stations will be a total of 13,200 men, including 7,366 Norwegians.

In contrast to last year, the whalers figure on catching a substantial number of sperm whales before proceeding to the Antarctic waters. Actually, the sperm-oil production does not amount to much.

During the 1953/54 season Norway's nine expeditions and one shore station produced 990,006 barrels of valuable whale oil (equivalent to about 165,000 metric tons) and only 34,935 barrels of sperm oil (5,827 metric tons).



Modern Norwegian whale catcher.

The whale catch is controlled by a system of inspectors who work in close contact with the Office for International Whaling Statistics which has its headquarters in Oslo, Norway. Each country appoints its own inspectors, two for each expedition. These game wardens of the International Whaling Convention see to it that the stringent rules laid down are strictly applied. Each expedition is required to cable weekly reports to the statistical office in Oslo, stating the number of blue-whale units killed by its catchers.

An Antarctic pelagic expedition consists of a floating factoryship, ranging from 20,000 to 30,000 tons, accompanied by 12 to 15 speedy catcher vessels. The factoryship carries a complement of some 300 men and each catcher vessel a crew of about 16. Making a speed of 14 to 17 knots, the catchers cruise around on the lookout for whales. Several of the Norwegian expeditions will be using helicopters to spot their prey. The most important man aboard is the master harpooner.

The huge quantities of whale oil produced in the Antarctic are brought back to Europe for further processing. The major part of the output is exported, chiefly for use in margarine manufacture. Featuring a modern Solexol refraction plant for low-value fish oils, one company recently finished a large fat-hydrolizing plant for production of fatty acids for use in the soap and candle industries.

Since 1951 an Oslo pharmaceutical company has been making ACTH from whale hypophysis brought back from the Antarctic by Norwegian expeditions. In the past three seasons the 25,000 hypophysis received by the firm have produced a total of about 8.5 million international units of ACTH, corresponding to over one million daily doses for chronical cases. As a whale hypophysis weighs about 100 times as much as one from a swine, the quantity collected by the firm is roughly the equivalent, in weight and ACTH content, of some 2.5 million swine hypophysis. One whale hypophysis of 12-20 grams yields about 1 centigram of pure ACTH, with a total activity of some 500 international units.

Argentine Republic

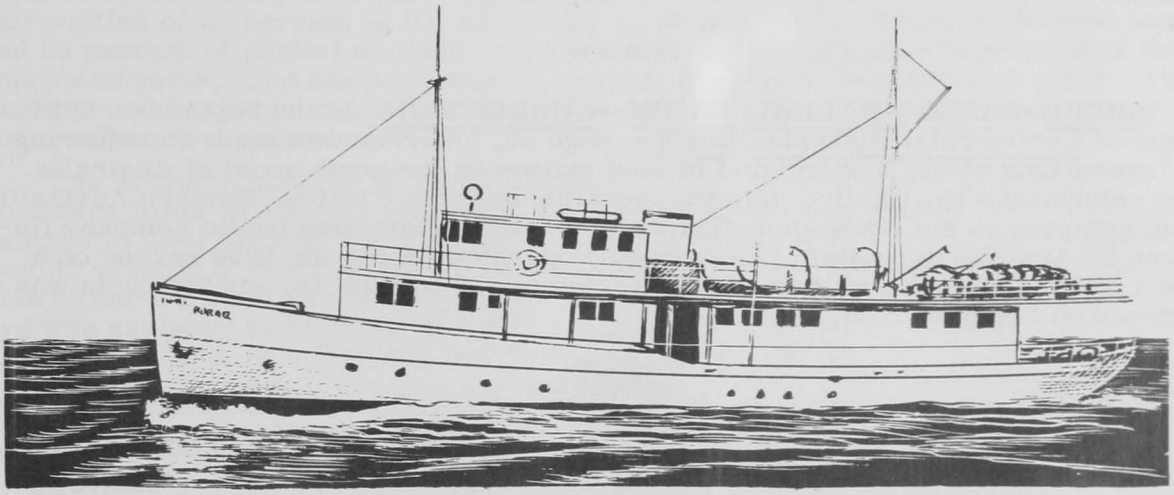
JOINT ARGENTINE-JAPANESE FISHERY PROJECTS PROPOSED: The Japanese fishing industry is looking towards the waters off the coast of Argentina as a possible rich area for large-scale Argentine-Japanese fishing operations. Joint Argentine-Japanese fishery projects have been proposed by three Japanese companies, an October 1 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo states. In addition, a Japanese representative visited Argentina in April and on his return to Japan formed the Patagonia Fishery Development Cooperative Association to provide fishing boats and fishermen which would supply a cannery and refrigeration plant in Argentina. It is hoped that Argentine capital would be used to finance the cannery and refrigeration plant.

These proposals are still only in the discussion stage, but the Japanese Government is reported to be considering special measures to encourage emigration of Japanese fishermen to Argentina if necessary financing can be arranged.

In 1953 the President of the Argentine Republic and a delegation of Japanese legislators met and discussed various aspects of the fishing industry in Argentine waters. Details of the conversation were not revealed.

Australia

LARGE SPINY LOBSTER FISHING AND FREEZING VESSEL: Australia's largest spiny lobster fishing and processing vessel, the 112-foot Norab, sailed on



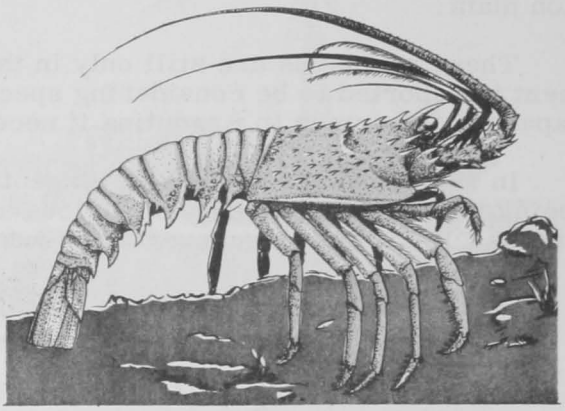
The 112-foot Norab, Australia's newest and largest spiny lobster fishing and processing vessel.

her maiden fishing trip early in July, reports the August 1954 issue of the Fisheries Newsletter, an Australian trade magazine. The Norab is a former California pleasure craft, used for a short time as a U. S. Army headquarters ship and later as an Australian Navy hospital ship.

The Norab has 800 cubic feet of quick-freeze space and 2,000 cubic feet of refrigerated storage. The ammonia refrigeration system can get the quick-freeze chamber down to -30° F., and can maintain the storage chamber at -18° F.

The lobster pots used by the vessel are beehive in shape. They have bottom frames of metal rod and walls of alternating rod and cane. The bottom frames are attached to the rest of the trap by split links, so that they can easily be taken off, making it possible to carry the pots nested one on top of the other. The Norab can easily carry 50 pots and could take 100 pots. Half the bottom frame is hinged so that the catch can fall out, like fish out of the cod end of a net, making it unnecessary to remove the lobsters by hand.

The spiny lobsters will be landed on the bridge deck and then travel down a chute to the main deck where they will be detailed and deveined, placed in wire baskets, and transferred to the grading room. This room has walls, as well as sinks, of stainless steel and running water. The quick-freezing room and the refrigerated storage are below the grading room.



Spiny Lobster (Panulirus penicillatus)

The Norab carries a crew of 10, excluding the master. Six of them (other than the four officers) have accommodations forward. The galley, which looks like a modern domestic kitchen, has a slow combustion stove.

The Norab is powered by a 300 hp. Diesel engine and has two auxiliary Diesel engines of 30 hp. and 25 hp., respectively. It is equipped with an echo-sounder, with a range of 60 fathoms, and radio; and its fuel tanks allow a range of 5,000 miles. The cruising speed is 11 knots.

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SHORE-BASED WHALING SEASON--CORRECTION: In the September 1954 issue of Commercial Fisheries Review, page 55, an error was made in referring to "operations at the Norwegian-financed station on the north coast of Australia." The reference is to a whaling company operating at Point Cloates, Western Australia. This company is not Norwegian-financed, but is an Australian public company financed by Australian capital. The company operated during the 1954 season on a quota of 600 humpback whales. Killing commenced on June 14, and the quota was reached on September 15, 1954.

Brazil

TERRITORIAL WATERS: The limit of Brazilian territorial waters is considered to be three marine miles from the coast, although the Brazilian Fish and Wildlife Service states that 12 miles is recognized as the limit for certain types of coastal fishing, including shrimping, according to a U. S. Embassy dispatch (September 22) from Rio de Janeiro.

There would be no objections to United States commercial fishing vessels operating outside the 12-mile area according to official sources. In time of emergency or storm conditions, port facilities would be readily available. It was stated also that fish or shrimp catches in danger of spoiling because of some unforeseen emergency could be disposed of through Brazilian markets at established prices.

In order for United States vessels to fish within the 12-mile area, the operating company would have to be registered in the same manner as any other foreign company operating in Brazil. The Department of Commerce publication, Establishing a Business in Brazil, could be consulted in the event registry is deemed necessary. A number of foreign-flag vessels are now operating out of Rio de Janeiro and other Brazilian ports. They are supplying the domestic market, however. Exports of shrimp and fish from Brazil are negligible.

Crews of vessels having "touch and trade" papers may go ashore without individual visas for Brazil. It is understood that on making port the ship's papers are visaed and the ship's owners then stand responsible for the activities of crew members while ashore.

Canada

FISHERMEN'S INDEMNITY FUND COMPLETES FIRST YEAR: More than 2,200 fishermen took advantage of the Fishermen's Indemnity Fund during its first year of operation. These fishermen are now protected from financial loss incurred through marine hazards. The fund, administered by the Canadian Department of Fisheries, went into effect through regulation by Order-in-Council on July 7, 1953, in the Maritime provinces and on July 13, 1953, in Quebec, Newfoundland, and British Columbia. Under the provisions of the fund, 18 fishermen who suffered total loss of their fishing vessels from storm, fire, or other causes were paid C$22,412. Partial damage claims amounting to C$770 were paid to seven other fishermen, states the August Trade News, a Canadian Department of Fisheries magazine.

Vessels Insured: Under the Vessel Regulations, provision is made for the protection of fishing vessels having an appraised value of from C$250 to C$7,500 from total loss or serious partial damage from fire, storm, or other marine hazards. Indemnities of 60 percent of the appraised value are paid in the event of total loss and 85 percent of partial damage costs in excess of a deductible 30 percent of the appraised value. The annual premium is one percent of the appraised value. The Fund also provides protection to lobster fishermen against loss of lobster traps under separate regulations.

