



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Federal Trade Commission

ORDER ISSUED AGAINST PRICE FIXING ON KING CRABS IN ALASKA:

The Federal Trade Commission on December 31, 1956, adopted the finding of a Commission hearing examiner that United Fishermen of Alaska, a Kodiak, Alaska, affiliate of the Seafarers International Union of North America (American Federation of Labor), has engaged in conspiracy and coercion to fix the prices of raw king crabs.

The Commission made final the examiner's order (Docket No. 6368, King Crabs) prohibiting the Union and an association of boat owners or captains from doing the following things:

Fixing or attempting to fix any price at which king crab or crab meat is to be purchased or sold;

Jointly or collectively negotiating as to any such price;

Coercing or compelling purchasers or sellers of king crab or crab meat to adhere to any price;

Preventing or attempting to prevent any person from accepting or retaining employment in a cannery or other establishment processing king crab, with the purpose or effect of causing the establishment to maintain any particular price.

The order, however, is not construed as preventing the following things:

Any respondent, individually, from negotiating with any canner or processor;

Any association of bona fide fishermen from acting in accordance with the Fishermen's Cooperative Marketing Act;

Collective bargaining between the Union and any employer with respect to wages, hours, and working conditions of Union members.

The opinion of the examiner as adopted by the Commission held that since 1952 the Union, the boat owners' association, and three canners in the area have conspired to fix prices paid by these canners for live king crabs. In addition, the opinion stated, the Union and Association have used coercive methods against a fourth canner, who refused to pay these prices.

Two of the three canners named in the complaint, issued June 27, 1955, agreed to accept a consent order, which was approved by the Commission May 3. The third company was in default, and the examiner issued an order against it. The Commission affirmed this order on December 31.

According to the examiner, since 1952 negotiations among the parties have resulted in a fixed price paid for crabs. In 1954 and 1955 this price was 9½ cents a pound.

When one Alaska fisheries firm refused to pay more than 8 cents a pound, the examiner said, its officials were told, among other things, that it would not be allowed to operate, that it would get no crabs, and that it would get into difficulties and have trouble with its gear.

This was "in no sense a 'labor dispute' involving wages, hours, working conditions, etc.," the examiner said. Rather, he continued, here were attempts "to maintain and enforce (an illegal) combination through coercion."

The cease and desist order was published in the January 12, 1957, issue of the Federal Register.

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, October 1956, p. 103.

Department of the Interior

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NO CHANGE IN REGIONAL PATTERN FOR SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION:

No change will be made in the present regional pattern for the United States Fish and Wildlife Service sport fisheries and wildlife administration, it was announced January 14 by Ross L. Leffler, new Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife of the Department of the Interior, at the first session of the annual winter meeting of the Service's regional directors.

There are presently five regions with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.; Boston, Mass.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Albuquerque, New Mex.; and Portland, Ore.; in addition to an Alaskan administrative area.

A proposal for the future creation of four regions within the United States following the pattern of the four flyways for migratory waterfowl, which are the administrative responsibility of the Federal Government, was made in the first draft of the Fish and Wildlife Service reorganization plan which was revealed in November 1956.

This planning was set in motion by Public Law 1024 of the 84th Congress last summer. It was pointed out by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton at the time copies of the first plan were distributed to the staff and various national conservation organizations for study that it was not final. He said it was subject to review of Interior's new Fish and Wildlife officials as soon as appointed, and would be revised wherever necessary. A complete re-examination of the plan began immediately after Assistant Secretary Leffler's appointment, and his announcement followed.

Eighty-Fifth Congress
(First Session)

Listed below are the public bills and resolutions and reports that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries. Public bills and resolutions are shown when introduced; from month to month the more pertinent reports and hearings, or chamber actions on the bills shown are published; and if passed, the date when signed by the President.



OPENING OF THE FIRST SESSION:
The first session of the 85th Congress convened on January 3, 1957.

ALASKA FISHERIES TRANSFER (ALASKA ORGANIC ACT):
H. R. 2133 (Bartlett) introduced in the House on January 7, a bill to amend the Organic Act of Alaska and other purposes; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. Would amend the Alaska Legislative Assembly Act to transfer control of the fisheries and game resources from the Department of the Interior to Alaska, but excepts fur-seal or sea-otter fisheries and supervision or control of the Pribilof Islands; which shall remain under control of the Department of the Interior as heretofore.

