



## International

WORLD FISH OIL EXPORTS UP SLIGHTLY IN 1956: World fish oil exports (including fish-liver oils) in 1956 are estimated to have been slightly higher than in 1955, but slightly lower than the record volume exported in 1954.

Fish Oils (including fish-liver oils); World Exports from Specified Countries and Estimated World Total (average 1935-39 and 1945-49, annual 1954-56)

| Continent and Country                | 1956 <sup>2/</sup> | 1955 <sup>2/</sup> | 1954 <sup>1/</sup> | Average     |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|
|                                      |                    |                    |                    | 1945-49     | 1935-39      |
| ..... (1,000 Short Tons) .....       |                    |                    |                    |             |              |
| <b>North America:</b>                |                    |                    |                    |             |              |
| Canada .....                         | 9.3                | 9.3                | 7.9                | 7.7         | 12.0         |
| United States .....                  | 70.4               | 71.3               | 70.8               | 8.3         | 1.2          |
| <b>Europe:</b>                       |                    |                    |                    |             |              |
| Denmark .....                        | 9.7                | 14.2               | 11.0               | .6          | 2.5          |
| West Germany .....                   | 9.3                | 16.5               | 7.7                | -           | 3/ 4.4       |
| Iceland .....                        | 21.3               | 16.3               | 20.6               | 27.1        | 24.5         |
| Netherlands <sup>4/</sup> .....      | 9.1                | 5.4                | 10.4               | .6          | .2           |
| Norway .....                         | 42.2               | 20.9               | 26.6               | 23.5        | 38.0         |
| Portugal .....                       | 4.7                | 5.5                | 6.0                | 1.7         | 5/           |
| United Kingdom ...                   | 3.8                | 4.4                | 3.5                | 3.8         | 6.0          |
| <b>Other:</b>                        |                    |                    |                    |             |              |
| Angola .....                         | 5.7                | 6.3                | 12.6               | 1.4         | .7           |
| Japan .....                          | 5.0                | 10.2               | 10.4               | 6/ .7       | 35.0         |
| Union of South Africa                | 5.4                | 13.3               | 10.5               | 1.7         | 2.2          |
| <b>World Total <sup>7/</sup> ...</b> | <b>210.0</b>       | <b>205.0</b>       | <b>215.0</b>       | <b>85.0</b> | <b>135.0</b> |

<sup>1/</sup> Revised.

<sup>2/</sup> Preliminary.

<sup>3/</sup> Prewar Germany.

<sup>4/</sup> May include some whale oil.

<sup>5/</sup> Not available.

<sup>6/</sup> Less than 5 years.

<sup>7/</sup> Includes estimates from minor countries.

Norwegian exports in 1956--twice as large as 1955--reflected the year's record herring catch. Iceland and the Netherlands also had substantial increases in fish oil exports last year compared to the previous year. Exports of fish oil from most of the other countries decreased. Exports from the United States decreased slightly from 1955, which was a record year, Foreign Crops and Markets of June 24 reports.

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YUGOSLAVIA AND CANADA STUDY FREEZING SARDINES PRIOR TO CANNING: Three Canadian and four Yugoslavian research workers have collaborated in a prolonged and

comprehensive study of the benefits of freezing sardines for holding prior to canning. The sardines were caught in the North Adriatic Sea (Yugoslav sardines), processed at the Rijeka Hygiene Institute, Yugoslavia, and the canned samples were tested at the Canadian Food Inspection Laboratory at Halifax, Canada.

The objectives were to determine maximum holding periods at various temperatures, and it was concluded that freshly-caught fish should be iced within a very few hours and that holding in ice should not exceed three days. They found that glazed and unglazed air-frozen sardines can be held at 4° F. up to a month and make a good canned product, but they recommend that 20° F. be used in commercial practice (Industrial Refrigeration, June 1957).

## INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

FIRST SEASON IN AREAS 2 and 1B CLOSED: The International Pacific Halibut Commission announced the closure of the first season in Areas 2 and 1B to halibut fishing at 6 a.m. (P.S.T.) June 17, 1957, until the beginning of the second fishing season in these areas. The Commission estimated that the 26.5-million-pound limit set for Area 2 would have been caught by that date. Area 1B which has no catch limit was also closed when the quota for Area 2 was attained.

The official opening date for all halibut fishing in the Pacific regulatory area this year was May 1 at 6:00 a. m. (P.S.T.). The United States fleet sailed into this year to commence fishing on the opening day. The Canadian fleet, on the other hand, did not sail until May 3 and started fishing about 5 days after the United States fleet. The Canadian fleet was not able to start on time because of a labor management dispute over certain fringe benefits and "lay" apportionments. In 1956 the opening date was May 12 but both United States and Canadian fishermen voluntarily agreed not to start fishing until May 20. In 1955 the official opening date was also May 12 and actual fishing started on that date.

Areas 2 and 1B this year were open to halibut fishing for 47 days as compared with 46 days in 1956. Because of the voluntary agreement to start fishing on May 20, actual fishing in 1956 took place for only 38 days. These same areas were fished for 24 days in 1955, 21 days in 1954, and 24 days in 1953.

The longer period required to catch the Area 2 catch limit is attributed to (1) the difficulty of vessels catching capacity loads early in the season, (2) the continuation of the lay-over between trips initiated in 1956 except that the period was extended from 7 to 8 days this season, and (3) the delayed start by the Canadian fleet.

The second fishing season in Areas 2 and 1B were scheduled to commence at 6:00 a. m. (P.S.T.) July 29 and terminate at 6:00 a. m. (P.S.T.) August 5, 1957. Thereafter, these areas are closed to halibut fishing until the commencement of the halibut fishing season in 1958.

Area 2 includes all convention waters between Willapa Bay, Wash., and Cape Spencer, Alaska. Area 1B includes all convention waters between Willapa Bay and Heceta Head, Ore.

