



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Commerce

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

STATISTICS OF LOW-VALUE IMPORT SHIPMENTS NOW HANDLED DIFFERENTLY: Effective with the January 1954 statistics on imports reported by the Bureau of Census, all items for immediate consumption valued at \$250 or less, reported on formal or on informal entries, will be included in the statistics on the basis of estimates based on a 5-percent probability sample of the items. These estimates will be presented in the monthly statistics in terms of commodity subgroups and in terms of countries, Customs Districts, and economic classes.

No information on imports reported on informal entries has been included in statistics for months prior to January 1954. Until September 7, 1953, the value limit for informal entries was \$100. Under the Customs Simplification Act, effective on that date, the value limit for informal entries was raised to \$250. Because of this, the continued omission of informal entries was considered undesirable due to the impact of the omission of an increased number of items on the statistics for individual commodities. The exclusion of informal entries continued through December 1953, even though the change in the value limit occurred in September. For certain fishery products, principally those imported from neighboring countries, it is believed that informal entry items frequently accounted for a larger volume than reported through formal entry. On most fishery products, however, the quantity imported on informal entry was believed to be relatively small. The increase in the valuation from \$100 to \$250 would tend to increase the quantity of items so reported and previously omitted from statistics.

For formal entries, fully compiled information for items of all values was included in statistics through the month of June 1953. Effective in July 1953, full compilation was discontinued for items valued at less than \$100 reported on formal immediate consumption entries, and information for these items was included in statistics on the basis of estimates made from a 10-percent random sample. This procedure was in effect for the months of July-December 1953.

The commodity by country detail in the annual statistics for 1953 will include formal-entry immediate-consumption items under \$100 for only the months of January-June. The annual statistics will include no information on imports covered by informal entries. Presumably the value of informal entries excluded each month is greater during the last four months of the year than during the

first eight months due to the increase in the value limit for informal entries.

In any use which is made of the calendar year import statistics in comparing 1953 with other years in terms of over-all totals, country totals, district totals, and economic class totals, it is believed that the difference in the handling of low-value shipments will have very little significance because of the small proportion of these totals which is made up of low-value shipments. For year-to-year use of the statistics on a commodity basis, the following comparison of handling of low-value shipments should be considered:

1952: Includes all formal entry items in full 7-digit commodity code by country detail, with no exclusion on a value basis and no sampling or estimating. Excludes all informal entry items. The value limit for informal entries was \$100.

1953: Includes all formal entry items in full detail for first six months. Includes an estimate, only, for under \$100 immediate consumption items on formal entries for last 6 months (under commodity numbers 9999100 and 9999200). The estimate is not distributed by commodity and is based on a 10-percent sample. Excludes all informal entry items. Up to September 7, 1953, the value limit for informal entries was \$100. After that date, the limit was \$250.

1954: Includes both formal and informal entry items, but informal entry items and formal entry immediate consumption items valued \$250 or less are included in the form of estimates based on a 5-percent sample. Estimates are distributed to show some 4-digit commodity detail, and possibly some breakdown of these figures by country.

A detailed statement on the methods and procedures of handling of low-value import shipments in 1953, and effective with January 1954 import statistics, is published in the February 1954 issue of Foreign Trade Statistics Notes, published by the Foreign Trade Division, Bureau of Census, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C.



Department of Health,
Education, and Welfare

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

POLICY ON LABELING OF IMPORTED CRAB MEAT: The statement of general policy or interpretation on labeling imported crab meat issued by the Food and Drug Administration was published in April 8 Federal Register:

PART 3—STATEMENTS OF GENERAL POLICY OR INTERPRETATION

LABELING OF IMPORTED CRABMEAT

Pursuant to section 3 of the Administrative Procedure Act (60 Stat. 237, 238), the following statement of policy is issued:

§ 334 *Labeling of imported crabmeat.* (a) For many years canned crabmeat has been imported into the United States from Japan. Such imports have consisted primarily of a product designated as "King crabmeat." There have been limited importations of articles designated as "Korean crabmeat" and "Snow crabmeat." Two closely allied species of crab have been packed in Japan for export to the United States, under the designation "King crabmeat." These species are *Paralithodes camtschatica* (taraba-gani) and *Paralithodes platypus* (abura-gani). A third species of crab, *Paralithodes brevipes*, has been labeled either as "King crabmeat" or "Hanasaki crabmeat" when intended for export to the United States. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare considers the term "King crabmeat" as an acceptable common name for the product prepared from any one of the three species *Paralithodes camtschatica*, *Paralithodes platypus*, and *Paralithodes brevipes*. The Department also considers the name "Hanasaki crabmeat" as an alternative common name for the product prepared from *Paralithodes brevipes*.