The primary purpose of the Fund was to make it possible for fishermen on a voluntary basis to obtain a reasonable degree of protection against loss or serious damage to their fishing vessels at a reasonable cost. For the most part, fishermen owning vessels of the size and value covered by the Fund had not previously been able to secure insurance at rates they felt they could afford. A staff of field appraisers was assigned to the Fund and given suitable training in the problems of vessel valuation as well as a thorough knowledge of the regulations.

Table 1 - Certificates of Eligibility Issued for Vessel Insurance, July 6, 1953, to July 9, 1954

Province	No. of Vessels	Value	
		Total	Average
		C$	C$
Newfoundland....	1,155	954,572	826
Nova Scotia	382	713,989	1,869
New Brunswick..	73	136,504	1,870
P. E. I.	75	75,215	1,003
Quebec.....	219	189,934	867
B. C.....	332	1,256,103	3,783
Total.....	2,236	3,326,617	1,488

Considering the fact that fishermen generally, in this class, had for the most part not previously been accustomed to insuring their vessels, the response in the first year appears to be ample evidence of the value placed on the Fund by fishermen.

The average size and value of fishing boats covered in the first year varied considerably between provinces, reflecting the different types of fishery in the various areas. The more valuable vessels of British Columbia are generally gill netters or trollers; while the vessels of the Atlantic Coast area are largely open boats as used in the lobster and hand-line or trap-cod fisheries. More than 75 percent of the boats covered had been

acquired by their present owners during the past 5 years and over 95 percent during the last 10 years. All vessels accepted under the plan were subject to a careful appraisal and check for seaworthiness. Only vessels equipped with mechanical propulsion were accepted.

The main benefit of the plan arises in the event of total loss where 60 percent of the appraised value is paid to the fisherman. In view of the low premium, the benefit in the event of partial damage had to be limited and was subject to a deductible feature of 30 percent of the appraised value of the vessel. Thus, in most cases of damage the cost of repairs is below the deductible amount. However, in cases of more serious damage, payment of 85 percent of the cost in excess of the 30 percent deductible will approach the 60 percent paid in the event of total loss. It is possible that as experience is gained and loss ratios have been more firmly established the benefits may be raised to a higher level. Claims arising out of the first year of operation are shown in table 2.

While many of the Certificates of Eligibility (policies) still have several months to run and since the experience of any one year may be exceptional, the results to date, while not conclusive, have been quite satisfactory.

Table 2 - Claims Paid on Vessels, July 6, 1953, to July 9, 1954

Province	Total Losses		Partial Losses		Total	
	No.	Amt. C$	No.	Amt. C$	No.	Amt. C$
Newfoundland	7	10,440	2	405	9	10,845
Nova Scotia. . .	5	5,430	-	-	5	5,430
New Brunswick	1	2,400	-	-	1	2,400
P. E. I.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Quebec.	4	2,694	5	365	9	3,059
B. C.	1	1,449	-	-	1	1,449
Total.	18	22,413	7	770	25	23,183

Lobster Traps Insured: The insuring of lobster traps having individual values ranging from C$2 to over C$7 and a normal life of some 4 to 5 years has proven a much more complicated problem than that of fishing vessels. Annual losses of this type of equipment vary greatly with the incidence of storms and also vary greatly as between fishing areas. Even in the same fishing community, the rate of loss may be quite different because of the depth of water fished, the degree of natural protection, etc. Therefore, it has been difficult without detailed statistical information to establish premium rates and indemnities which properly reflect the degree of fish being taken. It has been a complicated problem to devise a type of coverage which would be attractive enough to induce the majority of fishermen to voluntarily come under the plan and, at the same time, be reasonably sound from an actuarial point of view. The widespread nature of the lobster fishery and the large number of individual fishing units lead to many administrative problems. However, the annual loss to fishermen arising out of storm damage and the serious effect of such losses in particular areas where storms strike during the fishing season created a strong demand for protection through self-insurance.

In July 1953 the first regulations provided for a single type of coverage for lobster traps without regard for value and established the indemnity rate at C$1.50 per trap for losses in excess of 25 percent of the number fished for a premium of $7\frac{1}{2}$ Canadian cents per trap in areas with a short fishing season and 15 Canadian cents per trap in areas with a long fishing season. It became evident that this single type of coverage would have to be amended to provide differentials for the various sizes and values of traps, as well as to take greater account of the different lengths of fishing season. Under the amendments for the long (182 days) winter season, 4 categories of trap values were established with premium rates ranging from $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 25 Canadian cents per trap according to value and the indemnities were set at from C$1.25 to C$4.00 per trap lost in excess of 25 percent of total traps fished. For the areas with the shorter fishing season (not more than 90 days) the rates vary from 5 to 15 Canadian cents per trap and the indemnities from 90 Canadian cents to C$3.00 with the deductible set at 20 percent of the total traps covered.

While the response in certain fishing areas was substantial in relation to the total number of fishermen and lobster traps, the over-all response in the first year represents only about 6 percent of the total traps in use in the 5 provinces. The main concern of the fishermen interviewed was the apparent high deductible on losses. These deductibles of 20 and 25 percent were based on the reported average life of lobster traps and as the plan was designed only to give protection against abnormal losses from storms, the rates were not considered to be too high. However, the effect of this concern on the part of many fishermen was the high concentration of response in those areas where the traps are most vulnerable to severe storms and where local conditions offer the least protection. Consequently, the loss ratio in 1953/54 has been high. The winter and spring season, while not characterized by excessively severe and widespread storms, was one in which a series of less severe storms occurred frequently throughout the season.

Table 3 - Certificates of Eligibility Issued for Lobster Trap Insurance, July 1953 to July 1954

Province	Fishermen	Traps
	Number	Number
Newfoundland . .	391	40,368
Nova Scotia	301	69,608
New Brunswick .	6	1,094
P. E. I.	49	16,859
Quebec	151	34,794
Total	898	162,723

Further amendments to the regulations will be necessary as experience is gained. An interesting development arising out of the study of losses of wooden lobster traps has been the experiments carried out by the Atlantic Biological Station of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, St. Andrews, N. B., on the possibilities of developing a satisfactory and reasonably inexpensive metal trap. While results to date are not conclusive, there is reason to hope that the heavy annual losses of traps can be very substantially reduced.

Table 4 - Loss Experience for Insured Lobster Traps, August 16, 1954

Province	Traps Covered	Indemnities Paid
	No.	C$
Newfoundland .	40,368	5,850.25
Nova Scotia . . .	69,608	42,966.25
New Brunswick	1,094	363.75
P. E. I.	16,859	2,613.50
Quebec	34,794	None
Total	162,723	51,793.75

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GRAY COD TAGGING EXPERIMENTS: The gray cod (Gadus macrocephalus) has presented a problem in tagging, not only because it cannot carry a rigid button-type tag satisfactorily, but also because it is usually brought to the surface with the body cavity distended with air. It is therefore usually incapable of returning to the bottom when it is released, points out the August 1954 Trade News, a Canadian Department of Fisheries publication.

In January 1952 a preliminary tagging experiment on gray cod was conducted by the Pacific Biological Station of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada at Nanoose Bay on the east coast of Vancouver Island, using a clincher-type (strap) tag attached on the gill cover. Air was released from the body of each tagged fish by puncturing the body wall with a knife. Three of the ten fish tagged were recaptured in the Nanoose Bay area in February 1952, thus indicating that at least some of the fish are capable of surviving the puncturing operation. However, all three recoveries were made by filleters in the processing plants, which suggested that gill-cover tags may escape the notice of fishermen. In view of this possible deficiency, it was considered necessary to find another type of tag which could be detected before the catches are landed in port. This is important because large amounts of gray cod are now being shipped in load lots to United States markets or being converted into mink feed.

In February 1954 the gill-cover tag was discarded in favor of one attached through the back with nylon thread between the first and second dorsal fins. By means of a hypodermic needle a length of monofilament nylon (15-pound test) was threaded through the back of the fish and then tied. Identifying discs (commonly used in flatfish tagging) were then tied with the remaining free ends of the nylon. The tag thus remained free of the fish with little or no interference to the fins. In all, 256 fish were tagged by this method in the Satellite Channel Area.

By the middle of April 1954, 20 of the tags (7.8 percent) had been recovered. All but one were retrieved in the area of tagging. The one exception showed a migration of 25 miles across the Strait of Georgia to the mouth of the Fraser River. The condition of all fish recaptured was noted and in only two instances were there appearances of body wounds from the puncturing. It is significant to note that in contrast to the results of the Nanoose Bay experiment, 17 of the recoveries were made by the fishermen themselves while only 3 were made on the shore filleting tables.

Two recoveries have been made from a similar, though smaller, tagging in the Deep Bay region where 16 tagged fish were liberated.

Further experiments are planned to study the suitability of heavier weights of nylon and to assess more fully the effects of puncturing before large-scale tagging is undertaken.