ALASKA SALMON TRAP ELIMINATION: H. R. 3015 (Bartlett) introduced in the House January 16, a bill to provide for the gradual elimination of salmon traps in the waters of Alaska; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Also; introduced in the House January 28; H. R. 3761 (Dingell)--Similar to H. R. 3015.

ALASKA STATEHOOD: H. R. 340 (Mack of Illinois) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to enable the people of Alaska to form a constitution and State government and to be admitted to the Union on an equal footing with the original States; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Also; introduced January 3; H. R. 1242 (Saylor), H. R. 1243 (Saylor) for Hawaii and Alaska, S. 49 (Murray and 24 other senator--are similar to H. R. 340 and referred to the respective House and Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

AID TO BUSINESS AND OTHERS INJURED BY TARIFF REDUCTIONS: H. R. 457 (Smith of Mississippi) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to provide Federal assistance to business enterprises, communities, and individuals injured by tariff reductions; to the Committee on Ways and Means. This bill, called the "Federal Tariff Reduction Adjustment Act," sets up a Trade Adjustment Board unaffiliated with any agency or department of the Federal Government. The Board shall receive and consider any application for adjustment assistance under this Act which is filed by a business enterprise, or by the community in which such enterprise is located, or

by the employees of such enterprise, alleging that the applicant is being injured or threatened with injury as a result of tariff reductions by the United States. Adjustment assistance will be provided by grants-in-aid to States and will include funds for (1) retraining of employees; (2) loans to assist in the rehabilitation of communities which have been injured by tariff reductions; (3) loans to communities for development of new employment opportunities; (4) extension of 90 days during which unemployment insurance may be paid to employees displaced from their employment by reason of tariff reductions. In addition the bill provides for loans to business enterprises injured by tariff reductions for diversifying production, modernizing plant and production facilities, and moving to more favorable producing areas. Also accelerated amortization of certain facilities.

CHEMICAL ADDITIVES IN FOOD: H. R. 4432 (Sullivan) introduced in the House February 5, a bill to protect the public health by amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act so as to provide for the safety of chemical additives in food; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Provides that no person shall introduce or deliver for introduction any chemical additive, unless the use of such chemical additive has been approved by the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. Sets up an Advisory Committee for determining whether or not "chemical additives" are harmful to the consuming public when deemed advisable by the Secretary or upon notification from the applicant. The advisory Committee will report, after independent study of the proposal, to the Secretary. If the Secretary and his advisory Committee have refused to approve the application, the applicant may file objections there-to and request a public hearing.

DEPLETION ALLOWANCE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MOLLUSK SHELLS: H. R. 484 (Thompson of Louisiana) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to provide that the transportation of mollusk shells (including clams and oyster shells) from the point of extraction to the dockside shall be taken into account in computing percentage depletion; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also; introduced in the House January 3: H. R. 1067 (Boggs); January 5: H. R. 2034 (Thompson of Texas)--similar to H. R. 484.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FISH AND GAME LAWS: S. 532 (Beall) introduced in the Senate January 10, a bill to revise and modernize the fish and game laws of the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the District of Columbia.

Also; introduced January 10; H. R. 2454 (Hyde)--similar to S. 532.

DUMPING PROHIBITED IN COASTAL WATERS: H. R. 5046 (Dorn) introduced in the House on February 19, a bill to aid navigation and protect the fishing industry in the waters adjacent to New York City by prohibiting the dumping of certain materials in said waters; to the Committee on Public Works.

EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN: S. 817 (Smith of New Jersey and others) introduced in the Senate January 25, a bill to prohibit discrimination on account of sex in the payment of wages in commerce or in the production of goods for commerce, and to provide procedures for assisting employees in collecting wages lost by any such discrimination; to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

Also; introduced in the House January 3: H. R. 651 (Green of Oregon), H. R. 715 (Kelly), H. R. 840 (Multer); February 6: H. R. 449 (Addonizio); February 14: H. R. 4825 (Roosevelt)--are similar to H. R. 715.

FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT INCREASED COVERAGE: H. R. 4697 (Roosevelt), introduced in the House on February 11, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, to provide coverage for employees of employers who are engaged in activities affecting interstate commerce, to eliminate certain exemptions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor. Continues the exemption for any employee employed in catching, taking, harvesting, cultivating, or farming of any kind of fish, shellfish, crustacea, sponges, seaweeds, or other forms of animal or vegetable life.

