



International

INTERNATIONAL PERMANENT COMMITTEE ON CANNED FOODS

MEETING AT GÖTEBORG, SWEDEN, IN 1954: The 1954 meeting of the International Permanent Committee on Canned Foods (CIPC) took place at the Swedish Institute for Food Preservation Research, Kalleback, Göteborg, Sweden, from September 27-October 25, 1954.

There were some 50 delegates and advisers from Belgium, France, West Germany, Morocco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom, and observers from Denmark, Norway, the Tin Research Institute, and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The program covered a 4-day meeting during which the delegates split up into standing commissions. These include among others the Scientific Commission, Commission for Standardization of Cans for Fish, and Commission for the Regulation and Definition of Canned Fish.

Scientific Commission: Under the heading "Bacteriology," research work carried out in a number of member countries on the bacteriology of semipreserved marinades, on sterilization of spices and on bacteriological definitions of canned foods, e. g. semipreserved canned hams, was discussed.

Under the heading "Standardization of Analytical Methods," the determination of dry matter in tomato pastes, and of total nitrogen, tin, and small quantities of SO_2 in canned foods, was discussed, as well as ways and means of cooperating with the American Association of Official Agricultural Chemists (AOAC) work of standardizing analytical methods.

The CIPC has made an "International Survey of the National Legislations on the Use of Preservatives in Foods." This survey will be published in the near future. A similar survey on the use of artificial coloring in foods has also been made, but publication will be delayed as many countries are amending their legislation in this field. Both surveys will be issued in loose-leaf form.

Commission for Standardization of Cans for Fish: A list of 12 sizes (capacity in milliliters) for round cans ranging from 85 to 1,700 ml. was approved for recommendation to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

In addition to the already standardized rectangular "Club 125" can, the so-called 1/15 P can was discussed and a standard capacity of 50 ml. \pm 5% was adopted, and a length of 97 \pm 2 mm. and width of 44 \pm 2 mm. was recommended.

It was decided to give further study to the standardization of the $\frac{1}{4}$ Dingley can and a standard capacity of 118 ml. \pm 5% was suggested.

Commission for the Regulation and Definition of Canned Fish: In this Commission, problems of using frozen sardines for subsequent canning were discussed, as

well as the necessity of standardizing declarations of weight of contents on the labels of canned fish, the necessity of standardization of the definition of marinades in various languages, the definitions of tunas, and the use of preservatives in the handling and processing of fish for subsequent canning.

Commission for the Organization of the Third International Congress on Canned Foods: This Congress will take place in September 1956 in Italy, in conjunction with the Canned Foods and Packaging Fair of Parma. The Canning Congress may be held in Rome or Parma depending on the decision of the host country. A five-day meeting is planned and the tentative program was established after a lengthy discussion. This will cover summaries of reports on the CIPC activities, reports on advances in canning technology, sessions on packaging (containers) and machinery methodology of market investigations, economics of canning, waste and pollution problems, public health and educational (propaganda) aspects, canned foods and nutrition, and finally, bacteriological problems and definition of canned foods.

FAO/CIPC Relations: The FAO observer took part in the discussion of the Scientific Commission and the Commission for the Regulation and Definition of Canned Fish when FAO/CIPC cooperation was informally discussed. A more formal discussion had been planned for the final plenary meeting, but had to be postponed till the next session of the CIPC which is to take place in Paris in the autumn of 1955.

Nutrition Symposium: Following the CIPC meeting, the Swedish Institute for Food Preservation Research organized a 3-day symposium on "Nutritive Aspects of Preserved Food," with over 20 contributors of reports and over 60 participants from Denmark, France, West Germany, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. The reports, but not the discussions, will probably be issued in printed form at a later date, reports the January-March FAO Fisheries Bulletin.

TERRITORIAL WATERS

COMMISSION TO STUDY ICELANDIC-BRITISH FISHING CONFLICT: A solution to the conflict between Iceland and British fishing interests which has lasted for more than four years will be sought by the Office of European Economic Cooperation (OEEC), reports the February 18 International Financial News Survey. A commission will be appointed consisting of two representatives from the United Kingdom and two from Iceland, with a neutral chairman.

The origin of the conflict was the extension by Iceland in 1950 of her exclusive fishery limits. Since the new limits excluded all trawling (Icelandic and foreign) on certain fishing banks, the trawlers were especially affected. As a reprisal, British trawling interests boycotted Icelandic trawlers, which have not been able to land fish in British ports since.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

GATT NINTH SESSION CLOSED MARCH 7: The Ninth Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) which convened in Geneva on October 28, 1954, closed March 7, 1955, the Department of State announced. Representatives of the contracting parties completed the review of the General Agreement, which began on November 8, and the drafting of:

- (1) An agreement establishing an organization for trade cooperation to administer the GATT and to facilitate consultation and study of matters relating to international trade;
- (2) Amendments of the trade rules contained in the General Agreement;

(3) Technical amendments of the General Agreement to give effect to the transfer of its organizational provisions to the proposed new organization for trade cooperation; and

(4) A declaration extending from June 30, 1955, to January 1, 1958, the firm life of the tariff concessions previously negotiated by the contracting parties which are an integral part of the General Agreement.

The text of the Agreement on the Organization for Trade Cooperation and the texts of other documents will be authenticated, and will be open in Geneva for signature by governments.

The GATT is the principal instrument through which the United States has carried out the provisions and purposes of the Trade Agreements Act. It is a multilateral trade agreement among 34 nations, including practically all major trading countries accounting for approximately 80 percent of world trade. Negotiations looking toward the accession of Japan to the GATT are now under way.

United States participation in the review session of the Contracting Parties to the GATT afforded opportunity to carry out the recommendation of the President's Commission on Foreign Economic Policy that the organizational provisions of the GATT be renegotiated with a view to providing an organization to sponsor multilateral trade negotiations, to recommend broad trade policies, and to provide a forum for consultation regarding trade matters, and that the organizational provisions so renegotiated be submitted to the Congress for approval. In his message to Congress on foreign economic policy of March 30, 1954, President Eisenhower signified his intention to act promptly on these recommendations and to seek to negotiate certain revisions of the trade rules of the General Agreement to provide a simpler and stronger instrument.

The decision was made by the contracting parties in October 1953 to convene a session in the fall of 1954, "to review the operation of the General Agreement upon the basis of experience gained since it has been in provisional operation, and in the light of this review to examine to what extent it would be desirable to amend or supplement existing provisions of the Agreement and what modifications should be made in arrangements for its administration."

The Contracting Parties agreed to convene the Tenth Session on October 27, 1955, at Geneva.

Tariff negotiations involving Japan and certain other negotiations with contracting parties to the GATT convened at Geneva on February 21, 1955.

* * * * *

PUBLIC ADVISERS TO U. S. GATT DELEGATION APPOINTED: The designation of four public advisers to the United States Delegation at Geneva which conducted tariff negotiations with Japan and other countries, was announced April 16 by the State Department.

The United States officials on the negotiating delegation represent nine executive agencies and departments of the government. It is expected that this delegation will be materially aided by the broad experience and judgment of the public advisers just appointed.

The negotiations at Geneva are being conducted between the United States and Japan, on the one hand, and between the United States and third countries which are negotiating with the Japanese under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Upon conclusion of the negotiations, Japan is expected to become

a full-fledged participant in the General Agreement. At present Japan is participating on a provisional basis.

The public advisers arrived in Geneva about April 24. They were: R. G. Smith, executive vice-president in charge of international operations of the Bank of America; L. F. Whittemore, Chairman of the board of directors of Brown Company, pulp and paper manufacturers of Berlin, N. H.; A. B. Kline, former President of the American Farm Bureau Federation; B. Seidman, Staff Economist for the American Federation of Labor.

* * * * *

AGREEMENT ON ORGANIZATION FOR TRADE COOPERATION AND AMENDMENTS TO GATT: Assistant Secretary of State Samuel C. Waugh on March 21 signed on behalf of the United States in Geneva, Switzerland, the documents incorporating the results of the review of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The GATT is an international trade agreement adhered to by 34 countries, reports a March 21 release from the Department of State.

The most important of the documents is an agreement establishing an Organization for Trade Cooperation to administer the GATT. Mr. Waugh's signature of the Agreement was conditional on Congressional approval of United States membership in the Organization.

In addition to the Agreement establishing the OTC, Waugh also signed several protocols amending the trade rules contained in the General Agreement itself. The Department of State is preparing and plans shortly to publish the texts of the amendments showing their relationship to the GATT.

The Agreement on the Organization for Trade Cooperation is intended primarily to provide permanent arrangements for the administration of the GATT. The negotiation of the OTC Agreement was a fulfillment of that part of the President's message to the Congress on March 30, 1954, in which he said the United States would seek the renegotiation of the GATT's organizational provisions and that he would submit them to the Congress for its approval.

Under the new arrangements functions formerly exercised jointly by the countries party to the Agreement, in their informal periodic meetings, would be transferred to the Organization for Trade Cooperation. In addition, the Organization would be empowered to sponsor international trade negotiations and to serve as an intergovernmental forum for the discussion and solution of other questions relating to international trade. The Organization's structure would include an Assembly, consisting of all the countries party to the GATT. There would also be an Executive Committee to which the Assembly would delegate powers to handle problems arising between sessions of the Assembly. Under the criteria for election to the Executive Committee, which will consist of 17 members, the United States is assured of a permanent seat on the Committee.