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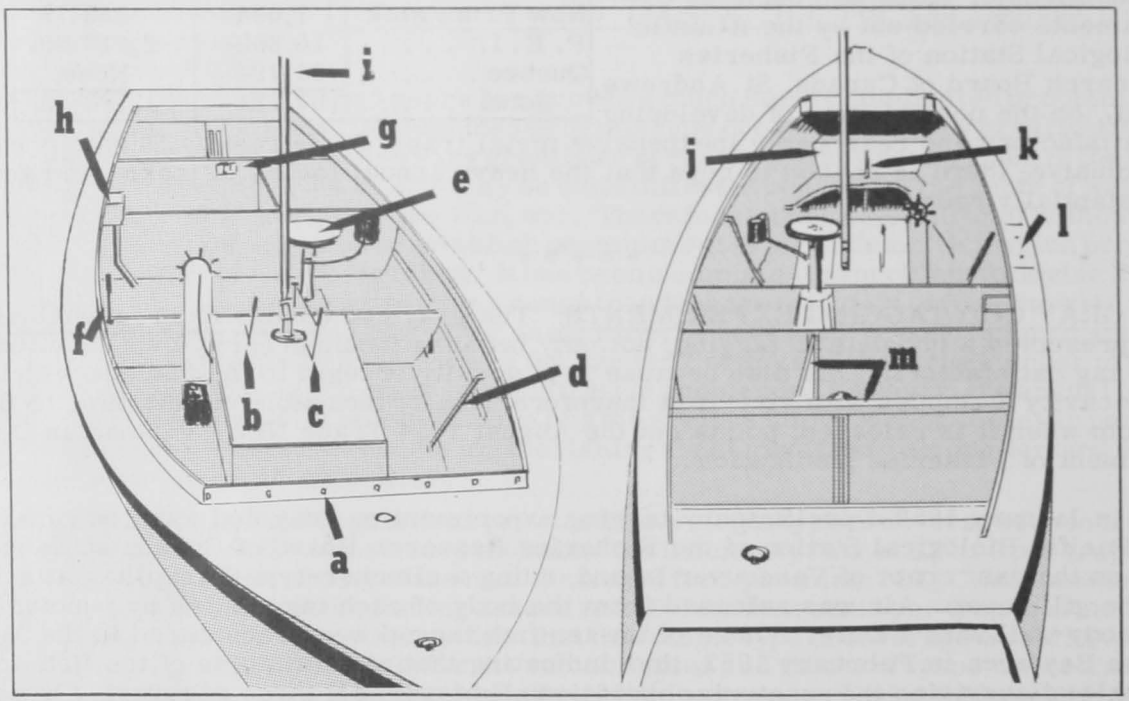
POWERED DORIES TESTED IN LONG-LINE FISHING: An experiment, which may revolutionize long-line fishing for cod and increase the income of dory-schooner



Fore view of the little long-liner:
(a) hooks to fasten portable canvas spray hood;
(b) engine clutch lever;
(c) gurdy clutch lever with extension link;
(d) overboard discharge from the engine;
(e) trawl hauling gurdy;
(f) gurdy clutch lever extension;
(g) partner for small riding sail mast;
(h) bilge pump;
(i) engine exhaust extension.

Aft view:
(j) 20-gallon fuel tank;
(k) forward lifting eye which together with after one is used in lifting and lowering boat to and from deck of banker;
(l) rail chock which accommodates the rail roller used in conjunction with gurdy when hauling trawl;
(m) fish pens and space for stowing trawl.

fishermen, began in October when the Riverport, N. S., schooner Jean Frances sailed from that port. Aboard the Jean Frances were four powered dories instead of the usual 12 dories rowed by two-man crews, reports an October 8 release from the Canadian Department of Fisheries. The powered dories will continue to use only a two-man crew but they are expected to be able to as much as triple the catch taken by present long-lining methods.

The experiment, which may also prolong the life of the fast-fading fishing schooner traditional in Nova Scotia's fishing industry, is the culmination of research carried on for the past year by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, the Federal Department of Fisheries, and the Fisheries Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Trade and Industry.

The Jean Frances was scheduled to make a regular five-week salt-fish trip to the deep waters off the east coast of Newfoundland where large cod are abundant. Here the powered dory with its power take off to a "gurdy" or line-hauler (like a small capstan) is expected to make fishing possible at depths greater than with the usual dory where lines are hauled in by hand. While not designed primarily to save the well-known schooner, the powered dory may well prolong the life of the 12 schooners now actively fishing--25 years ago there were 120 of these vessels.

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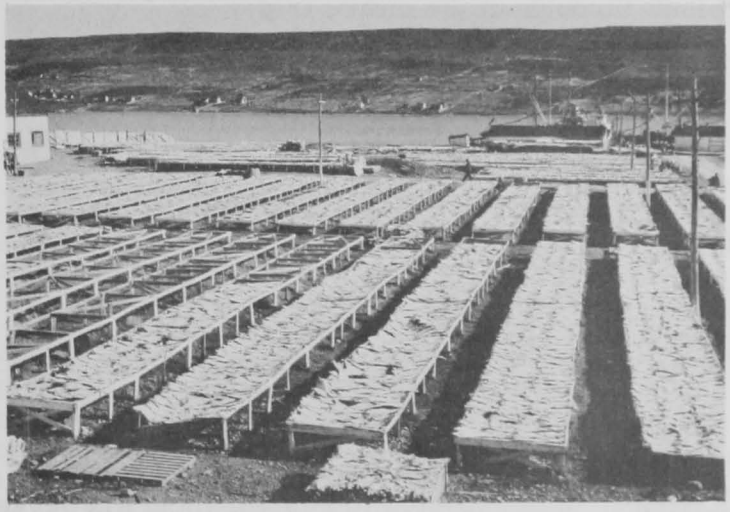
NEWFOUNDLAND'S 1953 SALT FISH SETTLEMENT PRICES: Representatives of Newfoundland's salt-fish trade and fishermen's organizations and Federal Government officials met in St. John's in September to review the arrangement for sharing market returns from salted fish. The final realizations from the sale of 1953 fish were available, and it was agreed that no further payment to fishermen was forthcoming over and above the interim payments announced in May. These payments brought the final minimum settlement prices to fishermen to C$9.85 per quintal (112 pounds) for small Madeira and genuine Labrador, C$6.35 for ordinary cure, C$7.60 for semi-dry, and C$3.75 for salt-bulk, all basis St. John's. The payment of these minimum prices, or their equivalent at other points, to fishermen completes the 1953 arrangement.



Cod drying in the sun on "flakes," at Harbor Grace, Newfoundland.

For the 1954 production it was agreed at the May meetings to recommend an advance payment to fishermen of not less than C$10.00 per quintal for small Madeira, basis export points. This figure was to be reviewed as the marketing season progressed. The Committee has now carried out this review and has examined the information which is available. One of the important factors that had to be considered is that the curing season this year is 4 to 6 weeks later than usual. Also, conditions in some markets were difficult to assess at that time. The Committee decided, therefore, that the decisions made in May should continue until more is known about production and market conditions. These were to be reviewed again late in October or early November, including the position of genuine Labrador.

During the meeting it was agreed that the arrangement for sharing the market returns would be revised somewhat for the 1954 production.

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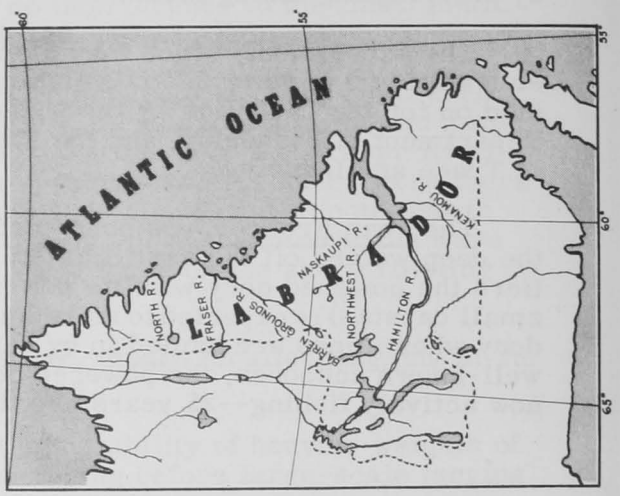
RIVER FISHERY SURVEY OF LABRADOR COAST: A survey of rivers on the Labrador coast north of Hamilton Inlet frequented by anadromous fish (salmon and sea trout) was to be carried out from the vessel Eastern Explorer. This was actually the second stage of a complete survey of all such rivers in Labrador, the first part of which was undertaken in 1953 when rivers from Forteau to Hamilton Inlet were surveyed, according to the August Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries.



This year the party was to concentrate principally on the area north of Hamilton Inlet, and travel as far north, accomplishing as much work as the weather and seasonal conditions permitted.

Generally, the survey party was to collect data on the salmon fishery, survey rivers, chart obstructions, examine spawning beds, and in brief gather all possible information necessary for the determination of a protection and conservation program. To facilitate this work they were amply equipped with boats, motors, nets, biological apparatus, etc., while the vessel had a sufficient supply of fuel to last throughout the entire trip.

Ceylon

JAPANESE FISHING EXPERTS IN CEYLON: Eight Japanese fishing experts visited Ceylon to explore the possibilities of introducing Japanese fishing methods to Ceylon, a recent consular dispatch from Colombo reports. The team, which includes experts in the various fields of the industry, will carry out surveys both on land and at sea. It is expected the group will concentrate mainly on tuna which are believed to abound in Ceylon waters. The group was expected to remain about six weeks and then submit a preliminary report.

Ceylon hand-powered outrigged canoes used for fishing. The Food and Agriculture Organization is trying to demonstrate to the fishermen in Ceylon that they will catch more fish and earn more money by using outboard motors on their outrigged canoes.

A Japanese research fisheries trawler with a crew of 25 arrived in Colombo Harbor recently. The trawler was to assist the Japanese experts in training Ceylonese fishermen in Japanese methods of trawler fishing. The vessel has been lent by Japan to Ceylon for a period of six weeks.

Cuba

TECHNICAL COMMISSION ON SUBMARINE SHELF: A Technical Commission for the Study of Problems of the Submarine Platform has been created by Cuba (Decree No. 952 of April 30, 1954, published in the May 15, 1954, issue of the Official Gazette). The newly-created Commission is attached to the Ministry of State.

The preamble of the Decree points out that:

Whereas: Some American nations have promulgated legislation and issued declarations tending to recover rights to their continental and insular shelves and also on their adjacent seas.

Whereas: It is an evident fact that technical progress has provided the means for carrying out the exploration and exploitation by coastal State of the soil and subsoil of their territorial waters and the right to protect, conserve and develop such wealth as well as to take advantage of the same being, in consequence, recognized by International Law.

Whereas: It is of outstanding interest to our country to carry on the juridical, economic and scientific studies with regard to the territorial waters, the submarine shelf and the waters that cover the same, especially from the point of view of the nature and extent of the rights which international rules confer on coastal States to protect, conserve and develop the existing wealth or that which may be discovered in those zones, as well as to assure its use to its own benefit, to that of the Continent and of the international community.

Whereas: It is essential also to carry on a careful study regarding the nature of the rights and the demarcation of the limits to which the claims regarding the insular shelf and the seas adjacent to Cuba may be extended.

Whereas: In fulfilment of Resolution XIX approved by the Second Meeting of the Inter-American Council of Jurists held at Buenos Aires on April 20 to May 9, 1953, the Inter-American Juridical Committee of Rio de Janeiro has begun to study the "Regimen of the Territorial Seas and Related Questions."