Also; introduced in the House February 11: H. R. 4708 (Thompson of New Jersey); February 14: H. R. 4844 (Wier). Introduced in the Senate February 18: S. 1267 (Morse, Murray, Needy, and McNamara); February 19: S. 1273 (McNamara, Murray, and Morse). Introduced in the House February 19: H. R. 5018 (Holland); February 20: H. R. 5119 (Forand)--All similar to H. R. 4697, but wording varies in some bills; all House bills referred to the Committee on Education and Labor and Senate bills to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE POSITIONS: H. R. 3650 (Reuss) introduced in the House January 24, a bill relating to positions in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Provides for restoring the competitive merit system to the Fish and Wildlife Service by limiting the number of appointments under Schedule C, or noncompetitive positions, to the Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and the Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife.

NATIONAL POLICY: H. R. 612 (Donohue) introduced in the House January 3; a bill to establish a sound and comprehensive national policy with respect to fisheries; to create and prescribe the functions of the United States Fish Commission; to strengthen the fisheries segment of the national economy; and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Similar to numerous bills introduced in the 84th Congress (Second Session). See Commercial Fisheries Review, January 1956, p. 64.

FISHING FLEET MAINTENANCE: H. R. 3059 (King) introduced in the House January 16, a bill to amend Title V of the Merchant Marine Act of 1936, as amended, to promote the maintenance of the American fishing fleet under competitive conditions and in the interest of sustained fish food supplies in case of emergency and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. A new section to Title V of the act provides that:

"Sec. 512. (a) Any qualified fisherman who is a citizen of the United States, or any corporation of the United States engaged in fishing, may make application to the Federal Maritime Board for construction-differential subsidy to aid in the construction of a new fishing vessel or vessels.

"(b) No such application shall be approved by the Board until it determines (1) that the applicant will aid in the development of the fishery trade and will declare his or its readiness, respectively, to use the vessel or vessels for either intensified fish food supplies or for military or naval purposes in time of war or national emergency, (2) that the applicant possesses the ability, experience and other qualifi-

cations necessary to enable it to operate and maintain the proposed new vessel or vessels, and (3) that the granting of the aid applied for is reasonably calculated to replace worn out or obsolete tonnage with a new or modern vessel or vessels.

"(c) No subsidy shall be awarded pursuant to this section if the applicant does not show sufficiently that the fish or fishery products he or it is producing or intends to produce suffer from foreign competition and that the subsidy is needed to keep the American fishing fleet in such status of efficiency as is necessary to meet the foreign competition.

"(d) The Board shall adopt appropriate rules and prescribe for the administration of the provisions of this section."

FISH HATCHERIES: H. R. 662 (Gavin) introduced January 3; a bill to provide for the establishment of a fish hatchery in the Northwestern part of Pennsylvania.

H. R. 3647 (Reuss) introduced in the House January 24, a bill to provide for the establishment of a fish hatchery in the State of Wisconsin.

H. R. 3970 (Dingell) introduced in the House January 29, a bill to provide for the establishment of a fish hatchery in the State of Michigan.

Also; H. R. 4268 (Dingell) introduced in the House February 4 similar to H. R. 3970. All the above referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

HAWAII STATEHOOD: H. R. 339 (Mack of Illinois), a bill to enable the people of Hawaii to form a constitution and State government and to be admitted to the Union on an equal footing with the original States; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

Also; introduced in the House January 3; H. R. 628 (Engle); H. R. 848 (O'Brien of New York); H. R. 1243 (Saylor); Hawaii and Alaska; H. R. 1246 (Saylor); Introduced in the Senate January 7; S. 50 (Murray); All referred to the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. All similar to H. R. 339.

IMPORT QUOTAS: H. R. 300 (Lane), introduced in the House January 3, a bill to regulate the foreign commerce of the United States by establishing import quotas under specified conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means. Authorizes the adjustment of duty rates on imports, the establishment of import quotas, to stabilize imports under conditions of fair competition, and to establish the basis for an expanding foreign trade of the United States without creating hardship for domestic industry, agriculture, and labor. The industries producing articles or merchandise for shipment to the United States from other countries, under this Act, will be classified with respect to wage payments in seven groups ranging between 15 and 75 percent or more of the domestic rate.

Also; introduced in the House January 10; H. R. 2566 (Patterson); January 14; H. R. 2776 (Bailey), H. R. 2821 (Mason), H. R. 2836 (Seeley-Brown); January 17; H. R. 3214 (Davis of Georgia); February 11; H. R. 4670 (Tollefson)--all similar to H. R. 300.