The establishment of the OTC constitutes recognition by countries representing more than 80 percent of the world's trade that expansion of international trade requires cooperative international action to remove trade barriers. The creation of a permanent body to administer the GATT would also make possible the better enforcement of the trade rules protecting the more than 50,000 tariff concessions that have been negotiated and incorporated in the Agreement. The OTC would also facilitate settlement of trade disputes which could give rise to international tensions in the free world.

The Geneva Conference reaffirmed the basic objectives and obligations included in the GATT, including the principle of nondiscriminations in international trade.

The general prohibition against the use of quantitative restrictions on imports was also confirmed.

One of the major achievements of the conference was agreement to extend the assured life of the tariff concessions beyond June 30, 1955, the present expiration date. The assured life of the concessions would be extended to December 31, 1957. Provisions were also written into the Agreement for the future automatic continuance of the concessions for three-year periods after December 31, 1957. Arrangements were made to allow in special circumstances the renegotiation of concessions during this period.

The Agreement on the Organization for Trade Cooperation provides in part:

The Organization shall administer the General Agreement and generally facilitate the operation of that Agreement. Organization shall have the following functions: (1) Facilitate intergovernmental consultations on questions relating to international trade; (2) Sponsor international trade negotiations; (3) Study questions of international trade and commercial policy and, where appropriate, make recommendations thereon; (4) To collect, analyze, and publish information and statistical data relating to international trade and commercial policy, due regard being paid to the activities in this field of other international bodies.

The Assembly shall appoint a Director-General as chief administrative officer of the Organization. The powers, duties, conditions of service, and term of office of the Director-General shall conform to regulations approved by the Assembly. The Director-General shall appoint the members of the staff, and shall fix their duties and conditions of service in accordance with regulations approved by the Assembly.

* * * * *

DANISH-ARGENTINE AGREEMENT INCLUDES COD: Denmark will ship to Argentina cod valued at US\$15,000 in the first year of a five-year trade agreement signed by the two countries in Buenos Aires February 18. No fishery products shipments from Argentina to Denmark are included in the agreement, reports an April 6 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Buenos Aires.

* * * * *

NORWEGIAN-EAST GERMAN AGREEMENT INCLUDES FISHERY PRODUCTS: A global compensation agreement for 1955 involving fishery products between Norway and East Germany was recently concluded in Berlin between Norsk Kompensasjonsselskap A/S and Deutscher Innen-und Aussenhandel. Substantial increases in Norwegian exports to East Germany for canned fish and other items are offset by decreases in fresh and frozen fish and herring meal.

Norwegian export to East Germany in 1955 will include the following fishery products: fresh winter herring, valued at 7.9 million kroner (US\$1.1 million); frozen winter herring for March-July delivery, 8.2 million kroner (US\$1.2 million); fresh and frozen fish, delivery from May, 5.7 million kroner (US\$0.8 million); salted herring for March-November delivery, 8.4 million kroner (US\$1.2 million); canned fish for delivery in the 3rd and 4th quarters, 9.7 million kroner (US\$1.4 million); herring meal, 1.5 million kroner (US\$0.2 million); mackerel meal, 0.7 million kroner (US\$98,000); pearl essence, 0.4 million kroner (US\$49,000).

No fishery products are included in the agreement for shipment from East Germany to Norway.

* * * * *

NORWEGIAN-ISRAEL AGREEMENT INCLUDES FISHERY PRODUCTS: A trade agreement between Norway and Israel for the period May 7, 1955, to May 6, 1956, was signed in Oslo April 13, and includes Norwegian exports of frozen fish, herring, and canned fish. Israel will not ship any fishery products to Norway, states an April 15 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Oslo.

UNITED NATIONS

ROME MEETING ON WORLDWIDE FISHERIES CONSERVATION OPENS: Experts from countries in many parts of the world gathered at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome, Italy, April 18 for the opening of a 2- to 3-week United Nations conference on "the conservation of the living resources of the sea." When the conference was first discussed in the U. N. General Assembly last winter, the narrower word "fisheries" was used, but this was changed to "living resources of the sea" in order to cover the whole broad field of marine life, ranging from whales to seaweed.



The main purpose of the conference was to examine all fishery conservation techniques, both national and international, which have been employed to date, and then to see how they can be applied in areas where conservation is needed but where little or nothing has so far been done.

The conference was opened in the name of Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld by his special representative for the occasion, Adrian Pelt, Director of the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva. Pelt emphasized the Secretary-General's interest in the solution of the problem, and the importance he attaches to the spread of modern techniques.

Some of the 50 or so governments expected to attend were represented by their ambassadors in Rome. Others, notably countries with important fishing interests, sent technical experts.

The urgency of the matters confronting the delegates may be gathered from a study of the Assembly's proceedings, and a glance at some of the findings made public by FAO.

The question of fishery conservation was brought to the Assembly by a number of nations, including such maritime powers as Brazil, Netherlands, United Kingdom, and the United States. In their request for immediate Assembly consideration, these countries stressed the need for giving prompt attention to the technical aspects of the fishery conservation problem without waiting for the U. N. International Law Commission to complete its work on the legal aspects, a task which the Commission is undertaking as part of its codification of the law of the high seas and of territorial waters.

The Commission itself noted the immediacy of the issue when it pointed out in its most recent report on the subject that existing international law "provides no adequate protection of marine fauna against extermination." This, it emphasized, "constitutes a danger to the food supply of the world."

After a debate in which stress was laid on the fact that the world's fish catch was decreasing despite improved modern fishing methods, the Assembly's Legal Committee agreed to the wish of the requesting countries that a conference be held in April at FAO's Rome Headquarters. Throughout the debate emphasis was laid on the fact that the conference was to be of a strictly technical nature which would

not encroach in any way upon the Law Commission's work in the legal field. Several speakers expressed the belief that the views of the economic and technical experts attending the conference would be of great value to the Assembly when it ultimately considered the draft Articles on Fisheries which the Commission is formulating.

In the current issue of its monthly publication Memo, FAO discusses the situation in an article entitled "Plenty of Food in the Waters." Declaring that "the world's water areas, although covering approximately three quarters of its surface, are providing only about one percent of man's total food supplies and about 10 percent of his total animal protein supplies," the article says that production from these areas is limited not by the number of fish to be caught "but merely by limits on man's present ability to find, catch, and distribute."

The article stresses that "many existing fisheries resources are not being exploited to an extent anywhere near their safe productivity." "This," it continues, "is particularly the case in inland fish culture under controlled methods. For the Indo-Pacific region alone, the area of cultivable water is estimated at 37 million hectares (143,000 square miles), which could give very considerable results."

Drawing attention to some of the "less commonly exploited food resources," the article cites such examples as "zooplanktons which are taken in considerable quantities in Asian countries for the manufacture of pastes and other fisheries products; or seaweeds which, suitably processed, can yield large quantities of foods rich in carbohydrates." "It has been estimated, for instance," the article adds, "that Scotland alone could produce from 70,000 to 110,000 metric tons of carbohydrate annually, for human or stock consumption, from seaweeds harvested along the coastline."

Much of the work of the conference was concerned with different aspects of FAO's extensive and varied activities on the problem. Also before it were a number of background papers submitted by scientific and economic experts from many countries. These papers served as a basis for discussion, and included two by Dr. Michael Graham, Director of Fishery Research of the United Kingdom's Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Dr. Graham makes it clear that the problem is by no means a new one. Recalling some of the early history of fishery conservation efforts, he notes that in the year 1376 the Commons petitioned the King of England, complaining that "certain fishermen for seven years past have subtly contrived an instrument which they called 'wondyrchoun'." The "wondyrchoun," the petition said, was made like an oyster dredge with a close net attached. Its "great and long iron . . . runs so heavily and hardly over the ground when fishing that it destroys the flowers of the land below water there, and also the spat of oysters, mussels, and other fish upon which the great fish are accustomed to be fed and nourished. By which instrument in many places the fishermen take such quantity of small fish that they do not know what to do with them; and that they feed and fat their pigs with them, to the great damage of the Commons of the Realm and destruction of the fisheries. . ."

International Law Commission

TERRITORIAL WATERS AND FISHERIES ITEMS GET FIRST CONSIDERATION AT COMMISSION MEETING IN GENEVA: The International Law Commission is expected to concentrate its efforts on the items regime of the high seas and regime of the territorial sea at its seventh session which began at the Palais des Nations in Geneva on Monday, May 2. The session was scheduled to last for about 10 weeks, according to an April 27 U. N. news release.

The Commission was established by the General Assembly in 1947 to promote the progressive development of international law and its codification. Its members,

who, serve in their individual capacity as persons of recognized competence in international law and not as representatives of governments, are elected by the General Assembly.

The provisional agenda of the seventh session (Doc. A/CN.4/89) contains eight items. Listed below, with background notes are those items of interest to the fisheries and allied industries.