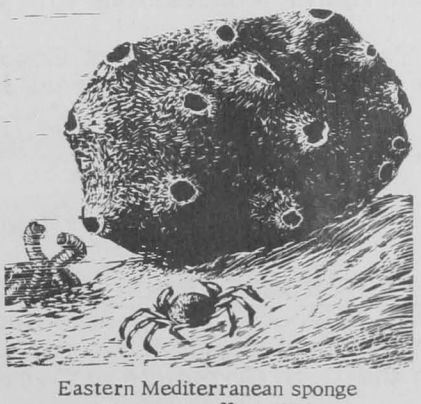
Whereas: The Tenth International American Conference in accordance with Resolution 84 resolved that the Council of the Organization of American States should convene for the year 1955 a specialized conference for the purpose of studying together the different aspects of the juridical and economic regimen of the submarine shelf, of the waters of the sea and its natural wealth in the light of present scientific knowledge.

Whereas: It is convenient for a technical organization, to be established for that purpose, to study carefully the questions mentioned in the preceding clauses and in due course prepare the geological, geographical, juridical and economic reports that they may be charged with, regarding our country's submarine shelf. . . .

Egypt

SPONGE FISHERY IN EGYPTIAN WATERS, 1950-54: From 1939 through 1946 there was no sponge fishing in the Egyptian Mediterranean waters due to military regulations during and after World War II, an October 6 U. S. consular dispatch from Alexandria points out.

There has never been an Egyptian sponge fishing industry. For more than a century the Egyptian sponge beds have been exploited by fishermen from the Greek Islands. Since World War II the Egyptian Institute of Hydrobiology and Fisheries at Alexandria has endeavored to awaken an interest among Egyptians to form fleets of sponge-fishing craft and to train the required fishermen. To this end a five-year concession was granted to the Sponge Fishing Company of Egypt in 1947.



Eastern Mediterranean sponge
(Euspongia officinalis)

The Egyptian company then negotiated with the Greek sponge fishermen. The company was able to come to terms with the Greeks in only 3 of the 5 years and, consequently, sustained a loss of over £E100,000 (US$286,200) during the 5-year concession.

For the 1952 fishing season, the Egyptian Government granted the consession to an ex-senator who had no organization or previous experience in the industry. For these reasons and the fact that fishing began late in the season, he reportedly lost £E22,000 (US$63,000).

No concession was granted for the 1953 season.

In 1954 licenses were granted to a Greek subject who has been engaged in the business since 1922, is thoroughly conversant with the industry, and appears to have the confidence of the Greek authorities and fishermen.

One of the perennial difficult points to resolve between the Egyptians and Greeks has been the question of the sale of the annual catch after the end of the season which terminates on October 31. The Egyptians would prefer that the catch be sold in Egypt so as to obtain the foreign exchange. The Greeks, however, have invariably insisted upon sale in Greece and have always won their point.

Table 1 - Egyptian Sponge Harvest, 1952 and 1950

Species	1952	1950
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Turkey Cup	8,170	9,091
Honeycomb	20,829	16,630
Zimocca (Zimouha)	5,062	2,260
Other	1,359	264
Total	35,420	28,245

Table 1 shows the sponge harvest for 1950 and 1952 (there was no fishing during 1951 and 1953) as reported by the Institute of Hydrobiology and Fisheries.

For the 1954 sponge fishing season the Egyptian Government granted 16 permits to Greek fishermen, through the Greek citizen who is supervising fishing operations and is in constant touch with the fishermen.

Two permits were granted for "naked boats." Each permit of this type entitles the holder to operate eight small boats from which naked divers plunge for the sponges. They are termed "the poor Greek sponge fishermen" and all told 135 persons have been operating the "naked boats" this year. They departed with their sponges for Kalymnes in the Dodecanese on September 30, 1954. One of the permit holders fished a total of 1,500 okes (4,125 pounds) and the other's catch amounted to 1,000 okes (2,750 pounds).

The other 14 permits were for "scaphanders," sailing vessels of six to seven tons; one permit per vessel. Six to eight divers operate from each of these boats and the fleet is usually accompanied by a 50-ton "storage boat." These men wear divers' suits. The captains of these 14 vessels continued fishing until the end of October.

It is understood that the Greeks paid a fee of £E 1,000 (US$2,862) per permit for the fishing concessions this year.

There are no stocks of Egyptian sponges on hand in Egypt and it is said that none are available in the Greek market.

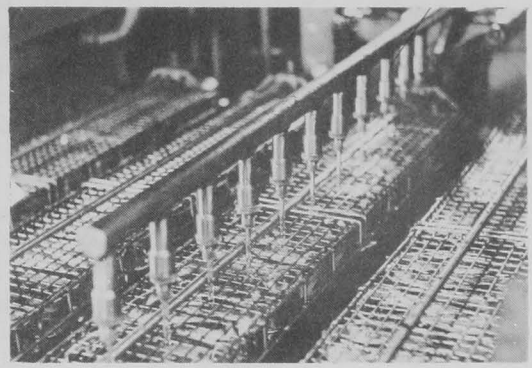
French Morocco

FISHERIES TRENDS, 1953: Canned Fish: Export statistics indicate that the French Moroccan fish processing industry, packing sardines and tuna principally, enjoyed increasing foreign markets during 1953, according to an April 16 dispatch from the U. S. Consulate at Casablanca.

Exports of canned sardines totaled 42,527 metric tons. Canned sardine production during 1953 was reported at 1.4 million cases, as compared with 1.7 million cases in 1952. Exports were larger than in 1952 because accumulated stocks of canned fish on hand early in the year, numbering several hundred thousand cases,

were reported entirely moved out during the year. The three leading export destinations for canned sardines were France, 16,212 metric tons; Indochina, 6,004 tons; and the United States, 3,369 tons.

A scene in one of Morocco's fish canneries.



Adding oil to cans filled with sardines in a Moroccan fish cannery.

Canned tuna exports totaled 1,928 tons--France received the bulk. For the first time since 1951 the United States obtained canned tuna (5.8 metric tons) from French Morocco.

Fish Meal and Oil: The 1953 catch of fish was somewhat above that of 1952 but increased quantities went into fish meal and oil because of curtailed canning operations in November 1953. Fish meal exports totaled 16,434 metric tons in 1953, up from 13,439 tons in 1952. The principal destination was the United States, followed by Western Germany and France. United States imports of French Moroccan fish meal totaled 5,841 tons, a decline from 1952, but the United States retained its position as the leading customer for fish meal. Fish oil exports amounted to 3,581 tons, principally destined for France and Western Germany. To find a market for its fish oil, the industry is attempting to introduce this product in a mixture of edible oils used in the fish-canning process in amounts up to 20 percent of the volume of the mixture.

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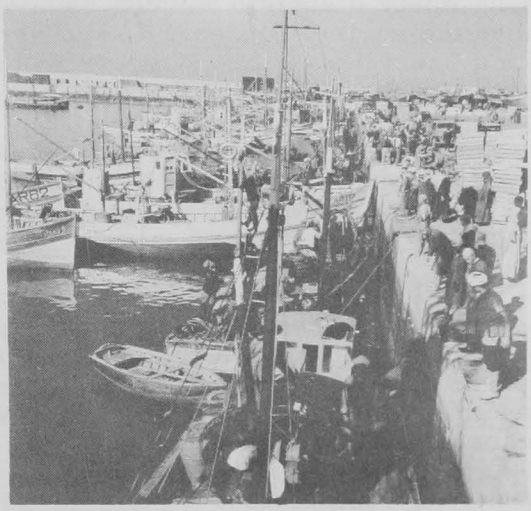
SARDINE INDUSTRY TRENDS: The French Moroccan sardine fishing season, which opened in May 1954, was poor during the early weeks as fish were rather

Brailing sardines aboard a Moroccan fishing vessel.



Sardine fishing fleet in the port of Agadir.

scarce and of mediocre quality. The activity of fish-canning plants at Safi did not become intense until after the middle of June, a United States consular dispatch (September 1) from Casablanca reports.

The prices of French Moroccan sardines on world markets are not expected to change. Ex-vessel prices have been fixed approximately at the levels of the past year; that is, at most ports roughly 23 francs per kilo (about US$66 per metric ton) for canning fish and from 6 to 10 francs per kilo (US$17-29 per ton) for fish destined for the byproducts industries.

German Federal Republic

THE OCEAN-FISHING FLEET: In mid-August West Germany's ocean-fishing fleet numbered 212 modern large trawlers, measuring 103,021 gross tons, with a capacity of 913,600 boxes of fresh ocean fish or 45,680 metric tons (100.7 million pounds), according to Fiskets Gang (Sept. 30, 1954), a Norwegian fishery trade paper. Of these trawlers, 184 were coal-fired, 11 used fuel oil, and 17 had Diesel motors of which 4 were Diesel electric. Of the total, 111 used Bremerhaven as a home port (6 new trawlers will soon be added), 50 were berthed in Cuxhaven, 35 in Hamburg-Altoona, and 16 in Kiel.

The average age of the fleet is now only 8.9 years, which places it among the foremost of new ocean fishery fleets. Since 1950 the number of vessels has been decreasing but the gross tonnage has been increasing and the average age--19 years--has been cut in half.

Greenland

SHRIMP FISHERY: Greenland shrimp form an interesting chapter of Denmark's fisheries, according to an excerpt of an article on the subject published in the Copenhagen newspaper Sosialdemokraten and reprinted in Fiskets Gang (Sept. 16, 1954), a Norwegian fishery trade publication. The Greenland shrimp are like the Greenland cod--they come and they go. Shrimp appeared first in offshore waters near Holsteinborg where a shrimp canning plant was established. It ceased operations in 1949 when the shrimp suddenly disappeared. Biologists measured the water temperature and found it was 3.2° F. below freezing. Now it is hoped that the shrimp will return since the water is warmer.

In the summer of 1948 the two largest shrimp grounds known at the time were found in Disco Bay off Christianshaab and Jakobshavn--each was 10 nautical miles long and 5 nautical miles wide with a smooth bottom. Shrimp were taken with trawls at a depth of 200 fathoms in water that was between 3° and 4° F. above freezing.

Five cutters fish from Christianshaab, the location of the most important shrimp plant. In this little city of 300 people there are 80 women who work at the plant in three shifts during the season from June 1 to September 15. After that date the sun disappears and water pipes freeze. Last year it was 10° F. on September 20. Up to 8,000 cans of shrimp are packed in a day. Wages are from 12 to 20 Danish kroner (US$1.75-2.90) per day. The best workers pick 50 to 60 kilos (110 to 132 pounds) of shrimp per day. Since 1951 all Greenland shrimp have been packed in cans and Americans, who earlier thought Greenland shrimp were too small, have now begun to be greatly interested in them. Last year in Christianshaab they canned 310,000 cans of shrimp and quick-froze 6 metric tons of shrimp in addition.