Under authority of the Convention between Canada and the United States of America for the Preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, this year's regulations became effective April 10, 1957.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, MARCH 1957 P. 36, AUGUST 1956 P. 57.



## Brazil

NEW FISH-PROCESSING PLANT TO BE ESTABLISHED: The Brazilian state of Para will have a new fish-processing plant at Maracana, which is located on the Atlantic Ocean and near the mouth of the Amazon River. This enterprise has been granted an initial fund of 4 million cruzeiros (about US\$48,000 at the free rate of exchange) from the Superintendencia do Plano de Valorizacao Economica da Amazonia. This contribution is to be repaid within eight years at an interest rate of 4 percent, according to a June 11, 1957, dispatch from the United States Consulate at Belem.

The new enterprise proposes to initiate a fishing industry in the Amazon valley by importing three large fishing vessels to provide fish in volume for local needs and make possible a canned fish, fish fertilizer, and a vitamin-oil industry. Plans in prospect include a plant that will have a quick-freezing capacity of 100 tons of fish and shellfish; cold storage for 950 tons of frozen fishery products; a canning plant with a capacity of 100,000 cans daily; a drying section of "pirarucu" for 26,500 pounds of the well known Arapaima gagas (somewhat like dried cod); a byproducts section with an estimated capacity of 13,800 pounds of 70-percent protein fish meal and 2,600-4,500 pounds of fish oils; and an ice-making plant with a capacity of 66,000 pounds of ice daily.

NOTE: VALUE OF CRUZEIROS IN TERMS OF US\$ ESTIMATED AT 83 CRUZEIROS EQUAL US\$1.



## Canada

SALMON INDUSTRY LABOR-MANAGEMENT DISPUTE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA: Some 5,500 salmon "net" fishermen are affected by a labor-management dispute which began on June 24 in British Columbia, the Canadian press reported recently. This dispute threatens to tie-up the multi-million dollar salmon fishing and canning industry in that Province. A fishermen's union and a fisheries association cannot agree on the price of net-caught salmon. Union demands, which were rejected by the association, called for increases of between 4 to 7 cents a pound, depending on the species.

The dispute was not expected to have any serious effect on the industry until the large salmon runs which were expected to begin around July 6. A protracted tie-up would adversely affect the employment of some 15,000 workers employed in other sectors of the industry, points out a June 28 United States Embassy dispatch from Ottawa.



## Chile

WHALING FACTORY FINANCED BY JAPANESE CAPITAL AUTHORIZED: A Japanese firm has been authorized to establish a new whaling factory at Corral, in Valdivia Province, by the Chilean Ministry of Economy. It is believed that the Chilean Government may authorize the foreign investment to reach the equivalent of US\$1.2 million, reports the July 8 Foreign Crops and Markets of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.



## Cuba

CLOSED SEASON FOR MOJARRA AND SPINY LOBSTER ENDED: The closed season on spiny lobster that began on March 10, 1957, was lifted on June 7 in a resolution by the President of the National Institute of Fisheries. No landings, shipments, or sale of spiny lobster was permitted until June 10. The same resolution (published in the Official Gazette of June 12, 1957) lifted the closed season on mojara (broadshad) effective June 10. The closed season on mojara started March 15, 1957.

NOTE: SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, MAY 1957 P. 51.

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CUBA SIGNS TUNA FISHING CONTRACT WITH JAPANESE

FIRM: The Cuban National Fisheries Institute signed a contract with Pesqueras Internacionales, S. A., which is the Cuban representative of the Cia. Nippon Reizo Kabushiki Kaisha, according to press reports dated June 15, 1957.

The published report infers that the contract was entered into solely in order to get Japanese technicians to teach the latest fishing methods to Cuban crews. The contract, according to the article, is for one year, involving the use of the 590-ton Sumiyosha Maru, constructed and equipped as a training ship at a cost of US\$750,000. The clipper is reportedly due in Cuba the first part of July 1957. The article does not mention the fact that the catch is to be tuna, although it does refer to exploration activities outside Cuban territorial waters, states a June 18, 1957, dispatch from the U. S. Embassy in Havana.

Other sources of information indicated that the contract with the Japanese firm is for one year with a possible extension of not more than an additional year. The Japanese would use one or possibly two tuna clippers of 300 tons capacity, each clipper remaining at sea for about a month at a time, exploring the commercial possibilities of tuna. A representative of the National Fisheries Institute would be present on each voyage to ensure that the Japanese shared results of exploratory studies with the Cuban Government.

If the studies proved the commercial feasibility of tuna fishing, the Japanese would then have to nationalize the tuna fleet in accordance with Cuban law and employ Cuban citizens as captains and crew members. The Japanese catch thereafter would not be allowed to compete with the Cuban fishing industry, but would have to be exported. The only exception to the required export of the Japanese catch would be if domestic consumers petitioned the National Fisheries Institute

for retention of items needed for local consumption. The tuna to be explored for consists of yellowfin and bluefin tuna.

The declared advantage to Cuba of permitting the Japanese to enter into tuna fishing (and other incidental fishing during the tuna off-season) activities would be: (1) provide a healthy type of competition to Cuban fishermen; (2) educate Cuban fishermen into the profitable possibilities of tuna fishing; (3) train Cuban crews in advanced Japanese methods of fishing

for tuna and other species; (4) a 20-percent fee would be charged against the Japanese catch payable to the National Fisheries Institute, ostensibly as a "contribution" but actually for fishing rights; (5) the Japanese would construct a freezing plant (possibly at Cienfuegos) of large capacity, which would be used for export purposes, but could also be employed by the Cubans during the tuna off-season (tuna is caught during April to October in Cuba).



## Ecuador

NEW DECREE REDUCES LICENSE AND REGISTRATION FEES AND PERMITS BAIT FISHING: Opening of Guayaquil Bay off Ecuador to bait fishing and reduction of license tariffs of United States boats catching tuna in waters off Ecuador were announced in June 1957 by the director of the Department of Fish and Game of Ecuador during a visit to California.