Regime of the High Seas: The Commission decided to take up this question in 1949 when Professor J. P. A. Francois, who is also Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, was elected special rapporteur for this matter. He has submitted six reports on the subject (Documents A/CN.4/17, A/CN.4/42, A/CN.4/51, A/CN.4/60, A/CN.4/69 and A/CN.4/79). On the basis of some of these the Commission has adopted draft articles on the continental shelf, fisheries, and the contiguous zone (see document A/2456, chapter III). The sixth report of the special rapporteur (Doc. A/CN.4/79), which will form the basis of discussion of this item at the present session, deals with such subjects as the freedom of the high seas, merchant ships on the high seas, state ships on the high seas, safety of shipping, submarine cables and pipelines, penal jurisdiction in matters of collision on the high seas, policing of the high seas, sedentary fisheries, and water pollution. It is also probable that the Commission will again discuss the question of fisheries, as in the course of its session it will receive the report of the International Technical Conference on the Conservation of the Living Resources of the Sea which began at the Food and Agriculture Organization's Rome headquarters on April 18.

Regime of the Territorial Sea: In 1951 the Commission appointed Mr. Francois rapporteur for this subject. On the basis of his three reports (Doc. A/CN.4/53 A/CN.4/61 and A/CN.4/77) the Commission at its sixth session in 1954 prepared a draft which was circulated to the members of the United Nations for comments. A number of governments have submitted their observations (Doc. A/CN.4/90 and Addenda) and in the light of these observations the draft will be considered again by the Commission at the seventh session. The question of the breadth of the territorial sea was left open in the draft and the governments were asked to assist the Commission by stating their views on this problem. Several governments have done so, and it is expected that the Commission will endeavor to formulate concrete proposals concerning this controversial question at the present session. A working paper containing an analysis of the replies from governments will be submitted in the course of the session.

Members of the International Law Commission are elected for three-year terms by the General Assembly. The present membership is as follows: Gilberto Amado, Brazil; Douglas L. Edmonds, United States; J. P. A. Francois, Netherlands; J. V. Garcia-Amador, Cuba; Shuhsi Hsu, China; Faris Bey el-Khoury, Syria; S. B. Krylov, USSR; Radhabinod Pal, India; Carlos Salamanca, Bolivia; A. E. F. Sandstrom, Sweden; Georges Scelle, France; Jean Spiropoulos, Greece; Jaroslav Zourek, Czechoslovakia.

WHALING

ANTARCTIC CATCH DOWN IN 1954/55: The 1954/55 Antarctic pelagic (open sea) baleen whaling season, which ended on March 19, 1955, resulted in a provisional catch of 15,300 blue-whale units,^{1/} or somewhat less than the 15,456 units taken during the 1953/54 season, according to preliminary information available in the April 11 Foreign Crops and Markets, a Department of Agriculture publication. The reported catch during the 72-day hunting period was well under the maximum catch quota of 15,500 units established by international agreement but, being provisional, may be incomplete.

^{1/} 1 blue-whale unit = 1 blue whale, or 2 fin whales, or 2.5 humpback whales, or 6 sei whales. Thus, the actual number of whales taken during the season is far greater than the indicated number of units.

Nineteen factoryships and about 230 catcher boats were engaged in the 1954/55 pelagic operations. Participating countries and the number of factoryships employed by each were: Norway 9, United Kingdom 3, Japan 3, and the Soviet Union, Netherlands, Union of South Africa, and Panama 1 each.



Complete data regarding the production of whale oil from this season's catch are not yet available. However, it is believed that output by Norwegian and British South African expeditions was down from the year before. Total production of whale oil during the 1953/54 Antarctic season was around 367,000 short tons. Some 25,000 tons of sperm whale oil also was produced during last year's pelagic operations.

Norway: According to reports from the 9 Norwegian expeditions total production by Norwegian factoryships was 665,794 barrels (about 111,000 metric tons) of whale oil, compared with 931,694 barrels (about 155,300 tons) in 1954; and 136,777 barrels (22,800 tons) of sperm oil in 1955 as compared with 31,391 barrels (5,200 tons) in 1954. This total production was the poorest for the Norwegians since the first postwar season in 1946/47, points out a March 25 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Oslo.

The value of the 1955 Norwegian whale oil, all of which was sold on forward contracts at prices ranging from £75-77.5 (US\$210-217) per metric ton, has been estimated at 170 kroner (US\$23.8 million) as compared with 211 million kroner (US\$29.6 million) for last year's production. As this year's sperm-oil production has not yet been sold, its value has not been estimated.

Norwegian spokesmen have cited the following explanations for the reduced output by the Norwegian expeditions in the season just concluded: (1) with two additional non-Norwegian (one Japanese and one Onassis) expeditions in operation this year competition for the same number of blue-whale units (15,500) increased; (2) many of the whales caught by Norwegian expeditions this year were unusually lean and provided proportionately less whale oil; and (3) unfavorable weather at times hindered Norwegian whaling.

Japan: The three Japanese fleets reported a total catch of 2,771.6 blue-whale units, against a target of 2,150. This compares very favorably with an actual catch of 1,896 blue-whale units for the previous season, when only two fleets operated. Baleen whale oil obtained totaled 53,555 metric tons as compared to 37,540 tons for the 1954 expeditions, a March 25 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo reports.

* * * * *

ANTARCTIC 1954/55 WHALE- AND SPERM-OIL PRODUCTION: Total production of whale and sperm oil during the 1954/55 Antarctic season was about 362,690 and 52,830 short tons, respectively, according to preliminary data reported by the U. S. Embassy at Oslo, Norway. This represents a decrease of nearly 10 percent in whale-oil production when compared with the final 1953/54 figure of 399,665 tons. Sperm-oil production, however, was almost double the 26,990 tons produced in the previous season.

Pelagic production by the 19 expeditions operating in 1954/55 accounted for 329,720 tons of the whale oil produced and 52,070 tons of the sperm oil. The remainder resulted from South Georgia shore-station operations.

INTERNATIONAL FAIR OF FISHERY AND ALLIED ACTIVITIES
TO BE HELD IN ITALY

The Fifteenth "International Fair of Fishery and Allied Activities" will be held in Ancona, Italy, from July 16-31, 1955. The Fair will include an international marketing display of technical developments in commercial fisheries; technical congresses; meetings of fishermen; and events on sport fishing. Further information may be obtained from: Segreteria Generale della Fiera Internazionale della Pesca, Mandracchio, Ancona, Italy.



Aden

STATUS OF FISHERIES: Aden's fishing industry is loosely organized and its methods are primitive, reports a U. S. Embassy dispatch (April 1) from Aden. The fish caught are principally tuna, kingfish, caranx, sardines, and anchovies. What is not consumed is dried and salted for export, the latter running from 2,000-3,000 metric tons a year. The leading markets are still Ceylon, West Germany, and East Africa. A marketing officer was added to the Colony government in March and a proposed marketing and purchasing fishery cooperative may be developed. Also, there is some local business interest in organizing the industry to improve exports. Recently a United States ship left with a full cargo of dried fish for the United States.



Australia

VIEWS ON TERRITORIAL WATERS AND CONTINENTAL SHELF: Following the finding of Japanese fishing buoys at various places on Australia's eastern coast, some newspaper reports (Australian) and comments failed to distinguish between international law on two very different matters, namely, the sedentary fisheries and sea-bed resources of the continental shelf and the swimming fisheries outside territorial waters, points out the March 1955 Fisheries Newsletter, an Australian fishery publication. The Australian Minister for Commerce and Agriculture issued several press statements in the course of which he said:

"There appears to be considerable misunderstanding about the Commonwealth Fisheries Act 1952-53 which has been confused with the pearl fishing legislation passed by Parliament also in 1952.

"The Australian Government has shown in its pearl fishing legislation and in its administration of it, a complete determination to exercise its rights to control sedentary fishing on the Continental Shelf. Under international law these rights include the control of the products of the sea bed which of course include pearl oysters.

"The Government, on the other hand, has never sought to exercise control, other than of Australian nationals, in respect of the swimming fish industry. In its present state, international law draws a distinction between the resources of the sea bed and the control of swimming fish beyond the accepted territorial limits which, roughly speaking, are three miles off shore. The Fisheries Act lays down the rules with which Australians must comply in Australian waters outside territorial waters.

"The Commonwealth Government certainly wishes to negotiate agreements to regulate fishing in waters adjacent to Australia. However, it would be futile to expect the Japanese to limit their fishing operations on the high seas if we were not

prepared and in a position to control Australian fishing operations also, so that a total plan of conservation could be operated. We could put no limit on our own fishing operations without first passing a law to enable control of them, and that is one of the reasons why we passed the Fisheries Act in 1952. Australia now has a basis upon which to negotiate."

* * * * *

TUNA LANDINGS, 1954/55: A large Sydney, Australia, tuna canner reports that tuna landings this season to December 31, 1954, totaled 1.5 million pounds, according to the February Fisheries Newsletter, an Australian fishery periodical.