Iceland

PRICE FOR OCEAN PERCH FILLETS SHIPPED TO RUSSIA: The price for future deliveries of frozen ocean perch fillets sold to Russia by Iceland will be Ł135 per metric ton (about 17 U.S. cents per pound), according to an item in Fiskets Gang (Sept. 9, 1954), a Norwegian trade paper. The new price represents an increase of Ł7 per ton (0.4 U.S. cent per pound) over that in the earlier agreement. Originally it was planned to deliver 35,000 tons, but now the quantity has been set at 25,000 tons since it is doubtful that Iceland can deliver more before the first of 1955.

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EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS, 1953: Icelandic exports of fishery products in 1953 totaled 162,778 metric tons, valued at 669 million kroner (US$41 million),

Icelandic Exports of Fishery Products, 1952-53

Product	1953			1952		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	1,000 kr.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 kr.	1,000 US$
Fresh Fish	8,216	8,835	541	29,000	34,266	2,103
Frozen Fish:						
Herring	5,406	10,224	626	1,863	3,618	222
Other	36,972	210,254	12,883	28,588	171,814	10,528
Total	42,378	220,478	13,509	30,451	175,432	10,750
Salted Fish:						
Herring, cured	18,650	73,121	4,480	11,867	44,946	2,759
Other, uncured	29,396	100,270	6,144	41,799	153,455	9,420
" dried	8,480	61,589	3,774	5,309	33,847	2,078
" "wings"	1,396	3,265	200	2,611	7,589	466
Stockfish	6,500	64,708	3,965	2,356	19,649	1,206
Total	64,422	302,953	18,563	63,942	259,486	15,929
Fish Meal:						
Herring	3,512	8,763	537	4,500	9,729	596
Ocean perch	2,423	5,386	330	2,875	5,748	352
Other	16,261	35,691	2,187	15,872	32,713	2,004
Total	22,196	49,840	3,054	23,247	48,190	2,952
Fish Oil:						
Herring	4,543	12,293	753	1,588	6,808	417
Ocean perch	1,694	4,972	305	1,322	4,029	247
Cod liver	11,954	46,592	2,855	9,064	33,321	2,042
Total	18,191	63,857	3,913	11,974	44,158	2,706
Canned Fish	107	941	58	183	1,317	81
Miscellaneous:						
Roe, frozen	533	2,349	144	601	2,568	157
" salted	1,761	6,525	400	1,411	4,946	304
" salted for bait	832	1,201	74	1,296	2,058	126
Total	3,126	10,075	618	3,308	9,572	587
Whale Products:						
Meat, frozen	1,437	4,758	292	1,488	5,574	342
Meal	593	1,133	69	393	733	45
Oil	2,112	6,001	368	914	2,883	177
Total	4,142	11,892	729	2,795	9,190	564
Grand Total	162,778	668,871	40,985	164,900	581,611	35,672

according to the National Bank of Iceland's January 1954 Statistical Bulletin (see table). This is a 1-percent decrease in volume but a 15-percent increase in value as compared with 1952 exports of 164,900 metric tons, valued at 582 million kroner (US$36 million). Exports of frozen fish in 1953 increased 39 percent in volume and

26 percent in value as compared with 1952; while fish-oil exports were up 52 percent and 45 percent, respectively, from a year earlier. Salted fish, whale products, and miscellaneous fishery products exports were all slightly higher than in 1952. Exports of fresh fish, fish meal, and canned fish were all lower than a year earlier.

Indonesia

INLAND FISH PRODUCTION INCREASES: According to figures compiled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Indonesia's inland fish production in the past few years has shown a continuous increase from 156,000 metric tons in 1949 to 241,500 in 1953. Before World War II production averaged 147,000 tons a year. In spite of the increase, fish production still cannot meet domestic needs and further attempts to increase production are imperative, the September 4 Canadian Foreign Trade periodical points out.

Israel

FISHERIES TRENDS, APRIL-JUNE 1954: The Israeli pond-fish catch reached the customary seasonal peak in June after distribution by ration had been abolished in May, a September 14 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tel Aviv reports. Sales were above the 1953 volume, but the pond breeders complained that the ceiling prices, which have not been increased since 1952, are no longer adequate.

The sea fisheries industry continued complaining about low demand and competition from Government imports of frozen fillets and fish. They asked that sales of frozen fish be limited to the light production season. The Government has assured the industry of its continued sympathetic attitude by allocating credits from the Development Budget, and authorizing the purchase of eight fishing vessels by the reparations mission in Germany.

Japan

TUNA EXPEDITION IN INDIAN OCEAN: The Japanese tuna fishing vessel Asama Maru left Tobata on October 8 with three smaller craft to fish for tuna in the vicinity of the Andaman Islands in the Indian Ocean. A goal of 1,120,000 pounds of tuna is hoped for, states a U. S. Embassy dispatch (October 13) from Tokyo.

The Asama Maru, the largest and one of the newest Japanese trawlers, had returned to Tokyo on September 26 with 274 metric tons of salted cod obtained in Bering Sea waters.

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WHALING FLEETS OPERATE IN BERING SEA: There are two Japanese whaling fleets operating in the newly-developed fishing ground in the Bering Sea at present, an October 12 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Kobe states. Much interest is shown in this ground because of its nearness to Japan and because of the freedom from international competition. One vessel captain reported that the area was teeming with whales and said that the over-all catch was much larger than anticipated.

The refrigerated vessel Sagami Maru entered Kobe on September 17 carrying 450 metric tons of fresh Bering Sea whale meat. While Antarctic whale meat is often landed here and has long been popular among consumers, this was the first shipment of Arctic whale meat since World War II.

A check at the Kobe Central Fish Market revealed that this meat, which has been distributed throughout southern Honshu, was selling well and was favored over the frozen Antarctic product. The wholesale price was listed at ¥350 per kan (11.7 U.S. cents per pound) which is a little higher than the price quoted for Antarctic meat.

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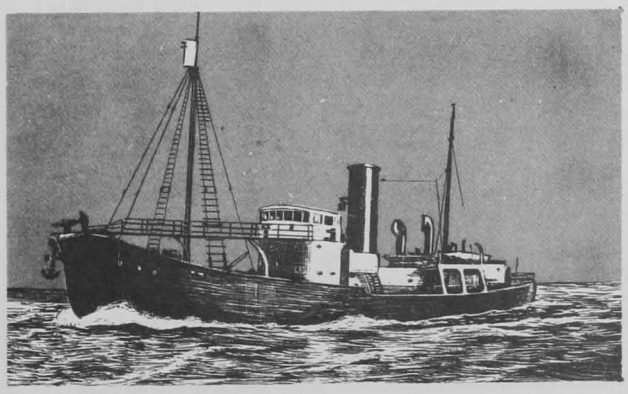
NORTH PACIFIC WHALING OPERATIONS, 1954: The Japanese North Pacific mothership-type whaling season came to an end on September 22 when the Baikal Maru discontinued operations. Two fleets were sent out this year, jointly operated by two companies, points out an October 8 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo. The following table lists the catch and production of each fleet as compared with the 1953 and 1952 expeditions.

Japanese North Pacific Mothership-Type Whaling Operations, 1954

Season	1954		1953	1952
Mothership	Baikal Maru	Kinjo Maru	Baikal Maru	Kinjo Maru
Catcher vessels	5	5	4	4
Whaling began	May 16	May 15	May 20	July 19
Whaling closed	Sept. 22	Aug. 16	Oct. 3	Sept. 19
Total whaling season	130 days	94 days	137 days	63 days
Whale catch:	(Number)			
Blue	28	177	90	55
Fin	961	355	470	213
Humpback	16	120	42	37
Sei	82	47	98	14
Blue-whale units	528.6	350.3	358.1	178.6
Sperm whales	-	490	-	-
Products:	(Metric Tons)			
Baleen whales:				
Oil	7,804	5,683	4,951	2,313
Edible meat	12,105.7	6,060.9	7,635	4,160
Other products	494.5	62.1	15	20
Sperm whales:	(Metric Tons)			
Oil	-	4,060	-	
Other products	-	290	-	



A typical Japanese whale catcher or killer boat (385 gross metric tons) used in Antarctic whaling.

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ANTARCTIC 1955 WHALING EXPEDITIONS: Three Japanese whaling expeditions were due to sail to the Antarctic in November to participate in whale hunting during the 1955 season. Two expeditions will be sent out by one company and one by another firm. The former has converted its 11,051-ton oil tanker Kinjo Maru into a factoryship for the purpose, according to a U. S. Embassy dispatch (October 11) from Tokyo.

It was later reported that the latter will convert its fleet oil tanker, Matsushima Maru, into a whaling factoryship, to be completed in time to participate

Factoryship	Nisshin Maru	Kinjo Maru	Tonan Maru
Number of catcher boats	9	7	10
Catch Target:			
Sperm whales--number	250	150	150
Blue whales--number	150	100	100
Fin whales--number	1,400	800	1,400
Blue-whale units	850	500	800
Sperm oil--metric tons	2,375	1,425	1,350
Baleen oil--metric tons	17,850	10,500	16,000
Frozen meat--metric tons	10,950	6,500	10,950
Salted meat--metric tons	3,333	1,925	850
Ventral grooves--metric tons	-	-	700
Liver oil--tons	25	15	23
Total value	¥2.7 billion (US$748 million)	¥1.6 billion (US$443 million)	¥2.4 billion (US$665 million)

in the North Pacific whaling next summer and presumably be the mothership of a fleet for Antarctic whaling in the 1955/56 season.

The make-up and target goals of the three fleets are indicated in the table.

* * * * *

WHALE OIL SALE TO NETHERLANDS: Three Japanese fishery companies are about to close a sale of 7,300 tons of whale oil at an ostensible price of £74 (US$207) per ton, cost and freight, delivered in Rotterdam. The actual return will be 4,000 tons of sugar, subject to government approval, a U. S. Embassy dispatch (October 1) from Tokyo reports. The purchaser is understood to be a United States grain company.

Malaya

HIGHER IMPORT DUTIES ON FISH AND MARINE OILS: Increased import duties were imposed by the Federation of Malaya Government effective September 22, 1954. These changes affect the whole of the Federation, with the exception of the Island of Penang, but do not affect the Colony of Singapore, a United States consular dispatch (September 24) from Kuala Lumpur points out.