A brief notice in an Ecuadoran newspaper announced the revocation of the \$4 increase in fishing licenses (decreed on June 10, 1954, by Emergency-Decree Law No. 29). On May 25 a long article in El Comercio gave the full text of the new law. The new law, Emergency-Decree Law No. 11, signed May 8, 1957, is supposed to favor the growth of Ecuadoran fisheries, and increase the income of the government which has suffered in the past two years from the decrease in the number of foreign fishing boats taking out Ecuadoran licenses.

The new law revokes the US\$4.00 increase and the license fee reverts to the amounts prescribed in Article 28, Clause (b) of the Fishing and Maritime Law. These fees are, per registered net ton of foreign fishing boats; swordfish US\$20, tuna US\$12, shark US\$12, cod US\$8, cod fillets US\$24.

The fees for registration of foreign fishing boats remain the same as prescribed by the Fishing and Maritime Law: swordfish, tuna, and shark US\$200, and cod US\$100.

Another provision of the law outlines the use to be made of the funds collected from the fisheries industry by taxes and fees. Sixty percent of such funds are to go to the Ministry of Economy for the development of the fishing industry through such means as making studies, the completion of the "Manta project," the installation of refrigerated warehouses at fishing centers, the development of the construction of fishing boats, the establishment of warehouses and buildings, the employment of technicians, both Ecuadoran and foreign, etc. In addition, the Ministry of Economy is authorized to establish a "Fishing Enterprise" or to participate in such an enterprise as an associate. It may so associate with either firms or individuals, nationals or foreigners.

Another decree, pending a few minor details, will open the Gulf of Guayaquil to the bait fishery.



## El Salvador

FISHERIES TRENDS, JUNE 1957: The Fishery Section of the Ministry of Economy of El Salvador is currently making a census of the marine fishermen, boats, and gear. Results so far obtained indicate that there are more fishermen and the catch is greater than previously estimated, a June 14, 1957, note from the U. S. Fishery Attache in Mexico states.

The "Cooperativa de Pescaderes del Tamarindo," a fishery cooperative formerly operated by the Ministry of Labor, has ceased to operate. The two trawlers owned by the cooperative are reported to be up for sale.

The Leonardo I, a combination trawler and freezership formerly of Mexican registry, is now under Salvadoran registry. It is reported that the vessel will trawl and freeze fish and shrimp. Some of the shrimp probably will be exported.



## German Federal Republic

**CANNED MACKEREL MARKET:** Mackerel is not a popular type of fish in West Germany. Production and consumption of mackerel are negligible factors in the West German markets. Most of the very small domestic pack of canned mackerel is exported due to the lack of a domestic outlet.

Table 1 - Approximate Calculation of Retail Price in West Germany for One 15-oz. Can of Mackerel ex-United States West Coast <sup>1/</sup>

|  | DM.  | U. S. Cents |
|--|------|-------------|
| Price f. o. b. dock Los Angeles .....                | 0.42 | 10.0        |
| c. i. f. cost about 25 percent .....                 | 0.10 | 2.4         |
| c. i. f. price West German North Sea port .....      | 0.52 | 12.4        |
| Import duty 25 percent .....                         | 0.13 | 3.1         |
|  | 0.65 | 15.5        |
| Compensatory turnover tax, 6 percent .....           | 0.04 | 1.0         |
|  | 0.69 | 16.5        |
| Inland freight cost .....                            | 0.04 | 1.0         |
|  | 0.73 | 17.5        |
| Profit margin for importers, 10 percent .....        | 0.07 | 1.6         |
|  | 0.80 | 19.1        |
| Profit margin for wholesale dealer, 10 percent ..... | 0.08 | 1.9         |
|  | 0.88 | 21.0        |
| Profit margin for retail dealer, 25 percent .....    | 0.22 | 5.3         |
| Retail price .....                                   | 1.10 | 26.3        |

<sup>1/</sup> BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE FACHVERBAND DER FISCHKONSERVEN-IMPORTEURE E.V. (CANNED FISH IMPORTERS ASSOCIATION), HAMBURG.

Although skeptical, importers are at present inclined to give thought to the importation of canned mackerel because of a temporary scarcity of herring and imported sardines and the resultant increase of prices for these products. Small sample shipments of canned mackerel have reportedly been ordered from Portugal and Japan. It appears that United States canners would stand a fair chance to obtain part of this business. United States exporters will have to meet price limits, which are fairly low, because of keen competition from cheap domestic products.

Although the importation of canned mackerel has not been liberalized, it appears that government quotas can be obtained without too much difficulty under the German designation of "makrele."

Most of the mackerel landed in German ports from April through September is caught during the herring season. It is estimated that in 1956 about 6,000 metric tons of mackerel (Scomber scombrus) was landed in West German ports. The trips during the herring season last too long (10-14 days) to bring mackerel to port in a sufficiently fresh condition to permit canning of the entire catch. About 25 percent is sold to the fish-meal factories.

About 2,000-3,000 tons of mackerel are canned. West German production of canned mackerel for export is less than 50,000 cases, packed natural. All of this

production is exported, mainly to Italy, Greece, Egypt, and France. It is estimated that not more than 5,000 cases of canned mackerel (48 7½-oz. flat oval cans) are being sold in the domestic market at about 18-19 U. S. cents a can.

An unknown quantity of mackerel is exported fresh to Holland, Italy, and France. Small quantities are smoked and some are sold fresh in the domestic market. In West Germany, more than 15 percent of the total West German catch of mackerel reaches the domestic market, either canned, smoked, or fresh.