British Honduras

FISHERY PRODUCTS EXPORTS, JANUARY-NOVEMBER 1954: British Honduras exports of fishery products in January-November 1954 totaled 296,000 pounds, val-

British Honduras Exports of Fishery Products, January-November 1954 and 1953 (Total Exports and Exports to United States)						
Product	1954			1953		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	1,000 Lbs.	1,000 BH\$	1,000 US\$	1,000 Lbs.	1,000 BH\$	1,000 US\$
Fresh, frozen, or live fish:						
Total exports	63.0	16.9	11.9	59.2	15.3	10.7
Exports to U. S.	51.6	14.8	10.4	51.4	13.5	9.4
Salted, dried fish, etc.:						
Total exports	63.9	15.4	10.8	28.7	5.2	3.6
Exports to U. S.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spiny lobsters, whole:						
Total exports	80.0	25.2	17.7	11.5	2.4	1.6
Exports to U. S.	51.7	19.5	13.6	3.7	.7	.5
Spiny lobster tails:						
Total exports	82.5	65.2	45.6	118.1	60.1	42.0
Exports to U. S.	81.1	64.1	44.9	117.1	59.5	41.6
Conchs:						
Total exports	3.1	.4	.3	6.9	1.0	.7
Exports to U. S.	1.5	.3	.2	5.0	.9	.6
Shrimp:						
Total exports	3.5	1.9	1.3	-	-	-
Exports to U. S.	3.5	1.9	1.3	-	-	-
Total all fishery products:						
Total exports	296.0	125.0	87.6	224.4	84.0	58.6
Exports to U. S.	189.4	100.6	70.4	177.2	74.6	52.1

ued at BH\$125,000 (US\$87,600), compared with exports for the similar period in 1953 totaling 224,000 pounds, valued at BH\$84,000 (US\$58,600). The United States received 64 percent of the British Honduras fish and shellfish exports in the first 11 months of 1954 as compared with 79 percent in the same period a year earlier (see table). Spiny lobsters comprised the bulk of these exports, and a large increase in shipments of whole spiny lobsters in 1954 accounted for the increase in total fishery products exports from British Honduras.



British Guiana

FISHING INDUSTRY, 1953: Almost 6 million pounds of fish with an estimated value of US\$1.4 million, were caught in 1953 in the waters of the seacoast and of the estuaries of British Guiana's major rivers, a U. S. consular dispatch (April 12) from Port of Spain reports. Although some deep-sea fishing is done off of British Guiana, most of the Colony's fish is caught in the relatively shallow, muddy waters along its 300-mile coastline.

Fishing activities include shrimping. A dried-shrimp and shrimp-meal factory is in operation.

During 1954 the British Guiana Credit Corporation made loans totaling about US\$28,000 for development of the fishing industry.

Cuba

TUNA CAUGHT BY EXPLORATORY VESSEL FISHING IN CUBAN WATERS: A total of 5,100 pounds of tuna was caught by the Cuban vessel Cubamar II



Fig. 1 - Bait in the live-bait tank of the Cubamar II



Fig. 2 - A boat leaving the Cubamar II to load up with bait.

during a 5-day exploratory fishing cruise which began July 25, 1954. Only 3 hours and 10 minutes were required to catch the amount of tuna indicated. The average

weight of the fish was 3 pounds each, and the catch consisted of 60 percent oceanic bonito or skipjack tuna (Katsuwonus pelamis) and 40 percent albacore (Germo alalunga).

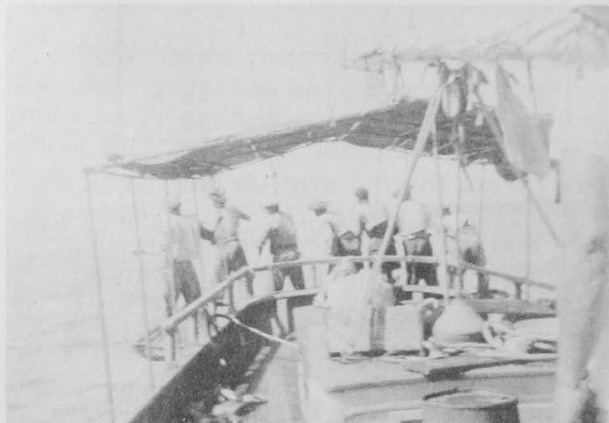


Fig. 3 - Pole-and-line fishing for tuna from Cubamar II.

A crew of eight fishermen used "manjua" (Jenkinsia lamprotaenia) as live bait and poles and lines for catching the tuna. The vessel fished 3 to 15 miles offshore, from Santa Cruz del Norte to Justias, between 82-84 W. longitude. The best fishing seemed to be encountered nearest to the approximate location of the Gulf Stream.



Fig. 4 - Part of the catch of tuna made by the Cuban exploratory fishing vessel during a 5-day cruise.



Fig. 5 - Crew having lunch aboard the exploratory fishing vessel Cubamar II.

Weather conditions during the cruise were clear, the sea was smooth, and there was a light breeze NE. to SE. Fishing conditions were good. The vessel was equipped with Japanese-type bait wells.

--Jose A. Ojeda, Master and Fishing Gear Technologist, Asociacion de Credito Pesquero, "Felipe Poey," Afilado al Banco de Fomento Agrícola e Industrial de Cuba, Havana, Cuba



Costa Rica

VIEWS ON 200-MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS ZONE: The Costa Rican Foreign Minister in a press conference April 16, during a brief visit to Quito, Ecuador (El Comercio, April 17), discussed the declaration of Santiago in which Ecuador, Peru, and Chile claimed jurisdiction over a 200-mile maritime zone, an April 20 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Quito states. A summary of his comments follows:

"Nations should protect their fisheries resources which are the product of territorial wealth. This problem affects not only the three nations mentioned but the entire continent, and Costa Rica's attitude on this question has already been made clear. Costa Rica therefore has deemed it convenient to propose:

"1. That all the nations of America adhere to the Santiago Charter;

"2. To include this document in the problem of defense in the face of a possible extra-continental interference;

"3. To deposit this international document in the Pan American Union, open to the adherence of the other nations, and;

"4. To create an international policy, which at the same time that it guarantees free commercial navigation would protect the sovereignty of nations against illegal fishing and pirates."



Denmark

EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION TO UNITED STATES, 1954: The value of Danish exports of fishery products for human consumption to the United States in 1954 was 12.6 million kroner (US\$1.8 million) as compared with 13.0 million kroner (US\$1.9 million) in 1953, reports the April 4 Foreign Commerce Weekly, a Department of Commerce publication. The principal item was fresh frozen brook trout, valued at 5.8 million kroner (US\$0.8 million) in 1954 and 5.4 million kroner (US\$0.8 million) in 1953. Cod exports were valued at 1.6 million kroner (US\$0.2 million) in 1954--none in 1953. Frozen cod fillets exports rose from 0.4 million kroner (US\$58,000) in 1953 to 1.0 million kroner (US\$145,000) in 1954 because of the demand from United States fish-stick processors; flounder fillet exports increased from 0.8 million kroner (US\$115,000) to 1.0 million kroner (US\$145,000).

Danish canned lobster exports to the United States increased notably, from 0.3 million kroner (US\$43,000) in 1953 to 1.0 million kroner (US\$145,000) in 1954 while other canned fish, including brisling sardines, rose from 2.5 million kroner (US\$360,000) to 2.8 million kroner (US\$400,000).

* * * * *

FISHERY PRODUCTS EXPORTS, 1954: Denmark exported fishery products worth about 225 million kroner (US\$33 million) in 1954 against shipments worth about 203 million kroner (US\$29 million) in 1953. Exports of fish meal were valued at 26 million kroner (US\$3.8 million) against only 14 million kroner (US\$2.0 million) in 1953. Fish-oil exports were worth 11 million kroner (US\$1.6 million) against 9.5 million kroner (US\$1.4 million) in 1953. These increases were due to higher prices caused by good demand, as the actual volume of exports declined 0.5 percent to 129,000 metric tons.

Great Britain was the largest buyer of Danish fishery products in 1954, purchasing 49 million kroner (US\$7.1 million) worth. West Germany took fishery products valued at 25 million kroner (US\$3.6 million) and Italy 23 million kroner (US\$3.3 million).

The United States ranked fourth, receiving Danish fishery products and by-products valued at 22.3 million kroner (US\$3.2 million). Other major markets for Danish fishery products were Sweden 21 million kroner (US\$3.0 million), the Netherlands 14 million kroner (US\$2.0 million), and Brazil 11 million kroner (US\$1.6 million). Australia also appeared as a new outlet for Danish exports; shipments to that country in 1954 totaled 2.5 million kroner (US\$360,000), and it was hoped that this would be considerably increased in 1954, reports the February 11 issue of The Fishing News, a British fishery magazine.



Formosa (Taiwan)

FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND TRENDS, 1954: Formosan fisheries production in 1954 amounted to 152,500 metric tons, 17 percent more than the 130,600 tons produced in 1953 and 82 percent greater than the 1950 production of 84,000 tons (see table), according to a report from the Assistant Director for Industry, FOA Mission to China. The coastal fisheries supplied more than one-half the total production each year, and the next in importance was the production from fish culture in fresh- and salt-water ponds.

All Formosan coastal fisheries and fish-culture stations are in private hands. Two Government fishing enterprises operate in the deep-sea fisheries, the remainder are privately controlled. The number of private operators in the deep-sea fisheries is unknown but it is considered to be large.



Pulling in the "bag" of a beach-seine net which holds the catch. This is a popular style of fishing in small communities of Taiwan. Men and women, old and young, join hands to pull in the net.

season in July and August decreased deep-sea fishing. After September the deep-sea catch increased again due to more vessels and more trips and a higher catch per vessel owing to good weather.

The coastal fisheries catch decreased after September due to bad weather in northern Taiwan.

Production from fish ponds after May remained high because of a good market and the peak in the milkfish production season.