The only fishery product listed was oils from fish and marine animals, the duties for which are now listed as 25 percent ad valorem.

Netherlands

CANNED FISH AND SHELLFISH TRADE, JANUARY-JULY 1954 AND YEARS 1953 AND 1952: Trade in canned mackerel, sardines, and herring between the United States and the Netherlands during the past 2½ years has been relatively minor. The Dutch imported only canned salmon from the United States (table 1). In addition, there were only small quantities of Dutch herring sent to the United States (table 2). It is understood, however, that the Dutch are planning a new export of pickled herring (not canned) to the United States, a September 21 U. S. Embassy dispatch from the Hague points out.

Table 1 - Netherlands Imports of Canned Fish, January-July 1954 and Years 1953 and 1952
(Total Imports and Imports from U.S.)

Item	Jan.-July 1954			12 Months 1953			12 Months 1952		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$
Sardines:									
Total Imports	247	653	172	466	1,232	324	202	608	160
Imports from U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pilchards:									
Total Imports	37	73	19	74	140	37	14	26	7
Imports from U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmon:									
Total Imports	350	1,074	283	868	2,656	699	454	1,465	386
Imports from U.S.	69	279	73	161	619	163	23	110	29
Herring:									
Total Imports	95	133	48	186	299	79	83	178	47
Imports from U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous:									
Total Imports	13	37	10	78	148	39	44	139	37
Imports from U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 2 - Netherlands Exports of Canned Fish, January-July 1954 and Years 1953 and 1952
(Total Exports and Exports to U.S.)

Item	Jan.-July 1954			12 Months 1953			12 Months 1952		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$
Sardines:									
Total Exports	16	25	7	20	37	10	1,102	1,598	422
Exports to U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pilchards:									
Total Exports	-	-	-	-	-	-	256	351	92
Exports to U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salmon:									
Total Exports	20	232	61	74	608	160	57	513	135
Exports to U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Herring:									
Total Exports	8,052	10,516	2,767	13,091	17,778	4,678	8,334	11,819	3,114
Exports to U.S.	404	489	129	447	540	142	14	27	7
Miscellaneous:									
Total Exports	1,424	1,949	513	2,389	3,130	824	2,189	3,154	830
Exports to U.S.	-	-	-	140	168	44	3	13	3

Table 3 - Netherlands Exports of Canned Fish and Shellfish, 1951-53

Year	Fish			Shellfish			Total		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$	Metric Tons	1,000 f.	1,000 US$
1953	1/15,599	1/21,588	5,699	936	1,118	295	16,535	22,706	5,994
1952	1/11,952	1/17,455	4,608	742	948	250	12,694	18,403	4,858
1951	7,444	11,180	2,952	700	886	234	8,144	12,066	3,186

1/ Slightly higher than amounts shown in Table 2 since data were obtained from two different sources.

The year 1953 appears to have been a very favorable one for the Netherlands fish canning industry. Compared with the years 1951 and 1952, exports went up considerably both in quantity and value (table 3). With 1952 already a peak year for this still young industry, 1953 exports were even higher. Exports took place to 53 different countries.

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TRAWLERS TO FISH FOR OCEAN PERCH BETWEEN ICELAND AND GREENLAND: Dutch fishing trawlers have commenced fishing on the rich grounds between Iceland and Greenland, according to the May World Fish Trade, a Danish trade magazine.

The most important fish expected to be caught is the ocean perch (redfish) which has formerly been comparatively unknown in Holland. About a 50 percent loss in filleting is expected, but now that the cutting has become centralized the offal can go direct to the fish-meal factories. Transportation of the fillets becomes relatively

cheap, and it is maintained that the introduction of these fillets forms the first step towards making fish not a luxury but an inexpensive and common food article.

The Dutch Government is expected to favor support of such distant fishing, and confident of such support becoming a reality the first boats left Ymuiden for these waters. It was believed that more of the largest trawlers will follow.

The Dutch are attaching considerable importance to the start of this fishing, which has hitherto been carried out by fishermen of other nationalities. It is pointed out that the Government will give a guarantee to the owners of the vessels intending to work in these waters, which is proof that it has taken notice of the part of the Tinbergen report regarding the rebuilding and rationalizing of the fishing industry. Among other matters, this report stresses the necessity of expanding the areas in which the Dutch fishermen were operating.

Further, if Holland is to gain a permanent position in the fishing off Iceland it is not sufficient that the Government give support and guarantees but that also the fishermen must be given time to gain knowledge and experience and that training new fishermen will be necessary. And lastly the owners must have help to build new and efficient vessels and equip them adequately--possibly vessels which can freeze and process the fish at sea and thus remain longer on the fishing grounds than formerly.

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SHRIMP FISHERY: Although the Netherlands shrimp fishery, from a purely economic standpoint, may form only a relatively small section in the Netherlands fisheries, in the whole picture of the fishing industry it cannot be disregarded, states the July Holland Fish Trade, a Netherlands trade magazine.

For numerous small fishing ports both along the Wadden-See and on the Zeeland and South Holland isles, with a very ancient history, the shrimp fishery forms an important source of income to both the fishery and processing industries.

In the Netherlands more than 400 craft operate in the shrimp fishery. This fleet of cutters and small craft fish for shrimp all along the Netherlands coast, but usually concentrate in the Wadden Sea and in the South Holland and Zeeland estuaries.

In the Zeeland waters, where the nature of the bottom is hard, the shrimp are caught by means of a drag net equipped with trawl boards. In the Wadden Sea, where the soft bottom does not permit of the use of trawl boards, other methods are applied.

The catch is sorted out by means of large strainers. The shrimp destined for human consumption are separated from the smaller ones. The latter are sent to the drying houses ashore in order to be made into a particularly valuable poultry food. The shrimp destined for human consumption are cleaned and then cooked in large boilers.

All this takes place immediately after the catch as been hauled, for the shrimp have to be cooked on board the vessels. The shrimp which are sold in the home market are slightly salted. The so-called export shrimp, which have to come up to higher requirements as regards keeping quality, are consequently salted more strongly.

The shrimp fishermen usually make day trips. Early in the morning they leave the ports and return in the evening. After being landed, the shrimp are once more sorted and tested for quality. Next they are sold by auction. Refrigerator cars transport the shrimp to foreign markets. Early the next day shrimp from the Netherlands are sold on the Paris market.

The total annual production varies from 31 to 37 million pounds. About 10 million pounds are destined for human consumption. A large part of this quantity is exported both in a peeled and unpeeled condition.

Shrimp from the Netherlands are in brisk demand in Belguim, France, and England.

Export of shrimp is mainly confined to the neighboring countries. In many countries the larger-sized shrimp, the so-called prawn, is better known.

In the Netherlands restaurants shrimp are served either cold or hot in dishes like shrimp salad, stuffed tomatoes, jellied shrimp, shrimp cocktail, shrimp ragout, shrimp ragout au gratin, and shrimp croquettes.

After being boiled for about four minutes, the shrimp are dried on large perforated sheets, under which hot air is blown by means of an exhauster. This process takes about 8 hours.

Dried shrimp are chiefly exported to West Germany, where the value of this many-sided poultry food is duly appreciated. In that country it has also been ascertained that the addition of shrimp to the vegetable diet stimulates egg production.

Finally it can be stated that in the new fleet plan of the Netherlands Government due attention is being paid to the shrimp fishery. Of the 400 units now in commission, 100 will be replaced by better equipped and more modern craft.

The Government in no way underestimates the importance of the shrimp fishery as part of the Netherlands fishing industry. Moreover, in view of the great activity of the shrimp fishermen and the progress of the exporters, future developments are very promising.

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TEN-YEAR FISHERY PLAN PROPOSED: The Netherlands Government recently introduced a bill in the House of Commons embodying a ten-year plan for the fisheries, the July 1954 issue of the Holland Fish Trade announced.

Since the end of World War II the Netherlands fishery has been waiting for a gesture on the part of the Government manifesting a more real interest than shown in the past years. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food at a luncheon offered by the Association of the Netherlands Fisheries on April 1, 1954, announced the main points of the ten-year plan which is intended to serve as a stimulus for the Netherlands fisheries.

Nets being pulled aboard a Netherlands fishing vessel.

The ten-year plan provides for financial facilities to enable the shipowners to renew and modernize the fleet and thus to lay a foundation for the carrying out of the distant-water fishery in waters off Iceland and in the Barents Sea. With regard to the fishing in more remote waters, the plan provides for the building of ten new trawlers. Five of them are intended to

replace less remunerative or obsolete ships, and the other five are to enlarge the trawler fleet so as to render possible a larger supply of round fish. For the building of the ten new trawlers about fls. 12.5 million (US$3.3 million) will be needed.

In addition to this, the plan provides for the construction of 40 large modern luggers involving an estimated outlay of fls. 20 million (US$5.3 million). These new luggers, destined both for trawl and drift-net fishing, will be added to the fleet in replacement of 40 obsolete specific drift-net luggers. So the plan envisages not so much an enlargement as a modernization of the fleet. It is clear, however, that the new units, equipped with the latest devices, will result in a considerable rise in the landings of fish, which will in the coming years necessitate greater commercial efforts of the Netherlands fishing industry. With regard to the cutter fleet 20 large and 40 small cutters will replace old vessels, and the shrimp fleet as well is to come in for important modernization.

The total amount to be invested in the fisheries in the coming years, according to the new Government plan, is estimated at fls. 43.9 million (US$11.6 million).

Attention is also being paid to the fish-canning industry. Loans will be made available so that the factories can be equipped with the most modern machinery.

All in all the plan offers possibilities for a further development of the Netherlands fisheries in the next years.

Norway

FREEZING FATTY FISH IN ALGINATE JELLY: Further details on the freezing of fish in alginate jelly (reported in Commercial Fisheries Review, September 1954, p. 63) were made available in a September 20 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Oslo. The following article appeared in Issue No. 2, 1953, of the magazine Norwegian Trade Post:

FREEZING OF FISH IN ALGINATE JELLY

This is the first authoritative report of an entirely new method for the deep freezing of fish in an alginate jelly. The report has been issued by the laboratory of A/S Protan, Drammen.

It has been known for some time that very interesting developments were taking place in the freezing of fish in an alginate jelly, and that much was expected of this method. As requested by those engaged in this work, we have refrained from any mention of it until conclusive evidence of the value of the method has been gained. After two years of extensive tests, a report has now been issued, confirming all and more than all of the high expectations.