Consumers of canned fish in West Germany are described as "herring-eaters." Herring, which under normal conditions is in abundant supply, is prepared and preserved in a wide variety of sauces and packs. About 90 percent of this production is sold in 200-gram (about 7½-oz.) cans; approximately 70 percent is in tomato sauce. Usually herring is offered at attractively low prices which compare very favorably with other types of protein food. The canned mackerel, which to date has been marketed by a few canners, is more of a specialty item consisting of fillets of mackerel packed in oil in 7½-oz. oval cans, selling at about DM 0.75-DM 0.80 a can (18-19 U. S. cents). The bulk of this product is being sold in some limited geographical regions in the southern part of West Germany. Total annual sales amount to about 5,000 cases of 48 cans (7½-oz.) each. During the past few years the market for this product has been fairly steady.

No official statistics are available on the imports of canned mackerel into West Germany, but trade sources believe that until the end of 1956 they were practically non-existent, considering the fact that more than 90 percent of the relatively small domestic production has to be sold abroad.

In 1956 there developed a severe scarcity of herring in West Germany. Catches of this type of fish were about 25 percent below those of the preceding year with a resultant marked price increase for canned herring. Prices of imported processed fish, mostly canned sardines, have followed suit, due to reduced catches of this product in the countries of origin. In order to offset the scarcity in herring supply and to counteract price increases, importers have recently contracted for small quantities of canned mackerel from Portugal (fillets in oil) and Japan (in tomato sauce). Both countries will supply oval cans of 7½ ounces, net weight. Japanese mackerel in tomato sauce is quoted at about DM 0.52 (12 U. S. cents) a can, and DM 0.58 (14 U. S. cents) a can for mackerel packed in oil, c.i.f. West German North Sea ports. These products would have to retail at about DM 0.85-DM 0.90 (20-21 U. S. cents) a can.

The possibility of establishing quotas for the import of canned mackerel from the United States has been considered, and officials have stated that they did not foresee any serious obstacles if such quotas should be in the magnitude of "several hundreds of thousands of dollars." If this trade should develop into millions of dollars, its merits would have to be reconsidered. This attitude may be explained by the desire on the part of the government to counteract the rise of prices for fish products by encouraging imports of cheap canned fish on a short-term basis. In the long run, however, the government apparently wishes to protect its domestic fishing and canning industry.

Importers would prefer to buy 7½-ounce flat oval cans containing fillets of mackerel packed in oil or pieces of boneless and skinless mackerel packed in tomato sauce. Such a product should retail at not more than DM 0.75-DM 0.80 (18-19 U. S. cents) a can in West Germany. If they could find a market at all in this country, tall 15-ounce cans of boneless and skinless pieces of mackerel in tomato sauce should retail (see table 1) at about DM 1.00-DM 1.10 (24-26 U. S. cents) a can. (United States Consul in Bremen, dispatch dated February 28, 1957.)

NOTE: VALUES CONVERTED AT RATE OF DM 1 EQUALS 23.9 U. S. CENTS.



## Greece

**CANNED MACKEREL AND JACK MACKEREL MARKET:** Greece has no domestic production of canned mackerel or jack mackerel. Only salted mackerel is produced locally, points out a March 14 dispatch from the United States Embassy at Athens.

The domestic fish canning industry is represented by three plants, chiefly producing canned bonito, described as "Greek salmon." These plants also produce very small quantities of canned sardines, tuna, octopus, lobster, and shrimp.

Production of canned fish amounted to 400 metric tons in 1956 as compared with 185 tons in 1955. Canned bonito is by far the most important canned fish produced in Greece. Because of its low price, it sells well in the local market. The more popular sizes are the 225-gram (8-oz.) and 450-gram (16-oz.) cans, which sell for 6 (20 U.S. cents) and 11 paper drachmas (36 U.S. cents). Small exports of canned bonito are made, and in 1956 about \$75,000 worth was exported by the two largest firms. Fresh bonito is mostly imported from Turkey.

The other fish canned locally are obtained from Greek waters. Greek fish production totaled 57,572 tons (48,521 sea, 9,051 fresh-water) in 1955 as compared with 51,392 tons (44,131 sea, 7,261 fresh-water) in 1954.

Table 1 - Greek Imports of Canned Fish (Excluding Oysters and the Like)

| Product                      | Jan. -Nov. 1956 |                   |                | 12 Months 1955 |                   |               |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
|                              | Quantity        | Value 1/          |                | Quantity       | Value 1/          |               |
|                              | 1,000<br>Lbs.   | 1,000<br>Drachmas | US\$<br>1,000  | 1,000<br>Lbs.  | 1,000<br>Drachmas | US\$<br>1,000 |
| <b>Tariff paragraph 4-d:</b> |                 |                   |                |                |                   |               |
| Lobsters .....               | 8.8             | 176.8             | 5.9            | -              | -                 | -             |
| Crawfish .....               | -               | -                 | -              | -              | -                 | -             |
| Tuna .....                   | 40.8            | 308.3             | 10.3           | 9.0            | 60.2              | 2.0           |
| Salmon .....                 | 145.2           | 1,399.1           | 46.6           | 129.7          | 955.8             | 31.8          |
| Shrimp .....                 | 43.4            | 618.7             | 20.6           | 17.9           | 222.9             | 7.4           |
| Not elsewhere spec. .        | 2,749.1         | 10,715.8          | 356.8          | 1,936.8        | 8,897.2           | 296.3         |
| <b>Total .....</b>           | <b>2,987.3</b>  | <b>13,218.7</b>   | <b>440.2</b>   | <b>2,093.4</b> | <b>10,136.1</b>   | <b>337.5</b>  |
| <b>Tariff paragraph 4-e:</b> |                 |                   |                |                |                   |               |
| Sardines .....               | 2,335.6         | 14,413.3          | 480.0          | 2,060.7        | 12,145.3          | 404.4         |
| Not elsewhere spec. .        | 573.4           | 4,401.6           | 146.5          | 237.4          | 1,225.2           | 40.8          |
| <b>Total .....</b>           | <b>2,909.0</b>  | <b>18,814.9</b>   | <b>626.5</b>   | <b>2,298.1</b> | <b>13,370.5</b>   | <b>445.2</b>  |
| <b>Grand total .....</b>     | <b>5,896.3</b>  | <b>32,033.6</b>   | <b>1,066.7</b> | <b>4,391.5</b> | <b>23,506.6</b>   | <b>782.7</b>  |

1/ C.I.F. GREEK PORT.