Deep-sea fishing includes fishing on the high seas by otter trawlers or bull

Formosan Fisheries Production, 1954 with Comparisons					
Fisheries	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
	.. (1,000 Metric Tons)				
Deep-sea fisheries:					
Government vessels	14.5	14.6	10.9	10.4	6.1
Private vessels	12.5	9.6	6.1	5.6	5.9
Coastal fisheries	83.9	67.8	74.0	63.0	47.0
Fish culture	41.6	38.6	31.0	25.0	25.0
Total	152.5	130.6	122.0	104.0	84.0

trawlers of at least 50 tons on voyages which last an average of 10 days.

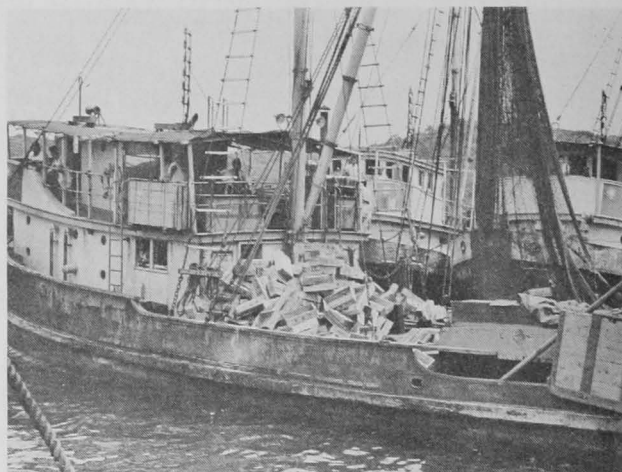
Coastal fishing includes fishing on small motor trawlers usually at sea for an average of 24 hours and a maximum of 3 days, and nonpowered boats such as sampans and bamboo rafts which operate near the coast.

As of December 31, 1954, there were 2,448 fishing vessels with a total tonnage of 36,558 gross tons (72,654 hp.) as compared with 2,084 vessels with a total tonnage of 29,434 gross tons (56,722 hp.) as of December 31, 1953.

Taiwan Fisheries Bureau of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Forestry set a 1955 production goal for fisheries of 160,000 metric tons, since about 20 new 80-100 gross-ton bull trawlers will participate in deep-sea fishing, and about 250-300 new small vessels totaling 2,500 gross tons and a number of motorized sampans and bamboo rafts will join the coastal fishing fleet. Further, Tilapia culture in rice paddies will be increased with the encouragement of the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

It was reported that Formosa and Japan would soon conclude an agreement for joint tuna fishing experiments, an April 28 U.S. Embassy dispatch from Taipei reports. Selected Chinese fishermen will accompany Japanese fishermen to the South China Seas, Indian Ocean, and other areas in the Pacific. The two nations are also discussing plans for joint mackerel fishing in Formosan waters.

The Formosan Government has decided to expand the fisheries as a means of increasing food supplies and improving the diet. The Economic Stabilization Board concluded that the industry, particularly tuna fishing, has to be expanded from its present area of operations of 40,000 square miles to 3,000,000 square miles. The Board decided to recommend approval of a plan to construct four 350-ton fishing vessels in Japan at an over-all cost of NT\$8.6 million (US\$0.8 million). It was estimated that a balanced diet would include 211,000 metric tons of fishery products. The 1956 catch, it is estimated, will be only 170,000 tons.



U. S.-built trawlers in port of Keelung.

The Formosan imports of fishery products in 1954 were valued at US\$4.6 million, all of which was financed by the Formosan Government.



French Morocco

FISHERY PRODUCTS EXPORTS, AND BYPRODUCTS EXPORTS, 1954 and 1955: Exports of canned fish declined in value from 8.4 billion francs (US\$24

Value of French Morocco's Fishery Products and Byproducts Exports, 1954 and 1953				
Product	1954		1953	
	Millions of Francs		Millions of US\$	
Fish:				
Canned	6,215	8,402	18	24
Fresh, dried, salted and smoked	610	582	2	2
Fish meal and bone meal .	381	707	1	2

million) in 1954 because of an unsatisfactory fishing season, reports an April 5 U.S. consular dispatch from Casablanca. The export value of fish meal and bone meal in 1954 also dropped below 1953.



French West Africa

FISHERY TRENDS: There appear to be great potentialities for fishing off the coast of French West Africa from Mauritania to French Guinea as well as in the Niger River, states a February 2 U.S. consular dispatch from Dakar. Commercialization of ocean fishing started during World War II. The ten-year development plan has as one of its objectives to increase the tonnage of fish taken. Although production has been estimated at about 4,000 to 5,000 metric tons per year, the potential is estimated at approximately 30,000 tons. In this connection, there now exists a huge freezing plant in Dakar which is being used in part for freezing tuna taken off the coast.

German Federal Republic

NEW FISH-MEAL DRYING PROCESS DEVELOPED: A Bremerhaven, West Germany, firm (Schlotterhose & Co.) has recently developed and constructed an entirely new fish-meal drying process. It is called the Circulation High-Speed Drier, reports International Fish and Other Food Journal (No. 1 - 1955), a Danish trade magazine.

The idea on which the process is based and for which patent applications have been filed is as follows:

The material to be dried is fed - - raw or cooked - - into a modern blowing mill, which is patented. This takes place in an atmosphere of hot circulating drying gas principally consisting of vapor, and during the process the material is minced and dried possibly under fermentation by the influence of heat, whereafter it is immediately cooled down.

It is consequently a rapid-drying process which increases the capacity of the individual devices. By admitting greater quantities of heat and accelerating the circulating gas flow, the capacity may be increased considerably.

The fish meal leaving the plant ready for storage is in no respect inferior in quality as compared with fish meal produced in the ordinary steam-jacket plants; on the contrary it possesses various advantages.

When producing lean fish meal or if fish is being dried without extraction of oil, a boiler will not be required for the new plant.

The same is the case when working with fatty offal if the fish is allowed to ferment prior to the drying process by means of the exhaust gases principally consisting of vapor, and if sufficient heat is present, whereafter stickwater and oil is extracted by squeezing.

For thermo-technical reasons the stickwater is concentrated in a vacuum-stage vaporizer, whereafter the concentrate together with the squeezed fish is fed into the Schlotterhose Circulation Drier and is dried in this device. Consequently all devices for further drying the stickwater concentrate, for instance roll driers, etc., conveyors and grinders are superfluous.

Surprising is the high thermo-technical efficiency of the process. By using fuel oil, a twelvefold evaporation figure may be obtained in a medium-sized plant. Consequently the fuel costs are far lower as compared with those of the steam-jacket plant and amount only to about one-third of the usual costs. The same thing applies to the drying of stickwater concentrate.

The initial expenditure and the space required for the new plant are extremely moderate. Also plants with greater capacities may therefore be installed in fishing vessels, where a minimum of space is available.

* * * * *

PROCESSED FISHERY PRODUCTS PRODUCTION, 1954: The production of processed fish and shellfish products in West Germany during 1954 totaled 175,788 metric tons, and manufacture of fishery byproducts amounted to 97,058 tons of fish meal and oil (see table). Marinated fish and canned fish were the leading fishery products processed for food, reports an April 5 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Bonn.

* * * * *

CANNED FISH IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, JANUARY-JUNE 1954: Total West German imports of canned fish

West German Production of Processed Fish, 1954	
Product	Quantity
	Metric Tons
Smoked fish	30,588
Salted fish	29,932
Marinated fish	60,145
Canned fish	48,526
Shellfish	659
Miscellaneous fish products	5,938
Total fishery products	175,788
Fish oil	19,725
Fish meal	77,333
Total byproducts	97,058

in the first six months of 1954 amounted to 6,905 metric tons, according to an October 18 U. S. consular dispatch from Bremen (table 1). In 1953 canned fish imports totaled 14,793 tons, and in 1952 the total was 9,523 tons. Sardines and pilchards comprise the bulk of West German imports; Portugal and French Morocco were the principal suppliers.

Exports of canned fish from West Germany in January-June 1954 totaled 2,648 metric tons (table 2). In the 12 months of 1953 West German canned fish exports totaled 3,999 tons while in 1952 the total was 1,691 tons. The principal canned fish export item was herring which comprised approximately one-half of the total. Miscellaneous canned fish (coalfish or pollock, anchovies, sprats, etc.) and sardines and pilchard were the other items. West German canned fish is shipped to countries in all parts of the world.

Canned Mackerel: West German foreign trade in canned mackerel with the United States was practically nonexistent until March 1954. It was reported, however, that as a result of a drop in the pilchard catch in the United States, a sudden demand developed

Table 1 - West German Imports of Canned Fish, January-June 1954 with Comparisons

Item & Country	Jan.-June 1954			Year 1953			Year 1952		
	Quantity		Value	Quantity		Value	Quantity		Value
	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000
Sardines and Pilchards:									
Yugoslavia	634.3	1,048	249	330.0	594	141	72.2	155	37
Portugal	4,070.7	8,696	2,069	8,109.4	17,135	4,078	7,091.2	16,307	3,881
French Morocco	1,789.8	2,684	639	5,634.5	9,541	2,271	1,735.9	4,058	966
Other Countries	7.2	23	5	9.3	30	7	64.6	81	19
Total sardines and pilchards	6,502.0	12,451	2,962	14,084.0	27,300	6,497	8,963.9	20,601	4,903
Herring:									
Norway	46.6	108	25	130.5	315	75	68.1	173	41
Sweden	12.1	36	9	35.6	107	25	36.3	108	26
United States	1.6	4	1	.4	1	1/	9.7	1	1/
Australia	-	-	-	-	-	-	34.0	56	13
Other Countries	-	-	-	1.5	4	1	7.3	17	4
Total herring	60.3	148	35	168.0	427	101	155.4	355	84
Miscellaneous	342.9	2/	2/	541.4	2/	2/	403.3	2/	2/
Grand Total	6,905.2	2/	2/	14,793.4	2/	2/	9,522.6	2/	2/

1/ Less than US\$500.