(b) Prior to World War II, there was a limited pack of crabmeat from the species *Erimacrus isenbeckii* at canneries located on the coast of Korea, but only a small quantity of this product was imported into the United States. To distinguish the product from the various species of *Paralithodes* and to connote its geographic origin, the article was designated by the name "Korean crab." For the past several years there has been a limited amount of the species *Erimacrus isenbeckii* packed in Japan or on Japanese factory ships operating in the Bering Sea. This species of crab is gen-

erally known in Japan as "Kegani." This product, packed in Japan, when offered for entry into the United States has been designated by a variety of names, including "Korean crabmeat," "Snow crabmeat," "Eliza crabmeat," "Kegani crabmeat," and "Zuwal crabmeat," with resulting confusion to importers and consumers. The term "Korean crab" is no longer applicable to the product as an indication of its geographic origin. The long absence of the product from the domestic market, until its recent reintroduction under a variety of names, has largely eliminated consumer recognition of the identity of the product under the name "Korean crabmeat." The Department therefore considers the designation "Korean variety crabmeat" or, alternatively, "Kegani crabmeat" as suitable common names for the product packed from the species *Erimacrus isenbeckii*.

(c) There has also been a limited pack of *Chionectes opilio* (zuwal-gani) offered for entry into the United States. This product has for many years been designated by the name "Snow crabmeat." The Department regards the designation "Snow crabmeat" as the common or usual name for the product when distributed in the United States.

(d) Section 403 (1) (1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act requires that the label of a food for which there is no definition and standard of identity shall bear the common or usual name of the food, if any there be. No definition and standard of identity has been established for crabmeat under the act. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare regards the label designations for canned crabmeat prepared from the various species of crab as stated in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section as satisfactory compliance with section 403 (1) (1) of the act.

Dated: April 2, 1954.

Oveta Culp Hobby,
Secretary.



Department of the Interior

SURVEY OF FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE:

The appointment of a team to survey activities of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service was announced by Secretary of the Interior McKay on April 7. The study was scheduled to commence on April 15. The team is composed of the following consultants: James R. Turnbull, Seattle, Wash.; Ross Leffler, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and John D. Pennekamp, Miami, Fla.; and M. George Goodrick of the Department's Division of Management Research; and John B. Bennett, Assistant Director of the Department's Technical Review Staff.

It will investigate the organization and operating procedures of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington, in the regional offices, and at the

field installations, and present recommendations for improving the administration of the Service. The objectives of the survey are to determine what is being done, whether work is being accomplished in an efficient manner, and whether there are other means of accomplishing the work more effectively. The survey report is to be submitted by June 1.

Mr. Turnbull is vice president of Monsanto Chemical Company's western division with headquarters in the Pacific Northwest; Mr. Leffler is vice president of the United States Steel Corporation and chairman of the Pennsylvania State Game Commission; and Mr. Pennekamp is associate editor of the *Miami Herald*.

The report of the survey team will be submitted to Assistant Secretary Lewis June 1, 1954.

SURVEY OF ALASKA PROGRAM: The appointment of a four-man survey committee which will study the organization and procedures of the extensive Interior Department programs carried on in Alaska was announced on April 3 by Secretary of the Interior McKay. The survey committee conferred with Department officials in Washington and were scheduled to begin field studies in Juneau on April 15.

The committee is composed of: Glen Duncan, grain elevator operator, Haines, Oregon; Roy B. Earling, mining consultant, Seattle, Wash.; Gilbert H. Jertberg, attorney, Fresno, Calif.; and Robert Coote, member of the Department's Technical Review Staff.

The survey is part of Secretary McKay's program aimed to improve Department operations. Surveys have been completed in most of the bureaus and recommendations of nongovernment experts have in many cases resulted in substantial economies and increased efficiency in operations.

The Alaska committee will give particular attention to a study of the nature and scope of Bureau operations and to the location, functions, and staffing of regional and field offices. Existing policies with the view toward clearly defining the objectives of the Federal Government in the Territory and an examination of the Department's relations with Territorial, local government, and with other Federal agencies will be also examined.

The itinerary includes all sections of the Territory where there are Department installations and personnel.



White House

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS: The White House announced April 13 that the President made the following appointments:

John L. Farley, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, to be United States Commissioner on the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission.

Farley replaces John L. Kask whose resignation was accepted on July 7, 1953.