Because Greece is surrounded by the sea, the Greek people generally prefer fresh fish to canned fish. However, consumption of canned fish has been on the increase. A total of 5.9 million pounds of canned fish (valued at US\$1.1 million) was imported during the first 11 months of 1956 as compared with 4.4 million pounds (valued at US\$782,700) the entire year of 1955. Greek preference is for canned sardines followed by squid and salmon.

There is no indication regarding consumption of canned mackerel in Greece, since there is no domestic production, and Greek import statistics do not show this item separately. According to information obtained from local provision merchants, canned mackerel is being currently consumed, though in very small quantities, on Crete island, and in the rural areas.

The most popular size of mackerel used in Greece is the 15-oz. tall can either in natural style or in tomato sauce, in about the same proportion. The retail price of the 15 oz. -tall can, natural style, ranges from 7.00-7.50 paper drachmas (23-25 U. S. cents).

Following the liberation of Greek imports in 1953, canned fish may be freely imported into Greece. Competition in the local fish market between foreign suppliers is stiff, and the deciding factor is price.

Table 2 - Greek Imports of Canned Fish Under Tariff Paragraph 4-e (Sardines and Similar Fish) from United States

| Product                         | Jan. -Nov. 1956 |                   |               | 12 Months 1955 |                   |               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
|                                 | Quantity        | Value             |               | Quantity       | Value             |               |
|                                 | 1,000<br>Lbs.   | 1,000<br>Drachmas | US\$<br>1,000 | 1,000<br>Lbs.  | 1,000<br>Drachmas | US\$<br>1,000 |
| Sardines .....                  | 88.4            | 366.2             | 12.2          | 268.8          | 1,366.4           | 45.5          |
| Other n.e.s.<br>under 4-e ..... | 21.9            | 60.8              | 2.0           | -              | -                 | -             |
| Total .....                     | 110.3           | 427.0             | 14.2          | 268.8          | 1,366.4           | 45.5          |

United States exporters would have an opportunity of selling more canned mackerel to Greece if they could quote competitive prices. The local agent of a U. S. exporter reported that the mid-February 1957 U. S. quotation for mackerel delivered c.i.f. Piraeus was US\$6.20 a case of 48-tall 15-oz. cans net, compared to US\$5.80 for German mackerel.

Canned mackerel are dutiable under Greek Tariff paragraph 4-d which covers "Lobsters, crawfish, tuna, shrimp, salmon, and other fish not elsewhere specified all prepared and preserved in cans, without deduction of tare for immediate containers." The duty rates are: "Most-Favored-Nation" (MFN) countries, 30 metallic drachmas per 100 kilograms (4.9 U. S. cents a pound); GATT countries, 22.5 metallic drachmas per 100 kilograms (3.7 U. S. cents a pound). In the case of the tariff paragraph, 1 metallic drachma is equal to 10.80 paper drachmas. The present exchange rate for paper drachmas is about 30 for US\$1. In addition to the import duty, surtaxes amounting to 75 percent of the import duty are assessed on importation.

On this basis, the import duty and surtax on canned mackerel per pound is 8.4 U. S. cents for MFN countries and 6.4 U. S. cents for GATT countries. A turnover (sales) tare of 1.875 percent of the wholesale price of these goods, calculated on the basis of the c.i.f. price increased by 15 percent, is also levied on the importation of canned fish. Also, lobsters, shrimp, crawfish, and crabs, are subject to a 40 percent luxury tax, additionally.

The duty rates for tariff paragraph 4-e canned "sardines and similar fish" are: MFN countries, 30 metallic drachmas per 100 kilograms (4.9 U. S. cents a pound); GATT countries, 18 metallic drachmas per 100 kilograms (2.9 U. S. cents a pound). The rates of the metallic drachma, the paper drachma, and the turnover tax for T 4-e are the same as for tariff paragraph 4-d given above.

Under present Greek regulations, importers of canned fish (tariff paragraphs 4-d and 4-e) are required to pay their foreign suppliers either by Letter of Credit or cash against shipping documents presented in Greece. No credit terms are permitted. In the case of payment against shipping documents, the Greek importer is required to deposit 50 percent of the value of his order at a recognized local bank. This deposit is offset at the time of payment of the order. At the request of the importer, the deposit may be transferred to the foreign supplier as an advance remittance.

Portuguese and Japanese suppliers insist on full payment by Letter of Credit because of the export regulations of their respective countries.





## Iceland

**FISHERIES TRENDS, JANUARY-MAY 1957:** The major January-May Icelandic fishing season was a disappointment and ended a week or two earlier than usual. The catch will be under that of last year, which was exceptional. The Government has been forced in many instances to make payments to seamen under the minimum wage guarantee provisions of their contracts. The trawlers have suffered most of all due to catches 20 percent under last year, reports a May 14 United States consular dispatch from Reykjavik.

The possibility arises that Iceland will find it difficult to fill all its marketing contracts unless the summer and fall fishing give unusually good results. The amount of fish salted and dried is from 35-45 percent under last year to permit frozen-fillet processing to continue at more than last year's rate. In these circumstances the frozen fillet trade (80 percent with the Soviet Bloc, 20 percent with the United States) can continue at last year's levels. Trade in stockfish (principally with Africa through the United Kingdom, Holland, and Germany) and salted fish (Italy, Portugal, Brazil, Israel, etc.) must inevitably be reduced.

A new feature this year has been the conversion of some of the south coast motorboat fleet to drift-net herring fishing during the spring season because of the disappointing groundfish fishery results. The herring is present in quantity on the south coast in the spring as well as the fall since it spawns twice a year; usually it is ignored at this time of year in favor of the more lucrative cod fisheries.