The report runs as follows:

Many new applications have in later years been found for alginates, the remarkably versatile starch-like substances extracted from sea weed. They are used as thickeners, stabilizers, jelling and film-forming agents in the manufacture of foods, cosmetics, drugs, textiles, paints, etc.

The most recent application of alginate or sodium alginate is the deep freezing of fish rich in fats, such as herring, mackerel, salmon, etc.

It is the firm A/S Protan of Drammen in close cooperation with Ø. Helgerud Dr. Eng., of Kvaerner Brug, Oslo, which after two years of experimental work have developed and launched the new method. The method consists in principle of embedding the fish in a special solution of alginates, which after a certain time form a jelly. The whole is then deep-frozen.

By freezing fish in this manner, the following advantages are gained:

1. Owing to the strong water-retaining properties of the alginate, dessication of the jelly cannot take place.
2. The jelly forming a continuous layer round the fish will protect it against oxidation from the air and prevent rancidity during storage.
3. Certain salts have been added to the alginate

jelly, lowering its freezing point to a temperature 3°-4° C. below that of the fish. When the fish embedded in the alginate jelly is taken out of the low temperature storage for use, the jelly will return to its normal consistency while the fish remains frozen and can easily be separated from each other without danger of damage, as is the case with fish which will freeze directly to each other.

4. The concentration of added salts is uniform all through the jelly, and there is no tendency on the part of the salts to migrate or concentrate as is the case when, for example, a brine is frozen. There is thus no danger of strong concentrations of salts near the surface of the fish.
5. The solution is relatively viscous and jellifies within 10-20 minutes according to wish, avoiding mess with water and permitting the use of the simplest and most economical packing materials.
6. The jelly gives a better direct contact with the plates in the freezer, reducing the freezing time considerably.

The first experiments on a large scale were carried out at a modern freezing plant in Kristiansund N during the herring fisheries in 1952. Both whole herring and herring fillets were frozen in alginate jelly. The results of these experiments were more than promising. After a storage period of 12 months at -25° C. (-13° F.), samples taken of the herring frozen in jelly were comparable with fresh fish in taste and appearance, while herring frozen at the same time in the usual manner without jelly were discolored and rancid, and should have been rejected.

The Industrilaboratoriet (Laboratory for Industry) at Kristiansund which has controlled and tested the samples regularly, states in a letter dated February 12, 1953: "There can be no doubt that the alginate jelly protects the herring and increases its keeping properties."

In the freezing of herring for bait, the lower melting point of the alginate jelly is of great importance. The herring can easily be separated from each other even at temperatures from -6° to -8° C. (17.6° - 21.2°F.). Even in a frozen state the jelly acts as an excellent agent between the layers of herring.

Samples of mackerel and fillets of mackerel frozen in alginate jelly during the summer of 1952 and tested after nine months of storage gave the same results as for frozen herring. The mackerel looked just like fresh fish with full and sleek skin while mackerel frozen without jelly had shrunk and acquired a golden-yellow color. The jelly-mackerel had a fine and clean taste without dryness, while the mackerel frozen in the usual way tasted very dry, due to the dessication during storage.

During the herring fisheries in 1953, herring and herring fillets were frozen on a full commercial scale.

For this use, the machine department of the A/S Protan designed a dosage apparatus and mixer which has proved completely satisfactory, having a capacity well above the requirements of the largest plate-freezing plants.

This new method of preserving herring and other fat fish in alginate jelly may become of very great importance to the Norwegian fishing industry. As the fish can be stored for far longer periods, it can also be marketed outside the normal seasons in a condition comparable with fresh fish.

As regards export, the advantages are particularly great.

A more recent article in Issue No. 1, 1954, of the Norwegian Trade Post states:

In one of our recent issues we described at some length a new method for freezing of fish in an alginate jelly, developed by the firm A/S Protan of Drammen. This method has been the object of vivid interest and the firm has given the following report on recent developments:

Although this deep-freezing method is still in the experimental stage, it will not be long before it is used on a larger commercial scale.

After the very successful trial freezing of 2,200 pounds of herring during the 1952 season, 60 tons of herring were frozen in 1953. The reports received from those who have compared herring frozen in alginate with herring frozen in the ordinary way are extremely satisfying.

Fillets of herring as well as bait-fish herring have been deep frozen with alginate, and the reports received on the use of alginate-frozen bait-fish herring in the fisheries off Greenland confirm the belief that this method is the ideal preservation for bait fish.

Deep freezing of herring snacks in alginate jelly has also been tried experimentally. Even after long storage in a frozen state, these snacks lose nothing of their original taste and flavor, and and there is every likelihood that industrial production will soon commence.

A/S Protan of Drammen, which has successfully produced and exported alginic acid for several years, is about to build a new plant near Mandal at the extreme south of Norway, and another plant in North Norway. The two new plants together will increase production of alginic acid from about 200 metric tons to 2,000 metric tons annually by this firm. This is of considerable interest to North Norway since a minimum of 200-300 men (the figure could apparently go as high as 1,000) will obtain employment collecting sea weed for the North Norway plant. The collecting

season runs from April through July, and dovetails with the winter fishing season, beginning when the fishing ends.

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FILLET PRODUCTION IN 1954 SAME AS IN 1953: The total Norwegian production of frozen fillets during the first six months of 1954 remained at about the same level as in 1953, industry reports indicate. Raw material continues to be the major factor in the production as the freezing plants at present are operating far below capacity, a U. S. Embassy dispatch (October 1) from Oslo points out.

Cod production dropped considerably this year--the yield was only about 40 percent of a normal year. Deliveries of wolffish (ocean catfish) to the freezing plants this year are also below those of last year. However, other varieties are being filleted in increasing quantities, offsetting the decreases in cod and wolffish deliveries. Norwegian exports of frozen fish fillets January-May 1954 (5,751 metric tons) were more than double the 1953 exports during the same period (2,235 tons), thus reducing the stocks considerably. Exports to the United States tripled--from 672 tons in January-May 1953 to 1,878 tons in January-May 1954. Exports to Israel jumped from 325 tons for the first five months of 1953 to 1,842 tons for the same period in 1954. Other important receivers of frozen fillets from Norway were Switzerland, Western Germany, and Austria.

The total catch of the Lofoten and Finnmark cod fisheries in 1954 amounted to 81,182 metric tons as compared with 114,033 tons in 1953, 160,999 tons in 1952, and 170,814 tons in 1951. Of the 1954 catch, 32,000 tons was salted (for production of klipfish), 35,000 tons dried as stockfish, and 14,000 tons was used for canning and filleting.

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PURSE-SEINE EXPERIMENTS IN LOFOTEN COD FISHERIES: Early in October the national committee of the Federation of Norwegian Fishermen (Norsk Fiskarlag) pledged that organization's continued support for the extensive experimental purse seining that has become part of the northern Lofoten cod fisheries. At the same time it was suggested that purse seines be banned in a limited area in order to gain the necessary data for a comparison with jiggers and hand lines. The decision was made despite pressure from fishermen's associations in North Norway to ban purse seines altogether, on the ground that they were responsible for the failure of the Lofoten fisheries in recent years.

According to the Director of the Norwegian Ocean Research Institute in Bergen, the cause of the poor cod catches must be sought in the Barents Sea of the Arctic Ocean, which are the feeding grounds of the young cod, and not in the Lofoten waters. Interviewed by the Oslo newspaper Aftenposten the Director emphasized that all available records show there have been alternating good and bad seasons ever since the Lofoten fisheries began.

Usually, he observed the fishermen land from one-fourth to one-third of all the mature cod that every year come to spawn off the North Norway islands. But, in his opinion, purse seines will never prove so efficient that they can seriously deplete the cod stock.

During the first few years of the experimental fishing, he declared, there was a fairly big stock of good age groups, principally the large one born in 1937. Norwegian researchers knew, however, that the supply was bound to diminish, because the 1938-39 and 1940 groups were the smallest on record since the investigations were begun in 1913. The larger landings made during the 1950 season were due to the improved spawning conditions that prevailed in 1941 and 1942, he explained.

Large-scale experiments, such as those being made with purse seines, provide science with a wealth of valuable information, he emphasized. Thus, at an early stage it was ascertained that purse-seine cod were much bigger than those caught with other types of gear. Subsequently, it was established that a major part of the mature cod landed with purse seines could not be caught with hand line, jigger, or net, because they were too big. In other words, there was a sizable reserve of fish that could not escape its fate after the fishermen started to use purse seines. In that sense, the researcher added, it may be said that the stock of mature cod in Lofoten waters has been substantially reduced.

Asked about assertions that the fish are scared away by purse seines, the Director said annual taggings have established that the cod are not fleeing from Lofoten. As to contentions that purse seines might disturb the fish during their spawning, he observed that this process takes place at night when there is no purse seining. He conceded, however, that the cod might become conditioned to avoid being caught in purse seines.

The Director admitted that researchers do not know exactly what has caused the fluctuations in the Lofoten fisheries in recent years. However, the answer to that riddle, he said, must be sought in the Barents Sea, whence the mature cod start on their annual spawning mission. There are strong indications, he noted, that the cod may have changed their route from the Barents Sea to the Lofoten banks. Thus, in the past few seasons large shoals have appeared off West Spitsbergen. Also, the influx of cod at Bear Island, which previously took place in two distinct phases, October-November and April-May, has shown a tendency to merge into one. This may well have affected the size of the Lofoten stock, he said.

The Norwegian researcher went on to point out that, with the exception of the Soviet Union, all nations whose draggers are fishing in the Barents Sea, have agreed to increase the mesh size to 110 mm. (4.3 inches). But, tests have conclusively shown that in order to afford effective protection for the young cod the mesh must be 150 mm. (5.9 inches) wide.

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BRISLING SARDINE PACK OFF IN 1954: Only 403,000 cases of Norwegian brisling sardines were packed in the 1954 season as compared with 483,000 cases during the 1953 season, an October 7 release by the Norwegian Information Service reports.