John L. Farley



Arnie J. Suomela

Arnie J. Suomela, Assistant Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, to be United States Commissioner on the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries; and to be a member on the part of the United States of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission.

Suomela replaces John L. Kask on the International Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Commission and replaces Albert M. Day (whose resignation has been accepted) on the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission.



Eighty-Third Congress (Second Session)

APRIL 1954

Listed below are public bills and resolutions introduced and referred to committees or passed by the Eighty-Third Congress (Second Session) and signed by the President that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries. Public bills and resolutions are shown in this section only when introduced and, if passed, when signed by the President; but also shown are the more pertinent reports, hearings, or chamber actions on some of the bills shown in this section from month to month.

DISTRIBUTION OF FISHERY PRODUCTS: The Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on April 14 in executive session, ordered favorably reported with amendments, S. 2802, to encourage further the distribution of fishery products in the development of research programs and increased markets (S. Rept. 1210), and recommended that the bill as amended be passed. On April 13 the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife had ordered the bill favorably reported to the full committee, with amendments.

The Committee made five amendments to the bill: (1) To broaden the term "fishery products" to include marine animals such as whales, seals, etc.; aquatic reptiles such as turtles; aquatic plants such as kelp, Irish moss, and agar-agar; and sponges; (2) to clarify the type of research to make it clear that the bill allows research on land or on the high seas, and not limited strictly to research directed particularly and directly at promoting "the free flow of domestically produced fishery products in commerce," provided the research pertains to the U. S. fisheries; (3) authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to appoint an advisory committee of the U. S. fisheries industry to advise him in the formulation of policy, rules, and regulations pertaining to requests for assistance, and other matters, but the power is made absolutely discretionary in the Secretary; (4) makes it clear that the retransfer of funds is in lieu of the funds heretofore made available for those purposes; (5) limits the annual accruals to \$5 million at the end of any fiscal year.

Senate Report No. 1210, Encouragement of Distribution of Fishery Products (April 14, 1954, 83d Congress, 2d Session), 28 p., to accompany S. 2802. In addition to the amendments, the report also discusses general legislative background; scope of the bill; the difficult position of the fishing industry; the public interest involved; the remedy indicated; and that 30 percent of the fisheries' duties is the fisherman's due; also includes comments from government agencies and the conclusions of the Committee.

H. R. 8768 (King of California) - a bill to further encourage the distribution of fishery products and for other purposes; introduced in the House on April 8 and referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. (This is a modification of similar bills--provides for the establishment at the discretion of and by the Secretary of the Interior of an advisory committee to cooperate with the Department in administering programs financed by the funds allocated from import duties.)

FOOD STANDARDS: Senate, on call of calendar, on April 5 passed H. R. 6434, to amend sections 401 and 701 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act so as to simplify the procedures governing the establishment of food standards, and cleared bill for President. The bill was reported to the Senate on March 9, 1954, by the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare (S. Rept. 1060). Bill was passed in the House on July 30, 1953.

H. R. 6434 was signed April 15, 1954, by the President (P. L. 335). H. R. 6434, known as the Hale amendment to the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, simplifies the procedure for the promulgation of regulations on the definitions and standards for food. Hearings will now be held only on those parts of an order to issue, amend or repeal such regulations to which objections are filed.

HAWAII STATEHOOD: H. Res. 509 (Saylor) - a resolution providing for sending to conference H. R. 3575, "An act to enable the people of Hawaii to form a constitution and State government and to be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States;" introduced in the House on April 12; to the Committee on Rules.

HAWAII-ALASKA STATEHOOD: On April 1 the Senate passed, with amendment, H. R. 3575, to provide statehood for Hawaii, after discharging Committee on Insular Affairs from further consideration of the bill and then amended H. R. 3575 by substituting for its text the language of S. 49, to provide statehood for Hawaii, as amended to include Alaska (including committee amendments). A motion to reconsider passage of the bill was tabled. Senate requested conference with the House and appointed as conferees Senators Butler of Nebraska, Millikin, Cordon, Murray, and Anderson.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS: (Jensen) introduced on April 1, H. R. 8680, a bill making appropriations for the Department of the Interior (including the Fish and Wildlife Service) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1955, and for other purposes; referred to the Committee on Appropriations. The bill was reported out on April 1 (H. Rept. 1460).

The House passed, by a voice vote on April 6, H. R. 8680. Prior to its passage amendments were adopted, including one which increased by \$527,000 the moneys provided for the investigations of resources under the Fish and Wildlife Service and a provision that not more than \$250,000 shall be available for the lamprey-eel program.