2/ Not available.

for canned mackerel and similar products, particularly in the southern part of the United States. According to a reliable trade source, from March to October 1954 West Germany exported to the United States a total of about 27,000 cases (48 15-oz. cans) of mackerel. No information could be obtained as to the value of these exports.

Quoting the same informant, West German export companies have lately been encountering growing difficulties in the marketing of their products in the United States. It appears that the type of mackerel caught off European coasts is rather large. Packing into 15-ounce cans as required by the United States buyers is possible only by cutting the fish down to the required size, a practice which was not well received by customers. Further, mackerel caught by German deep-sea trawlers is landed only after a few days. Their quality does not compare favorably with Japanese and South African mackerel which is reportedly smaller and caught by inshore fishing boats landing their catches daily. As a consequence, it was reported, the stiffest competition in the U. S. market comes from these two countries, although the Netherlands and Denmark have also lately been rather successful in promoting their sales of canned mackerel in the United States, in spite of the same difficulties as encountered by West German exporters.

During the past few years West Germany has been importing rather large quantities of fresh mackerel. The bulk of these imports came from Denmark, smaller supplies from

Sweden. Exports of fresh mackerel were negligible; they did not exceed 30 tons per year. Fish traders estimate that about 70 percent of all imported fresh mackerel is re-exported canned. Besides exports of canned mackerel to the United States in 1954, West Germany has been exporting this commodity for several years to Mediterranean countries, but no exact figures on these exports are available.

Canned Sardines and Pilchards: The main emphasis of West Germany's foreign trade in sardines and pilchards is definitely on imports. During the past three years between 91 and 94 percent of all West German imports of canned fish consisted of sardines and pilchards, the bulk purchased from Portugal and French Morocco. Since about the start of 1953, Yugoslavia has been rapidly increasing its exports of this commodity to West Germany and in the first half of 1954 it supplied little less than 10 percent of all sardines as compared with only 2 to 3 percent in 1953. No transactions in this commodity with the United States have ever been recorded, according to the West German Bureau of Statistics.

Table 2 - West German Exports of Canned Fish, January-June 1954 with Comparisons

Item & Country	Jan.-June 1954			Year 1953			Year 1952		
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value	
	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000	Metric Tons	DM1,000	US\$1,000
Sardines and Pilchards:									
Belgian Congo	8.0	19	4	15.7	39	9	-	-	-
Austria	5.6	12	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	1.9	2	1	.5	2	1	4.6	13	3
Total sardines and pilchards	15.5	33	8	16.2	41	10	4.6	13	3
Herring:									
Belgium	27.9	59	14	54.6	122	29	53.1	125	30
Luxembourg	26.1	46	11	62.7	94	22	63.1	88	21
Saar Territory	38.8	73	17	96.0	176	42	83.3	153	36
Greece	55.7	63	15	113.8	109	26	-	-	-
Switzerland	66.8	104	25	179.8	314	75	195.0	350	83
United States	65.3	130	31	165.2	368	88	175.2	439	104
Great Britain	13.0	30	7	270.3	513	122	2.1	6	1
Austria	756.3	1,505	358	273.8	556	132	25.2	56	13
Egypt	12.5	16	4	290.8	323	77	.5	1	1/
New Guinea	31.8	35	8	276.7	314	75	-	-	-
Australia	90.4	161	38	23.5	25	6	-	-	-
Other Countries	356.5	603	144	359.5	601	143	361.7	726	174
Total herring	1,541.1	2,825	672	2,166.7	3,515	837	959.2	1,944	463
Miscellaneous	1,091.1	2/	2/	1,816.5	2/	2/	727.5	2/	2/
Grand Total	2,647.7	2/	2/	3,999.4	2/	2/	1,691.3	2/	2/

1/Less than US\$500.

2/Not available.

Exports of sardines and pilchards fluctuated between .3 and .6 percent of total exports during the years 1952 through June 1954.

Canned Herring West German exports of canned herring outweigh imports by far. Since 1952 the exports of canned herring have represented between 54 and 58 percent of all canned fish exports, while imports have fluctuated between 1 and 1.6 percent. With the growing importance of other countries as buyers of West German canned herring, the percentage of U. S. purchases had dropped greatly in the past few years, as evidenced by table 3.

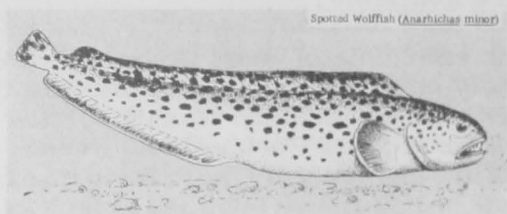
Table 3 - West German Exports of Canned Herring to the United States

Period	Volume	
	Metric Tons	% of Total
Jan. - June 1954	65.3	4
Jan. - Dec. 1953	165.2	8
" " 1952	175.2	18

as evidenced by table 3.

Greenland

GOOD WINTER FISHING FOR WOLFFISH: Fishing for wolffish (ocean catfish) in Greenland waters was very good during the past winter, according to a report by



a biologist in a Danish fishery periodical Vestjysk Fiskeritidende. He states that the young of wolffish have become more abundant in Greenland waters in recent years. It was hoped, therefore, that the good fishing would continue. At Sukkertoppen and Holsteinborg the fishery continues all year but farther north only a summer fishery can be conducted. At Sukkertoppen

the abundance of wolffish has been greater than ever before so that line fishermen have been exceptionally busy. The catch is filleted and frozen for the United States market, reports Fiskets Gang (March 10, 1955), a Norwegian fishery magazine.



Japan

FISHERY AND MARINE PRODUCTS CATCH, 1954: Total production of fishery and marine products by Japan in 1954 amounted to 9.3 billion pounds (see table), according to estimates supplied by the Japanese Fisheries Agency to the U. S. Embassy at Tokyo (April). Fish products comprised the bulk of the catch--75 percent; followed by other marine products, 15 percent; and shellfish and seaweed products, each 5 percent.

Products	Quantity
	Millions of Lbs.
Fish	6,943
Shellfish	432
Others	1,372
Seaweed	537
Total	9,284

Product	Case & Can Size	Quantity
		1,000 Cases
Crab	48 6½-oz. cans	470
Salmon	96 8-oz. cans	600
Tuna in brine	48 7-oz. cans	1,263
Tuna in oil	" " " "	300
Bonito in brine	" " " "	705
Bonito in oil	" " " "	120
Sardines in tomato sauce	48 15-oz. cans	500
Sardines, boiled	" " " "	300
Pike in tomato sauce	96 8-oz. cans	500
Pike, boiled	" " " "	300
Other	Various sizes of cans and cases	1,942
Total		7,000

CANNED FISH PRODUCTION, 1954: The total estimated Japanese canned fish pack in 1954 amounted to 7 million cases (see table), according to an April 1 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo. The major portion of the production consisted of tuna and tunalike fish--2,388 cases or 34 percent of the total. The remainder was made up of various species: Pike, sardines, salmon, crab, and miscellaneous items.

OUTLOOK FOR 1955 FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS: Increased catches of salmon and crab are anticipated because it seems that Japanese vessels will now be able to fish closer to U. S. S. R. waters. The Antarctic whaling expeditions have closed their season with a catch of 2,771 blue-whale units as compared to 1,896 units in 1954. A production of about 53,000 metric tons

of whale oil will be available for export at a price in the vicinity of US\$165 a ton without benefit of a sugar-link subsidy.

Unofficial estimates by various segments of the fishing industry on total exports of principal fish and fish products to all destinations in 1955 are shown in the table. These figures represent only guesses or hopes as to the amount of export movement.

The figure for frozen tuna and bonito implies a 12-percent increase, and will depend largely upon the state of the United States market which is presently weak.

The salmon exports will be contingent upon the renewal or extension of the Japanese-United Kingdom trade agreement, as canned salmon is sold chiefly to the sterling areas. The increased export hoped for in canned tuna and bonito also assumes about a 7-percent increase in the United States market, which is understood to have a large stock on hand. The United States figure may therefore not be reached. The crab export is planned on the basis of 300,000 cases to the United Kingdom and 200,000 to the United States. The former again is dependent upon trade relations with the United Kingdom; the latter is approximately the amount taken by the United States in 1953 but is substantially above the 1954 figure.

Products	Unit	Quantity
Tuna and bonito, frozen	Metric tons	59,000
Tuna and bonito, canned	Cases	1,800,000
Salmon, canned	Cases	800,000
Sardines, canned	Cases	500,000
Crab, canned	Cases	550,000

Considering all factors, Japan's exports of aquatic products, including both fish and other marine products, should be in the neighborhood of US\$120 million for the calendar year 1955, or about a 20-percent increase over 1954, an April 1 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo reports.

* * * * *

PEARL OYSTER CULTIVATION IN INLAND SEA SUCCESSFUL: Cultivation of pearls off the southern tip of Awaji Island, first attempted in 1951, has passed the experimental stage and is now said to be a commercially sound operation, a February 15 U. S. consular dispatch from Kobe reports. The Inland Sea has not heretofore been considered suitable for pearl culture and the Awaji grounds are the first within the Sea to be successfully developed. In 1954, 130,000 first-grade pearls from Awaji were displayed at the Pearl Center in Kobe.