Motorboat operators are now looking forward to the north coast herring season which begins late in June, taking courage from the failure of the Norwegian catch to hope that the herring may return to Iceland again this year in force.



## Japan

**ALBACORE EX-VESSEL PRICE DROPS WITH GOOD FISHING EARLY IN JUNE:** The Japanese Nakaminato fish harbor was active with big albacore landings of 600 tons between June 1-4. Five boats came in on June 1 with 152 metric tons, 4 boats on the 2nd brought 100 tons, on the 3rd 7 boats landed 200 tons, and on the 4th 4 boats brought in 140 tons. On the 3rd one 144-ton vessel landed 40 tons, the best fare so far this year. Prices ex-vessel were about \$121 a ton on the 1st and closed at \$107 on the 4th, for a total landed value of \$100,000. Small fish went for local consumption and the large ones went to local and Tokyo area freezing and canning plants, the June 7 issue of Nippon Suisan Shimbum states.

On June 5 a 30-ton vessel and 8 other boats came in to Shimizu Harbor with about 520 tons of albacore, but canners and freezers showed little inclination to buy, and good fish over 25 pounds in weight went for a high of \$168 a ton, while small fish under 16 pounds went as low as \$94, with an average of \$127. These were the lowest prices of the year and 60 percent under last year at the same time. Six boats unloaded only 400 tons and held back the rest unsold. "If the price continues to drop like this, it will bring about a situation like that seen in 1952, with albacore cheaper than sardine and the price below \$70. If the price would just settle at around \$168, we could keep out of the red, but . . ." points out the

June 10 issue of the same periodical. On the other hand, the skipjack market, which looked poor earlier, was reported holding up well and many boats were planning to switch over to skipjack fishing.

The June 5 issue of the same periodical stated that with slack buying of frozen albacore by United States buyers, the ex-vessel price for albacore has dropped, and the fishermen consider that the exporters have made an agreement among themselves to refrain from buying. At the same time the Fair Trade Committee is investigating whether there is in fact such an agreement among the Japanese operators.

Since the export price is bound by a check price of US\$270, the industry cannot respond to low bids from United States buyers. Although the exporters have considered lowering the check price, the idea has been shelved for the present. Therefore, in order to cut down their holdings and be able to hold out, they are refraining from buying.

According to the Frozen Tuna Exporters' Association, "We have not made any such agreement." They thus deny the fishermen's contention of an agreement among exporters, but in any case the frozen tuna industry is under heavy pressure from both within and without the country.

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**EARLY SHIPMENTS OF CANNED SALMON PLANNED:** The Japan Canned Salmon Sales Company reports it is negotiating with several United States firms for export of 115,000 cases of canned salmon, the New York Journal of Commerce of June 27 pointed out.

The United States firms hoped to buy 100,000 cases of canned pink salmon, 50,000 cases of canned red salmon, and 10,000 cases of canned chum salmon, for early shipments by the end of July, to cater to the United States summer markets, since the supply of domestic canned salmon until August was expected to be light.

The Japanese company is reported as making every effort to finalize the negotiations with the United States firms for the exports.

The company announced that the export prices would be close to those of last year, which were f.o.b. Japanese ports, pink salmon \$18 a case of 96 8-ounce cans and \$16.75 a case of 48 16-ounce cans; and red salmon \$32 a case of 48 16-ounce cans.

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EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS, APRIL 1957: During April 1957 Japan's exports of fish and fish preparations were valued at US\$10.9 million, down 16.4 per cent from the March total of US\$13.0 million (U. S. Embassy in Tokyo, dispatch dated May 14, 1957).

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NORTH PACIFIC SALMON MOTHERSHIP FISHERY CATCH GOOD: The salmon catch by the Japanese mothership fishing fleets operating in the Aleutians have exceeded expectations, according to the Japanese Fisheries Agency. Based on the successful mothership-type operations in this area, it is anticipated that Japan should be able to reach the 120,000-metric-ton quota (agreed to between Japan and Soviet Russia on the catch to be made in the Aleutians and the Okhotsk Sea) before the season officially closed on August 10. Japan currently has 14 motherships and 405 catcher boats operating in the Aleutian area and two motherships with 56 catcher boats operating in the Okhotsk Sea.

The fishing fleet operating in the Aleutians had caught 22.3 percent of the quota of 87,000 metric tons as of May 31, 1957, as compared with 18.9 percent of a smaller quota of 77,000 metric tons on the same date in 1956.

Japanese Salmon Catch by Mothership Fleets in the Aleutians, as of May 31, 1957 Compared with a Year Earlier

| Species      | As of May 31, 1957           | As of May 31, 1956 |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
|              | ..... (In Metric Tons) ..... |                    |
| Red .....    | 10,852                       | 4,120              |
| Chum .....   | 8,135                        | 10,148             |
| Pink .....   | 400                          | 260                |
| Silver ..... | 0                            | 6                  |
| King .....   | 6                            | 4                  |
| Total .....  | 19,393                       | 14,538             |

It was expected that the mothership-type operations in this area would meet or exceed the quota above quota by June 31, or ten days before the end of the season. The two fishing fleets operating in the Okhotsk Sea have only recently begun operations and there are no data as yet on the catch from that area or the catch being made by Japanese shore-based boats. Japanese Fisheries Agency officials take an optimistic view and believe that the Okhotsk Sea mothership-type operation quota of 13,000 metric tons and the shore-based catcher boat quota of 20,000 metric tons will be met before the season closes (U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, dispatch dated June 21).

The salmon catch by species by mothership-type operations in the Aleutians of May 31, 1957, was significantly higher than on the same date in 1956.