IMPORTED FOOD PRODUCTS STANDARDS: H. R. 530 (Andresen) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to provide for standards to be prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture governing imported agricultural products; to the

Committee on Agriculture. Provides that United States regulations which prescribe standards or requirements for the labeling, packaging, quality, sanitation, or standards of identity, in respect to the production, manufacture, processing, packaging, distribution, or handling of any product of plant or animal life used or intended to be used as food for human and animal consumption in the United States, the Secretary of Agriculture shall prescribe like standards and requirements for similar products imported into the United States from foreign countries.

Also; introduced in the House January 3; H. R. 1080 (Byrnes, similar to H. R. 530).

INCOME TAX LAW REVISION IN FAVOR OF FISHERMEN: H. R. 3061 (King) introduced in the House January 16, a bill to extend to fishermen the same treatment accorded to farmers in relation to estimated income tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Also; introduced in the House February 6; H. R. 4521 (Kelly)--Similar to H. R. 3061.

INSECTICIDES, STUDY OF EFFECT UPON FISH AND WILDLIFE: H. R. 783 (Metcalf) introduced in the House on January 3; a bill to authorize and direct the Secretary of the Interior to undertake continuing studies of effects of insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides upon fish and wildlife for the purpose of preventing losses of those invaluable natural resources following spraying, and to provide basic data on the various chemical controls so that forests, crops, and marshes can be sprayed with minimum losses of fish and wildlife; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

LOAN INCREASE FOR SMALL BUSINESS: S. 637 (Clark) introduced in the Senate January 3, a bill to amend the Small Business Act of 1953 to increase the amount available thereunder for business loans; to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency.

Reported favorably without amendment (Report No. 12) on January 25. Passed by the Senate without amendment on January 29. Provides for increase of \$65 million in the amount available for small business.

H. R. 3109 (Spence) similar bill introduced in the House January 3; reported with amendments on January 28 and referred to the Committee of the Whole House of the Union (Report No. 3).

H. R. 3109 (Spence) was passed by the House on January 31 and subsequently vacated in favor of S. 637 (Clark). S. 637 was passed, with amendments, to include the House approved language.

S. 637 (Clark), as amended by the House, was passed by the Senate on February 1 and the bill was cleared for the President. The bill provides for an increase of \$80 million in the amount available for small business loans, or from \$375 million to \$455 million. The limitation on the amount of small-business loans outstanding at any one time is also increased from \$150 million to \$230 million.

S. 637 was signed by the President on February 11, 1957 (Public Law 85-4).

LOBSTER INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION: S. 237 (Payne) introduced in the Senate on January 7; a bill to regulate the interstate transportation of lobsters; and to define the term "lobster" for the purpose of the Federal

Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. The purpose of this bill is to impose a minimum size on lobsters which may be shipped in interstate commerce or imported into the United States from foreign countries and define the word "lobster" for purposes of the Federal Food and Drug Act. It is designed to assist the states in enforcing their own laws relating to lobster fishing. The justification for regulating the minimum size of lobsters stems from both conservation and economic factors. If there is no state law governing the size of lobsters the bill would establish a minimum size of $3\frac{1}{8}$ inches measured along the center of the body shell (carapace). The measure would also make illegal the importing from a foreign nation of lobsters that would be illegal under the laws of the state into which they are imported, or in the absence of state laws lobsters less than the minimum size established by the bill could not be brought into the state. The bill is patterned after the Black Bass Act which has been in effect for several years and which prohibits the shipment in interstate commerce of fish which are illegal under the laws of the state in which the shipment originates. This bill differs from the Black Bass Act in two significant respects. The first is that this bill is somewhat broader in that in addition to barring shipments in interstate commerce it prohibits imports of lobsters that are illegal under the laws of the state involved or under the terms of this bill if there is no state law. The second difference from the Black Bass Act is that the bill defines the meaning of the word "lobster" for purposes of the Federal Food and Drug Act. Among other things the Federal Food and Drug Act prohibits the shipment in interstate commerce of food that is misbranded. With regard to lobster there has never been any adequate definition of just what species of shellfish were included under the term. As a result many crustaceans that are not really lobsters at all are shipped under the label of lobster. Such products as African rock lobster (an entirely different species than the lobster of the North Atlantic waters of the United States and Canada), crawfish, and many other species are commonly shipped and sold bearing only the label of "lobster." The bill would provide that the word lobster could be used as a label only on the species Homarus americanus, which is the lobster common to the Atlantic coastal waters of the United States northward from Cape Hatteras into Canada.