Plans for 1955 call for sinking 200,000 mother oysters. This number will be increased annually until a goal of one million per year is reached.



Mexico

MERIDA FROZEN SHRIMP EXPORTS, OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1954: Frozen shrimp exports from the Merida District of Mexico (all to the United States) totaled about 1,925 metric tons in October-December 1954, almost 27 percent more than the 1,520 tons of the previous quarter, a March 1 U. S. consular dispatch from Merida reports.

Prices for 15-20 count frozen shrimp (heads off) delivered in Brownsville, Tex., each month April through December for the past four years were as follows:

Month	1954	1953	1952	1951
	(U. S. Cents Per Pound)			
Apr.	58	80	57	53
May	62	90	56	54
June	55	90	58	57
July	57	80	60	60
Aug.	58	75	62	58
Sept.	52	67	62	55
Oct.	49	66	62	50
Nov.	49	66	62	53
Dec.	52	68	65	53

Conditions during the last quarter of 1954 continued to improve on the basis that the catch was sold at a profit over operating costs. However, many outfits in Ciudad del Carmen, the center of the industry, are still in difficulties as the result of overexpansion based upon the abnormally high prices of 1953.

During the October-December 1954 period the export cost to Brownsville was reduced from 16 to 14 U. S. cents a pound. This reduction was made possible by decreased freight rates, operating costs, and export taxes. These

lowered operating costs have gone far to offset the lower prices of the current year.

Merida frozen shrimp exports from Ciudad del Carmen and Campeche (all to the United States) in the 12 months of 1954 totaled 12.3 million pounds as compared with 9.7 million pounds in 1953 from Ciudad del Carmen only.

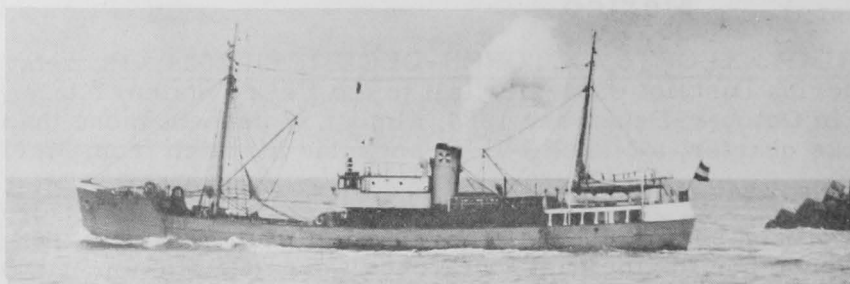


Netherlands

FISHING FLEET, 1955: The Netherlands fishing fleet on January 1, 1955, consisted of 2,509 vessels of 87,913 gross tons (see table), according to a U. S. consular dispatch of April 1.

Type of Vessel	No. of Vessels	Gross Registered Tons
Steam trawlers	18	6,688
Steam Luggers	20	3,800
Other steam vessels	2	124
Motor trawlers 500 hp. and over	11	3,118
Motor luggers and small trawlers	235	36,095
Motor cutters	348	12,943
Other motor vessels 7 tons and over	1,046	22,990
Motor vessels less than 7 tons	234	799
Sail vessels 7 tons and over	25	543
Sailboats and rowboats less than 7 tons	570	813
Total	2,509	87,913

SCHOOL FOR FISHERMEN: In the Netherlands ever-growing attention is being paid to the training and education of fishermen. A fishing school recently opened by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food offers a striking example.



Typical steam trawler used by fishermen of the Netherlands.

In his opening speech the Minister pointed to the growing need for a thorough training because constant technical development imposes higher demands on the

crews of fishing vessels. These demands are not confined to nautical knowledge but also hold good for the handling of fish and fishery products. It is essential that they should know their jobs thoroughly. The home and export markets demand fish of superior quality. In general it can be said that the fisheries are developing more and more into a rational industry, which must supply high-quality products at the lowest possible prices. All-around training is essential to reach efficiency.

The fishing port of Katwijk is proud of this school which supplies a long-felt need. A total of 385 young and adult fishermen are attending the various day and evening classes. The interest shown is so overwhelming that accommodations have already become inadequate, reports the February issue of Holland Fish Trade, a Netherlands fisheries magazine.



Norway

NEW HERRING PRESS: A new and revolutionary herring press, embodying a principle different from that used in the usual screw press, is being tested in a Haugensund, Norway, herring oil and meal plant, according to a report in Fiskaren (February 16), a Norwegian fishery periodical. The inventor of the press, Knut Ø. Dahl, an engineer with A/S Myrens verksted in Oslo, is seeking patents in Norway and other countries. The press will be ready for delivery in the 1955/56 herring season.

Oil and water are expressed by the press in a double action as the pressure increases and the press cake can be kept much thinner than in the present presses. The pressure in the press also can be adjusted according to the type of raw material while it is in full operation. The new press uses only one-half the power and one-third the space required by present presses and weighs only one-half as much. Operating costs and the price of the equipment also are reported to be appreciably less.

* * * * *

FISH-FLOUR PLANT BEING BUILT: A plant is being built at Stamsund in North Norway by A/S Sea Foods to process fish waste into non-fattening, albumin-rich flour suitable for human consumption, based on a United States patent, reports an April 14 bulletin from the Norwegian Information Service.

* * * * *

ARCTIC SEAL PRODUCTION, 1954: Norwegian sealing operations in 1954 resulted in a total catch of 259,194 animals from which about 5,760 short tons of blubber was obtained, according to the U. S. Embassy at Oslo. This is a 51-percent increase as compared with the 1953 output of 3,810 tons but under the 1952 and 1951 production of 6,560 and 9,300 tons, respectively.

Norwegian sealing expeditions operate in the spring and summer in five areas of the Arctic. Most of the sealing is conducted in international waters in the area of drift ice known as the Western Icefields located east of Greenland and north of Iceland.

In addition to sealing, Norwegian vessels engaged in Greenland shark fishing which yielded 226 tons of shark oil, or less than half the quantity produced in 1953.



Pakistan

FROZEN FISH EXEMPT FROM EXPORT TAX: Processed frozen fish is exempt from all Pakistan customs duties when exported effective March 4, 1955, according to a March 31 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Karachi.

The exemption is an example of the planning and efforts of certain officials of the Ministries of Finance, Commerce and Industries to utilize better the country's natural resources, and to build up foreign exchange receipts from hitherto untapped sources. Up to the present exports of fresh frozen processed fish have been insignificant, and without doubt they would have remained so if this tax of Rs. 5 per maund (1.8 U. S. cents per pound) had not been removed.

Fresh-frozen processed fish were included in the Export Tariff Schedule under the classification of "Fresh Fish," there being no distinction between fresh fish in the natural state and merely iced for export, and frozen and processed fish for export.

A fisheries firm in Pakistan in which there is a substantial share of United States private capital, found it could not compete in world markets if an export tax of Rs. 5 per maund (1.8 U. S. cents per pound) was assessed. One of the company's primary objectives was to export a large share of its catch after it had been processed and frozen.

Officials of the company visited officials in several Government of Pakistan ministries and explained the position and predicament of the firm. Emphasis was placed on the fact that there would be no income to the government if the tax were retained and the prospects for a new source for foreign exchange were nonexistent. If the tax were removed, however, there were good prospects that a substantial new exchange earner would be found, and that a modern fish-catching and processing industry would, in all probability, be built up over a period of years.

* * * * *

FOA TO FINANCE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT: A project agreement with Pakistan calling for an expenditure of US\$88,000 for fisheries development in West Pakistan was reported April 19 by the U. S. Foreign Operations Administration. The funds will be used to purchase gear and equipment for two exploratory fishing vessels previously acquired, equipment for a survey of inland waterways, and equipment for refrigeration rooms and display cabinets to improve fish marketing methods.



Panama

FIRST FISH-MEAL AND OIL PLANT OPENED: Panama's first fish-meal and oil plant was formally inaugurated on February 18, 1955, reports the U. S. Embassy at Panama. The plant is located at Puerto Caimito in the District of Chorrera. The factory will produce and export fish meal for use as fertilizer, chicken and animal feed, and fish oils and fats for the preparation of oils, paints, varnishes, glycerine, and the manufacture of soap and candles.

The plant equipment, with its electric power generating unit, is of United States manufacture and was acquired at a total cost of US\$250,000. It is installed in a floor area of about 16,000 square feet, and has a processing capacity of approximately 15 short tons of raw material per hour. Although the firm owns a small fishing fleet, the management has announced that the company will buy all quantities of fish offered for sale. When the plant is in full operating capacity (24 hours per day), it will require a total complement of 150 employees. In the packing of the finished products, the company plans to use locally-manufactured 100-pound jute bags with a special impermeable lining.



Peru

PERMISSION GRANTED TO THREE U. S. VESSELS TO FISH WITHIN 200-MILE TERRITORIAL WATERS ZONE: The Peruvian Government has given authorization to a Peruvian firm to allow three United States flag fishing vessels to operate within the Peruvian 200-mile territorial waters claimed by them. The Government newspaper La Nacion (March 10) claims: "Peru's 200-mile limit has again been confirmed and its basis on sound jurisprudence ratified," according to a March 12 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Lima.