The successful catch in the Aleutians so far is attributed to the favorable weather conditions coupled with abundant salmon runs. The industry reports that the

main fishing grounds have shifted further north this year. This shift is thought to be due to the influence of warm currents in the south which have driven the salmon to colder northern waters. As can be noted from the above table, Japan's catch of the commercially-valuable red salmon, as of May 31, 1957, was 2.6 times the amount caught by the same date in 1956, and the industry is anticipating that this year should be considerably more profitable than last year. This optimism is also supported by lower operating costs resulting from a reduction in the number of catchers, the shorter fishing season, and the relatively firm market prices which have prevailed in Japan for all types of fish.

Of particular significance in the progress of catch by the Japanese fishing fleet operating in the Aleutians is the large catch of red salmon. The Soviet Union representatives, in their negotiations for a quota early this year, showed particular concern over the conservation of red salmon stocks. The relatively favorable catch of red salmon by the Japanese tends to disprove the Soviet contention that conservation measures are necessary if this variety of salmon is not to be depleted. On the other hand, some observers feel that if Japan's catch of red salmon for the season should be significantly higher than for last year, as appears likely, it may become a point of issue in the coming negotiations to establish the 1958 quota.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT



## Mexico

FISHERY RESEARCH INSTITUTE PROPOSED BY FISHING INDUSTRY: The Mexican National Chamber of the Fishery Industry has proposed that the Government establish a fishery institute for research and development purposes. According to an article published in the June 10, 1957 issue of El Mercado De Valores, the weekly journal of the Nacional Financiera, the institute would be autonomous with headquarters in Mexico City. It would be a consultative and advisory body to the Ministry of Marine in matters pertaining to the scientific investigation of the fisheries. It would be at the service of the nation and the fishery industry.

The institute would be in charge of a director who would operate under the direction of two councils. The administrative council would be comprised of one representative from each of the following organizations: Ministry of Marine, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Treasury and Public Credit, Ministry of Public Education, Ministry of National Property and Administrative Inspection, National University of Mexico, Bank of Mexico, Nacional Financiera, and National Cooperative Confederation, and two representatives from the National Chamber of the Fishery Industry. The representative from the Ministry of Marine would serve as president.

The executive council would consist of five specialists in fisheries, fish culture, biology, hydrology, and economics. One of these specialists would be named as director of the institute, a June 14, 1957, dispatch from the U. S. Regional Fishery Attache in Mexico states.

The operating program proposed for the institute includes:

1. Fishery explorations on the high seas. (a) Equip and operate adequate boats in order to carry out this objective. (b) Undertake explorations and investigations to locate and determine the commercial feasibility of new fishing areas and the extension of known ones. (c) Conduct the necessary investigations on shrimp and other species to determine their migrations. (d) Promote the use of and experiment with better fishing methods and gear.

2. Scientific investigation of the national fishery resources. (a) Establish hydrobiological statistics in the fishery ports and other places where necessary

or advisable. (b) Establish laboratories in the same fishery centers properly equipped to undertake any type of investigation necessary to comply with the objectives. (c) Undertake studies and programs in fish culture. (d) Operate laboratory and investigational boats wherever required. (e) Organize and maintain the necessary statistics for its own investigations as well as those of the government and the fishery industry.

3. Promote economic and technical studies to develop the fisheries and related industries. (a) Coordinate the studies and conclusions of the investigations carried out by the institute for the purpose of increasing the catch and industrialization of the products of the sea and their derivatives. (b) Publish the information obtained for the use of the government and the industry. (c) Create and maintain a library.

4. Prepare and develop the training of technical personnel for the industry. (a) Assist in the preparation of experts in fishing, biology, hydrology, and related sciences through and with the help of the National University of Mexico, the National Polytechnical Institute, and other national and foreign institutions. (b) Prepare fishermen, engineers, and fishing captains in the schools established or that may be established in the future by the Ministry of Marine or the Ministry of Public Education.

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IMPORT AND EXPORT DUTIES ON FISHERY ITEMS REVISED: The Diario Oficial, an official Mexican publication, of May 29, 1957, published a notice of changes in the import and export duties on the following fisheries items:

1. Established an official price of 42.60 pesos a gross kilo (about US\$1.55 a pound) for determining import ad valorem duties on "Floats of whatever materials for fish nets." Previously no official price existed. The same publication on April 25, 1957, and effective April 26, 1957, established a duty of 0.05 pesos a kilo (about 18 U. S. cents a 100 pounds) plus 5 percent ad valorem on floats for fish nets.

2. Also Mexico lowered the official export price from 1.5 pesos a gross kilo (5.4 U. S. cents a pound) to 1.2 pesos a gross kilo (4.4 U. S. cents a pound) on "Livers and liver waste of shark and other classes of fishes."

The changes were effective on May 30, 1957 (U. S. Fishery Attache to the U. S. Embassy in Mexico).

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NEW FISH-PROCESSING PLANT: The Ministry of Marine (Diario Oficial, June 11, 1957) granted permission to a Mexican firm to establish a plant for processing fishery products at Punta Arena in Magdalena Bay, Lower California. The minimum investment must be 200,000 pesos (US\$16,000) of which 120,000 pesos (US\$9,600) must be spent on the plant and machinery, states a June 13 dispatch from the U. S. Fishery Attache in Mexico.

It is understood that this is to be a small operation that will can some fish and abalone but specialize mostly on freezing spiny lobsters.

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PACIFIC COAST SHRIMP PRICE DISPUTE SETTLED: The dispute over shrimp prices between the cooperative shrimp fishermen and the boat owners of the Pacific coast of Mexico was settled on May 22--one week after the season opened on May 1

An increase in the price paid to the fishermen's cooperatives by the vessel owners of 370 pesos (about US\$29.62) a metric ton for headless shrimp was granted--about  $1\frac{1}{3}$  cents a pound.

The new contract will be in effect for two years or until May 15, 1958. However, it is subject to revision in May 1958 if in the meantime the cost of living, or the daily minimum wage, increases along the Mexican Pacific coast.