Also: introduced in the House January 10; H. R. 2445 (Hale), H. R. 2464 (McIntire), January 16; H. R. 3023 (Coffin)--All similar to S. 237, and all referred to the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

MARINE LABORATORY IN FLORIDA: S. 897 (Holland) introduced in the Senate January 29, a bill to provide for the construction of a fish and wildlife marine laboratory and experiment station in the Gulf Coast area of Florida; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

Also: introduced in the House January 29; H. R. 3998 (Rogers of Florida) February 4; H. R. 4263 (Creamer)--referred to the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and similar to S. 897.

MARKETING FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT ACT: H. R. 4504 (Cooley) introduced in the House on February 6, a bill to encourage the improvement and development of marketing facilities for the wholesale handling of fresh fruits and vegetables, poultry, eggs, dairy products, and other perishable agricultural commodities and sea food as will be conducive to orderly and efficient distribution, increased consumption, and a reduction in the spread between prices paid by consumers and those received by farmers. Loans to States, public agencies, municipalities, public corporations, and

private enterprise, or a combination of these, can be made up to 85 percent of the total cost of the market facility. Mortgages outstanding under the Act would be limited to \$100 million.

MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE: H. R. 299 (Lane), a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to establish a \$1.25 minimum hourly wage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

Also: Introduced in the House January 3; H. R. 385 (Rodino), H. R. 556 (Barrett) \$1 to \$1.50 an hour, H. R. 584 (Celler), \$0.75-\$1.25 an hour, H. R. 617 (Doyle), H. R. 714 (Kelly), H. R. 839 (Multer), \$0.75-\$1.25 an hour as prescribed by section 6 (a) (1) of F. L. S. Act of 1930, H. R. 1040 (Zelenka), H. R. 1233 (Rooney); January 5; H. R. 1922 (Rodino); January 10; H. R. 2466 (McCormack) (\$0.75 to \$1.25 an hour); January 14; H. R. 2881 (Multer); January 16; H. R. 3087 (Santangelo); January 17; H. R. 3219 (Dingell), H. R. 3221 (Dollinger), H. R. 3230 (Green) \$1.00-1.50 an hour; January 28; H. R. 3794 (Vanik), H. R. 3846 (McCormack); January 28; H. R. 3968 (Diggs), H. R. 3999 (Roosevelt); February 7; H. R. 4563 (Chycloff), \$1.00-\$1.35 an hour; February 11; H. R. 4694 (Roosevelt), H. R. 4706 (Shelly), H. R. 4707 (Thompson of New Jersey); February 14; H. R. 4743 (Bennett of Michigan); February 18; H. R. 4899 (Addonizio); February 19; H. R. 5019 (Holland); February 20; H. R. 5118 (Forand)--all similar, except for amount of minimum hourly wage, to H. R. 299.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION: S. 1019 (Carlson) introduced in the Senate February 1, a bill to establish a Commission on Renewable Natural Resources; referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs. The Commission would be directed to study the present condition of the renewable natural resources and the probable future demands and to formulate a program for carrying out the declared policy of Congress that "the conservation, orderly development, and sustained use of the renewable natural resources of the United States is the joint responsibility of the Federal Government, the states, the various subdivisions of government and the people thereof..." The Commission should complete its work and submit a final report to the President for transmittal to Congress not later than June 30, 1958.

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION: Protocol to the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Commission, signed at Washington February 8, 1949, which protocol was signed at Washington June 25, 1956, for the United States and nine other governments (Exec. F. 85th Congress, 1st Session), was received by Senate on February 18th and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SALMON FISHERIES CONVENTION: Senate on February 11 received Protocol between the United States and Canada to the convention for the protection, preservation, and extension of sockeye salmon fisheries in the Fraser River system, signed at Washington on May 26, 1930, which protocol was signed at Ottawa on December 28, 1956 (Exec. C, 85th Cong., 1st Session); referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SCHOOL LUNCH ACT TO BE EXTENDED: H. R. 3248 (Rhodes), introduced in the House January 17, a bill to amend the National School Lunch Act to permit junior colleges to participate therein; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

SHELLFISH LABORATORY IN CHESAPEAKE BAY AREA: S. 1087 (Butler and Byrd) introduced in the Senate

February 7, a bill to authorize the construction of a shellfish laboratory and experiment station in the Chesapeake Bay area, to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

SHRIMP IMPORT DUTIES: H. R. 475 (Thompson of Louisiana) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to provide for an ad valorem duty on the importation of shrimp; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The bill provides that paragraph 721 (b) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (U. S. C. title 19, sec. 1001) be amended by inserting after the word "containers" the following: "shrimps, shrimp tails, and shrimp meat, fresh or frozen (whether or not packed in ice), or prepared, canned, or preserved in any manner, 35 per centum ad valorem".

