



# COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



A review of developments and news of the fishery industries prepared in the BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

A. W. Anderson, Editor

J. Pileggi, Associate Editor      H. M. Bearse, Assistant Editor

Mailed free to members of the fishery and allied industries. Address correspondence and requests to the: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

Publication of material from sources outside the Service is not an endorsement. The Service is not responsible for the accuracy of facts, views, or opinions contained in material from outside sources.

Although the contents of this publication have not been copyrighted and may be reprinted freely, reference to the source will be appreciated.

The printing of this publication has been approved by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, August 2, 1955. (8/31/57)

## CONTENTS

COVER: Kuroshio Maru No. 21, Japan's most advanced type of tuna vessel operating in the Indian Ocean between Ceylon and Madagascar. Six smaller catcher boats are carried on the vessel's deck to the fishing grounds, and in addition the vessel is equipped with long-line fishing gear which is fished directly from her own deck. (See pp. 33 and 34 of this issue.)

CORRECTION: February 1956, inside cover page, legend for cover photo should have stated: "The annual ex-vessel value of sea-scallop landings is about \$10 million."

Condition of the Middle Atlantic Pound-Net Fishery, by Fred C. June .....	Page	
School Lunch Fish-Cookery Demonstrations in Oklahoma, by Robert P. Seifert .....		1
		6
	Page	
RESEARCH IN SERVICE LABORATORIES: .....	9	
A Possible Quality Index for Fish Meal .....	9	
Progress Report on Processing and Handling		
Southern Oysters .....	9	
Public Meetings on Fish-Stick Standard .....	10	
TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS: .....	11	
Additions to U. S. Fleet of Fishing Vessels .....	11	
American Samoa:		
Tuna Vessels Reported Landing Big Catches ...	11	
California:		
Sardine Catch Increased in 1955/56 Season ....	11	
Cans--Shipments for Fishery Products, 1955 ...	12	
Federal Purchases of Fishery Products:		
Fresh and Frozen Fishery Products Purchased by		
the Department of Defense, January 1956 .....	12	
Veterans Administration 1956 Requirements for		
Canned Fish .....	12	
Fish and Wildlife Motif on United States Postage		
Stamps .....	13	
Groundfish Fillets--United States Production and		
Imports .....	14	
Gulf Exploratory Fishery Program:		
Deep-Water Trawling for Red Shrimp by <u>Oregon</u>		
(Cruise 36) .....	14	
Maine:		
Sardine Technological Research Pushed at Univer-		
sity of Maine .....	15	
Marketing Prospects for Edible Fishery Products,		
January-June 1956 .....	15	
Maryland:		
Oyster Parasite Distribution Studied .....	16	
TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS (Contd.):		
North Atlantic Fisheries Exploration and Gear		
Research: .....		
Ocean Perch Exploratory Fishing off Sable Is-		
land by <u>Delaware</u> (Cruise 15) .....	17	
Pacific Oceanic Fishery Investigations:		
Sonic Fish Finder Used by <u>Charles H. Gilbert</u>		
to Locate Tuna (Cruises 25 and 26) .....	18	
Yellowfin Tuna Abundance Studies in Line Is-		
lands Continued by <u>John R. Manning</u> (Cruise		
29) .....	19	
Oceanographic Data Collected by <u>Hugh M.</u>		
Smith (Cruise 32) .....	20	
Saltonstall-Kennedy Act Fisheries Projects:		
American Fisheries Advisory Committee to		
Meet in California .....	21	
Fishery Statistical Office Opened in Annapolis		
Shrimp's Chief Retail Outlets are Frozen-Food		
Cabinets .....	22	
South Atlantic Exploratory Fishery Program:		
Chartered Vessel to Explore South Atlantic		
for Shrimp .....	23	
First Shrimp Exploration Trip Completed by		
<u>George M. Bowers</u> (Cruise 1) .....	24	
Sport Fishing License Sales Set New Records ..	24	
U. S. Foreign Trade:		
Edible Fishery Products, December 1955 ..	26	
Groundfish Fillet Imports in January 1956		
Above a Year Ago .....	26	
Wholesale Prices, February 1956 .....	27	

CONTENTS (CONTINUED)

	Page		Page
FOREIGN: .....	29	FOREIGN (Contd.):	
International:		Portugal:	
Territorial Waters:		Fisheries Trends, September 1955 .....	36
United States Reservation on Inter-American		Spain:	
Jurist Council Resolution on Territorial		Shrimp Fishery .....	37
Waters .....	29	Union of South Africa:	
Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Commission:		Pilchard Survey Progress Report, 1954-55 ...	37
Annual Meeting Announced .....	29	United Kingdom:	
United States Research Program for 1956 in		Commercial Fish Landing at Hull Up in 1955 ..	40
Commission Area .....	30	Shrimp Fishery of Great Britain .....	40
Australia:		Subsidy Plan for Craft Fishing White Fish Re-	
Queensland Shrimp Fishery .....	30	vised .....	41
Ecuador:		FEDERAL ACTIONS: .....	43
First National Fishing Congress .....	31	Department of the Interior:	
France:		Fish and Wildlife Service:	
Fish Canning Trends for 1955 .....	31	Alaska 1956 Herring Catch Raised .....	43
Guatemala:		Eighty-Fourth Congress (Second Session) .....	43
Fishing Licenses .....	32	FISHERY INDICATORS: .....	45
Iceland:		Chart 1 - Fishery Landings for Selected States ..	45
Shrimp and Lobster Fisheries .....	32	Chart 2 - Landings for Selected Fisheries .....	46
India:		Chart 3 - Cold-Storage Holdings and Freezings of	
Joint Indo-Japanese Fishing Enterprise ....	32	Fishery Products .....	47
Japan:		Chart 4 - Receipts and Cold-Storage Holdings of	
Description of Most Advanced Type Tuna Vessel	33	Fishery Products at Principal Distribution	
Mexico:		Centers .....	48
Merida Shrimp Fisheries Trends, October-De-		Chart 5 - Fish Meal and Oil Production - U. S.	
cember 1955 .....	34	and Alaska .....	48
Norway:		Chart 6 - Canned Packs of Selected Fishery	
Frozen-Food Container Tested .....	35	Products .....	49
Fishermen's Loan Fund for Nylon Nets .....	35	Chart 7 - U. S. Fishery Products Imports .....	50
Agreement on Salted Herring Exports to Russia	35	RECENT FISHERY PUBLICATIONS: .....	51
Peru:		Fish and Wildlife Service Publications .....	51
Licensing and Taxing of Foreign Fishing Vessels	35	Miscellaneous Publications .....	51



**VOLUME MARKETS FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS--LOCKER PLANTS**

The locker-plant industry is steadily developing into an important volume market for frozen fishery products. Symbolic of this trend is the change in emphasis--a locker plant is now classified in the trade as a "Frozen Food Center."

In a survey of the frozen food centers or locker plants in New Jersey in 1954, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service fishery marketing specialists found that only 26 plants out of a total of 54 sold fishery products. Yet, these 26 plants sold 163, 970 pounds of fishery products annually, an average of 6, 300 pounds a plant each year, or about 525 pounds per plant a month. If each of the almost 11, 000 locker plants in the United States were to sell 525 pounds of fishery products a month, the locker-plant industry would provide a market for  $5\frac{3}{4}$  million pounds of fishery products a month or 69 million pounds annually. Because of this tremendous potential, the Service's educational and market development program includes working closely with members of this industry.