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FIRM TO BUY ICELANDIC HERRING FACTORYSHIP: A Norwegian company has purchased the 7,000-ton floating herring oil factoryship Heringur from Iceland, according to Fiskaren, a Norwegian trade paper. The vessel has a capacity of 720 to 900 metric tons of herring per 24 hours. A September 10 United States Embassy despatch from Oslo reported that the vessel, which was first purchased by Iceland with ECA funds, appeared several months ago to be destined for sale to the U.S.S.R. which was then willing to pay about £125,000 (US$350,000) for the vessel, considerably more than the Norwegian company had offered. The sale to Russia was never consumated and now that the Norwegian Government has made available the necessary foreign exchange (£100,000, equivalent to US$280,000), the factoryship has been transferred to Norwegian registry and will be used as a herring meal and oil factoryship at Aalesund during the forthcoming winter herring fishery.

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HADDOCK TO BRITAIN: A total of 100 metric tons of frozen haddock, caught by Norwegian fishermen off west Greenland, was en route to Britain aboard the M.S. Polaris, according to an October 21 bulletin from the Norwegian Information Service.

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SALTED COD PRODUCTION BY VESSELS FISHING OFF GREENLAND: The 60 Norwegian fishing vessels which participated in the 1954 West Greenland fisheries produced about 16,000 metric tons of salted cod, according to an October 7 release by the Norwegian Information Service.

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WHALE OIL PRODUCTION AT SHORE STATIONS, 1954: The four Norwegian shore stations have produced 7,883 barrels of whale oil and 4,355 barrels of sperm oil, as of August 28, 1954. As the season terminates on November 1, production from the 1954 summer season is forecast at about 8,500 barrels of whale oil and 4,800 barrels of sperm oil, according to information obtained from the Ministry of Industries. Total 1953 production was 9,921 barrels of whale oil and 2,343 barrels of sperm oil, a U. S. Embassy dispatch (September 22) from Oslo states.

Peru

U. S. CONGRESSMAN COMMENTS ON 200-MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS ZONE DURING VISIT: U. S. Congressman Bonner of North Carolina, member of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, while visiting Peru late in September commented on the controversial 200-mile territorial waters zone recently proclaimed by Peru, according to an October 8 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Lima. Bonner stated in an interview to La Prensa on September 29:

"Actually the so-called 'Truman Declaration' has been misinterpreted insofar as it is regarded as having asserted the 'control and jurisdiction' of the United States over maritime wealth to an extension of 200 miles off its coasts, and as having coupled this declaration with a proclamation of 'sovereignty' over so-called 'territorial waters' of equal extent."

Commenting further, he added that the Truman Declaration only established the jurisdiction of the United States over the subsoil petroleum deposits under the sea to a depth of 200 meters, but has no relation to the rights of navigation or of fisheries.

"The most appropriate manner in which to solve the problems resulting from the indiscriminate hunting and fishing which is being carried out in the seas," Bonner said, "is through conferences and agreements which will establish international standards and sanctions in the interest of the conservation of fishing resources and will recognize the rights of nations to the marine resources which they have traditionally exploited and which are necessary to their economies. This has been the policy of the United States in the case of the Newfoundland fisheries, situated between Canada and the United States."

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FISHERIES JEOPARDIZED BY ECUADORAN 200-MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS ZONE: Recent Ecuadoran steps to enforce its 200-mile territorial waters claim have closed some of the most important fishing banks, especially for tuna and tunalike fish, to Peruvian fishing companies which have heretofore obtained a very large portion of their catch in those waters. Although Peru is a party to the 1952 tripartite declaration of Santiago in which Chile, Ecuador, and Peru claim jurisdic-

tion over 200 miles of marginal seas, the Peruvian fishing industry until very recently was favored by this claim.

Unless this problem is soon solved, Peruvian production of export-type fish, an important source of foreign exchange, may be expected to decline sharply. Peruvian fishing companies are at a disadvantage because the Peruvian Government recognizes the 200-mile claim while other governments which have vessels fishing off Peru do not, an October 11 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Lima points out.

Portugal

SHORTAGE OF ANCHOVIES: The Portuguese fish canning industry has been suffering from a shortage of raw anchovies necessary for the production of canned anchovy fillets and anchovy-stuffed olives, states a United States Embassy dispatch (October 7) from Lisbon.

The anchovy catch by Portuguese fishermen for the first half of 1954 was only 6 percent of the catch during the same period in 1953. The industry will undergo heavy losses unless about 3,000 metric tons can be imported during the next six months. One difficulty is the high Portuguese import duty of about 11 cents per kilogram (5 U. S. cents per pound) on raw anchovies. There is considerable pressure from local canners to permit temporary imports, possibly through their "gremio," or guild, of sufficient duty-free tonnage to avert a minor crisis in the industry.

Trinidad

TERRITORIAL WATERS: The territorial waters of the Colony of Trinidad and Tabago extend to the customary three-mile limit off its coasts, states an October 15 U. S. consular dispatch from Port of Spain. A line has been drawn roughly down the center of the Gulf of Paria by Trinidad and Venezuela to divide it up for oil exploration purposes, but no attempt has been made so far by either party similarly to divide up the entire Gulf between them for fishing purposes.

The Colony of Trinidad Government will not permit any non-Trinidadian fishing operation to be based in Trinidad for trolling in the Gulf of Paria, but such an operation could be based there for fishing in other waters. There is always the political possibility that local fishing interests might take countermeasures if a non-Trinidadian fishing operation based in Trinidad and/or fishing within the Colony's territorial waters were on a scale that caused local fishermen to fear serious interference with or depletion of their fisheries. A non-Trinidadian operation not based in Trinidad, however, could presumably fish off the island's north coast subject to no Trinidadian controls, provided that the operation stayed outside of the Colony's territorial waters.

Union of South Africa

FISHERY TRENDS, SEPTEMBER 1954: The South African pilchard and jack mackerel season has been closed for almost six weeks because of a fish scarcity, and was due to reopen on November 1 for one month. Except for the United States, the export demand for canned fish is strong. Although the demand in all markets

for canned and frozen rock lobster is good, production during August was not good, and virtually no stocks existed, an October 8 U. S. consular dispatch from Cape Town reports.

An additional fish processing plant on the west coast of South Africa was recently completed. This plant is equipped with the most modern equipment available. The opening of this plant increases to 14 the number of pilchard and jack mackerel processing plants in South Africa. There are six more at Walvis Bay in South-West Africa.

United Kingdom

HALIBUT FROZEN AT SEA: The Norwegian refrigerated fishing vessel Norfrost, chartered by British interests, on September 30 unloaded 150 metric tons of halibut quick-frozen at sea. The Norfrost had been fishing in the region of the Davis Strait off Greenland and freezing the catch as it came aboard, reports the October 1 issue of The Fishing News, a British fishery periodical. The total catch, intended for the luxury trade (hotels and liners), is valued between £40,000-50,000 (US$112,000-140,000) at wholesale.

The vessel was away for four months and traveled 8,500 miles. The crew consisted of 19 specially-selected and experienced halibut fishermen. The line-caught fish ranged from 7 to 70 pounds each. Before freezing the fish were gutted, beheaded, and cleaned.

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HERRING INDUSTRY BOARD TO TEST ELECTRICAL FISHING: The British Herring Industry Board is to carry out experimental work this season on electric field fishing; the published data on this subject encouraged a decision to experiment. Tank tests were first undertaken at the Marine Laboratory of the Scottish Home Department to study effect of pulses on fish and to determine suitable duration and spacing of pulses. From this initial work the Board proceeded to the construction of equipment for suitable switching and timing on a pilot commercial scale.

The Silver Scout was equipped with power-supply equipment driven from the main engines and made initial tests at sea. Here again the immediate result was to determine further difficulties including design and production of electronic control equipment and the manufacture of electrodes suitable for immersion in the sea.

The difficulty of triggering the ignition appears to have been overcome as a result of this work; the difficulty of securing satisfactory extinction of the ignition at operational voltages has not yet been solved, the Board reports. It is thought that power losses in the discharge circuit may be reduced but it does not seem that they can be easily eliminated.

These results have encouraged the preparation of further equipment which will be tested in the laboratory and at sea, and this phase of the program will continue, reports the September 1954 South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review.

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GLASS FIBER MOLDED BOATS: A British firm has successfully developed a boat built of a material which is impervious to worms and rot. The new material used for a seagoing launch is polyester resin and fiber glass. The cost of the hull

is approximately the same as that of one made of wood, but outstanding advantages of hulls built of the new material (glass fibers impregnated with plastic resin) are: low initial cost; a big saving in maintenance cost, particularly in warm or tropical waters; great strength; durability; rapid and inexpensive repair. The hulls made of these impregnated plastic resin glass fibers (a) do not have to be repainted (color is impregnated right through the hull at the time when it is built); (b) cannot be attacked by marine insects; (c) cannot suffer from dry rot; (d) cannot leak or open up at the seams because there are none; (e) cannot rust or corrode like steel or aluminum; (f) do not grow heavier by absorbing water. Once a mold has been made, a 26-foot hull can be completed in seven working days and a 45-foot hull in 15 working days, an August 25 United States Embassy dispatch from London reports.

An article in the August 20 issue of The Fishing News, a British fishery periodical, points out that "It may be possible to evolve standard-size lifeboats. Tests along these lines are already being made and negotiations are on foot with Lloyd's regarding tests, etc. As experience grows it may be possible to evolve standard types of inshore vessels which will possibly reduce the cost of replacements to the fishing industry. The matter of abrasion on sandy beaches has yet to be tested."

INSTITUTIONAL MARKET EXPANDING

"Half a million 'retailers' of food, serving 65 million meals a day, furnish a market that canners should no longer treat as an 'orphan,'" the Florida Canners Association was told at a recent meeting. According to the director of marketing of the Can Manufacturer's Institute, "people spend $1 out of every $4 paid for food in 'eating out.'" This "institutional" market has tripled since 1940 and now represents a $15 billion annual food business through restaurants, hotels, cafeterias, soda fountains, hospitals, and other mass-feeding establishments.

Can manufacturers are working on a program to help canners promote sales with those who serve away from home consumers.

According to a study made among 180 wholesale grocers selling to institutions, the following answers were given to the question, "which do you find more profitable, selling to retail stores or institutions?" Fifty percent stated institutions; 24 percent, retail stores; 18 percent, no difference; 5 percent, don't know; and 3 percent did not answer.

The reasons offered by those who preferred institutional selling were: better mark-up, not as competitive, larger dollar volume, heavier buying, fewer deliveries, and direct sales.

Although these statements were made at a canners' meeting, it is apparent that just about the same can be said for distributors of most foods, including fishery products. The fish-cookery demonstration program carried on by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the past several years has proved conclusively that fishery products, canned and frozen, can gain a greater market in the institutional field.