SEC. 2. Paragraph 1761 of said Act (U. S. C., title 19, sec. 1201) be amended by striking out the word "shrimps" so that the paragraph will read:

"Par. 1761. Lobsters and other shellfish, fresh, or frozen (whether or not packed in ice), or prepared or preserved in any manner (including pastes and sauces), and not specially provided for."

Also: introduced in the House January 3: H. R. 1274 (Willis); January 10: H. R. 2415 (Colmer)-- both similar to H. R. 475 (Thompson of Louisiana).

SMALL BUSINESS: House Report No. 2970, Final Report of the Select Committee on Small Business, House of Representatives, Eighty-Fourth Congress, Pursuant to H. Res. 114 (A resolution creating a select committee to conduct a study and investigation of the problems of small business), 199 pp., printed, 84th Congress, 2d Session. Submitted on January 3, 1957, to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed. Presents data on the position of small business in the United States economy; increasing prices and the small-business credit squeeze; toward taxation for free enterprise; breakdown of small-business "Magna Carta"; the Small Business Administration loan program; Government subsidies for research and industrial advancement; Government procurement; an appraisal of the Small Business Administration's contribution to small business; work of the committee; and the Committee's recommendations. An appendix contains a number of tables and also minority views.

SMALL BUSINESS CREDIT ACT OF 1957: S. 720 (Sparkman and others) introduced in the Senate on January 3, a bill to make credit more readily available for financing small business by insuring loans made to small business enterprises; to the Committee on Banking and Currency. The bill is designed to foster the development and growth of independent small-business enterprises; to make credit more readily available in adequate amounts on reasonable terms, and to encourage private financial institutions and investors in financing these enterprises by insuring loans made to small business. The aggregate principal amount of loans with respect to which insurance may be granted shall not exceed \$250,000,000 outstanding at any one time, except that after July 1, 1956, the President may increase this limit to

not more than \$750,000,000. A premium charge not to exceed $1\frac{1}{2}$ percent a year for the insurance, payable in advance, will be charged on loans which are limited to \$250,000 or loans whose maturity is in excess of five years and 32 days. A sum of \$10,000,000 will be set up for an initial revolving fund and further sums may be added when needed.

SMALL BUSINESS PROBLEMS STUDY: H. Res. 166 (Thompson of New Jersey), a resolution to authorize the Select Committee on Small Business to investigate and study the problems of small business with respect to basic and applied scientific research and development work; to the Committee on Rules.

TARIFF ACT OF 1930 AMENDMENTS PROPOSED: S. 28 (Malone) introduced in the Senate January 7, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Also: introduced in the House January 5: H. R. 1956 (Mathews), similar to S. 28, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM REPORT: H. Doc. 93, the first annual report by the President of the United States on the operations of the Trade Agreement Program; referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means, and on February 11 ordered to be printed.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN DEPRESSED AREAS: H. R. 1087 (Celler) introduced in the House on January 3, a bill to establish an effective program to alleviate conditions of excessive unemployment in certain economically depressed areas; to the Committee on Ways and Means. Provides for the establishment of a Depressed Areas Administration. Areas within the United States determined to have existing unemployment of not less than (1) 9 percent of the labor force for at least 18 months, or (2) 6 percent of the labor force for at least three years immediately prior to the date on which application for assistance is made under the act, shall be designated as "depressed areas."

WEATHER STATION IN GULF: H. R. 478 (Thompson of Louisiana) introduced in the House January 3, a bill to provide that one floating station shall be maintained at all times in the Gulf of Mexico to provide storm warnings for States bordering on the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

Also: introduced in the House January 10: H. R. 2419 (Colman), similar to H. R. 478.

WORK WEEK: H. R. 4696 (Roosevelt) introduced in the House on February 11 a bill to reduce the maximum work week under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, to 35 hours, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

Also: introduced in the House February 11: H. R. 4705 (Shelley), February 19: H. R. 5020 (Holland), February 20: H. R. 5121 (Forand); introduced in the Senate February 14: S. 1217 (McNamara)--all similar to H. R. 4696; House bills referred to Committee on Education and Labor and Senate bill to Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