The Peruvian newspaper continues: "Within this limit it is not permissible to fish, hunt whales, nor carry on any industry based on fish without obtaining previous permission--such as this corporation has done--under penalty of fine, requisitioning of the fish illegally taken, or capture of the ships," as happened in 1954 in the case of the Onassis fleet and, more recently, in the case of ships belonging to North American industry.

The authorization is contained in Ministerial Resolution No. 478 of March 9, 1955, and provides that the fish caught by these vessels will be considered nationalized (Peruvian) and there will be paid as an export tax US\$8 per ton of fish.

The authorization is valid for one year and contains a number of other stringent provisions as follows:

The newspaper continued: "The full existence of the Peruvian thesis, confirmed and converted into actual law in the Lima Meeting of 1954 with Chile, Ecuador, and Peru, during the Second Conference on the Exploitation and Conservation of the Maritime Resources of the South Pacific, requires as a prerequisite the respect of the 200-mile limit as established by these three countries as their territorial waters.

"This limit nevertheless does not signify any obstacles for foreign ships passing through this zone and carrying on fishing. But national sovereignty and the future legitimate conservation of fish resources requires that the volume of this industry be known, especially when it is foreign. For this a permission is necessary just as happened in the case of the Corporacion del Pacifico Sur, S. A.; such permission was granted without the slightest difficulty after previous consultation with the Fishing and Hunting Section of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Peruvian Section of the Permanent Commission of the Conference for the Exploitation and Conservation of the Maritime Resources of the South Pacific, and the Port Captains Office, and after having considered the opinion of the Chief of Staff of the Navy.

" . . .2. The boats referred to will have to arrive and leave from the port of Talara in order to comply with the maritime controls and fiscal regulations.

"3. The fishing that might have been done in the high seas, outside of the 200 miles, before entering the Peruvian jurisdiction, shall be duly controlled on arrival of the ships at Talara and taken into consideration in order to make deductions regarding the payment of the respective fees;

"4. The fish obtained through the above-mentioned vessels will be considered nationalized and there will be paid as an export tax eight dollars (\$8, American money) per ton of fish.

"5. The company will embark in the above-mentioned ships, furnishing lodging and food, any person who is named by the Fishing and Hunting Section, the Ministry of Finance, the Administration of Port Captains, or the Office of Port Captains in order to undertake the technical and customs control of fishing while the boats are operating.

"6. The bait that is used for fishing shall be obtained by each ship itself and the sale or transfer to other boats is prohibited.

"7. Absolutely forbidden is fishing for anchovy, machete, and sardines for industrial purposes.

"8. Forbidden to these boats is the transfer of fish to any other boat of a foreign flag already on the high sea or in port, except when it is a matter of exportation of the product, in which case the transfer will be effected but only in port with the supervision of the maritime and customs authorities;

"9. At the port of destination the company should obtain a certificate from the Port Authority or Customs regarding the quantity of fish unloaded and should deliver it to the nearest Peruvian Consul in order that it may be transmitted to the Ministry of Finance.

"10. The present authorization involves the use of the port facilities, provisions, fuel, etc., that the above-mentioned boats would need during the time of the present authorization.

"11. The company remains obligated to comply with the other conditions expressed in the request of the Executive Director of the Corporacion del Pacifico Sur, S. A., dated January 17, 1955.

"12. All the activities of fishing by these boats shall be subject to the control of the Office of Fishing and Hunting which will indicate the limitations and the time when fishing is forbidden and dictate the technical activities that it deems most convenient for the purpose of the preservation of the fishing resources.

"13. The company as well as the owners of the ship assume full responsibility for the infractions that are committed of laws and national regulations and, as a guarantee, will deposit in the Office of the Port Captains at Talara the documentation of same (the ships), receiving in exchange a copy of the present Ministerial Resolution authorizing them to operate in Peruvian waters.

"14. Neither the company nor the owners of vessels will have the right to make any claims from the national or foreign authorities in case of non-compliance with the contract by either party.

"15. This authorization is valid for a period of one year from the date of the present resolution, and can be extended by previous notification to the permanent commission within a time of 30 days of expiration. . . ."



Spain

VIGO FISHERIES TRENDS, FEBRUARY 1955: Fishing: February is the poorest month of the year for the Vigo fishing industry, and the volume of catches entered through the port during the month declined, a March 15 U. S. consular dispatch from Vigo reports. Nonetheless, landings were slightly larger than in the same month of the preceding year. Smaller catches by the long-range fleet off Ireland and the beginning of the closed season for sardine fishing, as well as rough weather and the continued absence of part of the fleet operating from southern ports, all formed part of the normal February fishing picture.

Fish Canning: Canneries in the Vigo area purchased 131,000 pounds of fish during February 1955--1.8 percent of the total catches entered through the Vigo fish

exchange. This compares to 292,000 pounds or about 3.5 percent of the catch in the previous month, and 202,000 pounds or about 3.4 percent in February 1954.

The decline in the volume of fish purchased by the canneries in February was principally due to the scarcity of varieties suitable for canning. The bulk of the purchases consisted of "castaneta" (brama-raii) and small quantities of anchovies.



Spanish Morocco

FOREIGN TRADE IN FISHERY PRODUCTS, 1953 AND JANUARY-MARCH 1954: Spanish Morocco (not including Ceuta and Melilla) imports of fishery products in the first quarter of 1954 totaled 557 metric tons, valued at 1.0 million pesetas (US\$23,700); and for the year 1953 amounted to 1,601 tons, valued at 3.6 million pesetas (US\$83,500), reports an April 11, 1955, U. S. Legation dispatch from Tangiers.

Exports of fishery products from Spanish Morocco during January-March 1954 totaled 684 metric tons, valued at 9.7 million pesetas (US\$223,000); and the total for the 12 months of 1953 amounted to 3,398 tons, valued at 37.3 million pesetas (US\$860,000).



Trinidad and Tobago (British West Indies)

FISHERIES TRENDS, 1954: The fishing industry of Trinidad and Tobago suffers from supply fluctuations; fresh fish are generally more scarce and expensive during the dry season than in the rainy season. The seasonal variations in catch are illustrated by the delivery of 705,000 pounds of fish to Port of Spain, the Colony's principal market, in the first quarter of 1954 and 1,307,000 pounds in the third quarter.

Practically all the fish caught is consumed in Trinidad and Tobago. Only 60,000 pounds of locally-caught fish, fresh or lightly preserved, were exported in 1954.

The Government maintains a fish farm where experiments are carried out in the breeding of fresh-water fish, a March 25 U. S. consular dispatch from Port of Spain reports.



U. S. S. R.

FACTORYSHIP FISH CANNERY COMPLETED IN EAST GERMANY: The Pushkin, first of 24 factoryship fish canneries which a shipyard in Kiel, East Germany, is building for the Soviet Union, has been completed, according to the April 6 Journal of Commerce. In addition to the ordinary trial runs, the Pushkin will undertake a 13-week trip with a German crew to the Barent Sea. This extensive cruise is necessary because the fishing equipment as well as the cannery installations are mainly new constructions which have to undergo many tests. After the trial runs the Pushkin will be handled over to the Sudo Import Co., in Moscow.

The second of these vessels will be completed soon, and later on the floating canneries are to be delivered at the rate of one every three weeks.



Venezuela

FISH CANNERS FACING CRISIS: Competition among Venezuelan fish canners has forced low prices and added to the retailers profit; to remain solvent the canners

have been forced to lower the quality of their pack, an April 5 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Caracas states.

The Caracas press (El Universal, April 5, 1955) under the heading "Fish Canning Industry Needs a Complete Reorganization" tells the story:

"In consequence the quality is inferior to that of three years ago, for which reason it is difficult, if not impossible, for this product of Venezuela to capture a permanent international market.

"But before going to the Government the industry must be put on a sane basis, the market must be moralized, ruinous competitive pricing must be abandoned, and the quality of the product, today plenty deficient, must be improved."

The canners believe the first move is to stabilize the local market and end the ruinous competition. If this does not make fish canning profitable, then Government action should be requested. The canners suggest this action should be protection, but some protection already exists.

The high cost of canned fish is due to the cost of cans which represents 54 percent of the total costs, and oil 23 percent; and the fact that during the war the industry grew careless of costs. The canners believe that the Government should finance the next pack, thus enabling them to operate at better than 26 percent of capacity. They point out that if the Government will finance the pack there will be no need for the fish dollar.

A report indicated a representative of the Venezuelan Foreign Office had succeeded in interesting British buyers in Venezuelan canned sardines, according to El Nacional of March 15. This report stated that negotiations were in progress for the sale of 60,000 cases, and if this negotiation was satisfactory the same purchaser would buy 50,000 additional cases.

At the same time the representative informed the canners they must reduce their costs and prices. He stated that several canners were marginal producers and will fail unless they adopt adequate methods for reducing costs. "The situation today is characterized by large production, prices that do not cover costs, and strong competition in the national market," he said.

The solution as seen by that representative is in reducing costs by better organization, a March 15 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Caracas points out.

On April 13 the canners reported that the sale of Venezuelan canned sardines to Great Britain has fallen through because although fish quality was satisfactory the price was not, according to an April 22, U. S. Embassy dispatch from Caracas. The canners mourn the loss of a sale of 2,000 metric tons of fish and see no possibility of selling to Britain.