The new contract price to be paid the cooperatives (National Cooperative Confederation) is 2,280 pesos (US\$182.54) a metric ton of headless shrimp. This is 500 pesos (US\$40.00) more a metric ton than the previous price, but 130 pesos (US\$10.40) a ton will be discounted from the amounts the boat owners now pay the captain and first engineer. The crew will be allowed 45 pesos (US\$3.60) a ton for loading and unloading the boats, but if the crew does not perform these services the boat owner will be credited with the 45 pesos. The 45-peso loading and unloading charge is included in the 370-peso (US\$29.62) increase.

The boat owners, during long runs between fishing grounds, have also agreed to pay a "navigation wage" of 21.66 pesos daily (US\$1.75) to those members of the crew not on a salary.

The normal complement of a Mexican Pacific coast shrimp-trawler is 7 men which includes a captain, engineer, assistant engineer, a cook, and 3 fishermen. It is customary for the boat owner, in addition to paying the contract price to the cooperative, to pay the captain and engineer a daily wage throughout the entire year of between 25-40 pesos each (US\$2.00 and \$3.20). In addition to these amounts the captain and engineer are paid a bonus for each ton of shrimp caught. The amount of the bonus varies with different boat owners but is reported to average 375 pesos (US\$30.00) a ton for the captain and first engineer. The captain and engineer are each paid an additional 30 pesos (US\$2.40) per ton when the trip catch is more than two tons.

It is also customary for the boat owner to pay a bonus to the assistant engineer and to the cook. The amount of the bonus varies with the boat owner, but averages 70 pesos a ton (US\$5.60) each for the cook and the assistant engineer.

On the basis of the new contract each crew member will receive 65 pesos (US\$5.20) more a ton of shrimp. This increase will be effective for only five members of the crew since the increases for the captain and engineer will be deducted from the bonuses paid them by the boat owners. For a fisherman the increase amounts to about 45.5 percent. The average fisherman will earn about 8,000 pesos a year (about US\$640.00).

The crew will now share 1,455 pesos (about US\$116.40) a metric ton of shrimp caught. If the crew does the loading and unloading of the boat they will share an additional 45 pesos (US\$3.60) a ton. The remaining 780 pesos (US\$62.45) a ton will be paid to the Cooperative for dues, social security, severance tax, and other minor charges.



## Morocco

TRADE EXCHANGES WITH EAST GERMANY INCLUDE FISHERY PRODUCTS EXPORTS: A notice issued by the Moroccan Ministry of Economic Affairs and published in Bulletin Officiel No. 2327 of May 31, 1957, provides additional lists of import and export quotas for trade exchanges between Morocco and East Germany. This agreement was signed in Berlin on April 12, 1957, and provides that the quotas

VIGO FISHERIES TRENDS, APRIL 1957: Fishing: During April, landings at Vigo sold over the fish exchange amounted to about 9.3 million pounds, valued at US\$775,781. The April catches represent a decrease in quantity of about 12.7 percent as compared with the previous month and were about 28.3 percent over the April 1956 landings. Some of the vessels fishing out of southern Spanish ports since January returned to Vigo for the summer and fall fisheries. The sardine season opened on April 15, but the catch to the end of the month amounted to only 50,000 pounds.

The principal varieties of fish landed in April 1957 were: pomfret or dollar-fish (Brama raii) 2.5 million pounds, small hake 1.4 million pounds, and horse mackerel (Trachurus trachurus) about 1.2 million pounds.

A closed season for mollusks was established on April 1, effective through September 30. In the Vigo consular district the species affected are: clam (Tapes decussatus), cockle (Cardium edule), razor clam (Solem marginatus), scallop (Pecten maximus), small scallop or zamburnia (Clamys opercularis).

Fish Canning: The fish canneries in the Vigo area purchased about 704,000 pounds of fish during April as compared with about one million pounds in March and 427,000 pounds during April 1956.

The canneries were gravely concerned over the shortage of tin plate. The small quantities available are sufficient for limited operations only.

Exports of canned fishery products continued at a low level during April. The new rate of exchange (42 pesetas to US\$1) on their exports of canned fishery products is expected to improve the competitive position of the Vigo fish canneries in world markets. An additional premium of 3.0 pesetas (7.1 U. S. cents) is expected to be allowed on certain exports of canned fish (probably anchovies).

Domestic markets had been dull up to the end of April. The Government declared canned fishery products free of price control in an announcement dated April 9, 1957. (May 9 dispatch from United States Consul at Vigo.)

NOTE: VALUES CONVERTED TO US\$ EQUIVALENT AT RATE OF 1 PESETA EQUALS US\$0.0238.



## United Kingdom

NEW TYPE HERRING TRAWLERS FROM POLAND: A newly-formed Great Yarmouth firm in Britain is to have two trawlers of a new type built in Gdynia, Poland, for its herring fleet. One will be paid for partly with herring cured at Great Yarmouth and exported to Poland. The British Herring Industry Board is buying the second trawler with a Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries grant, and will charter it to the Great Yarmouth firm. A total of 28 similar vessels are being built in Gdynia for the Polish fleet and the Soviet Union.

The new-type herring trawler is equipped to dress, salt, and pack the herring in barrels on board, states an April 12, 1957, dispatch from the United States Embassy in London.

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SARDINE CANNERS LOWER PRICES TO MEET IMPORT COMPETITION: There was a record pack of Cornish sardines (pilchards) in 1956. A total of 2,700 metric tons were canned out of some 6,000 tons landed. But British canners have found marketing more difficult than ever before because imports from the Union of South Africa and from South-West Africa have also been the heaviest since exports from those areas commenced in 1948.

One canner, however, has decided to double output next season and has already reduced prices for the current pack. Some cannerymen are said to be bitter at alleged price cutting of South African firms, most of whom have offered a four percent discount on last year's minimum export prices. They have also complained of the practice of certain British agents who tie-in canned salmon with South African pilchards in order to effect quantity sales.

British pilchard canning has developed almost side by side with the industry in South Africa. Forgetting prewar days, the British market was largely supplied by the United States in the 1946-49 period and imports of 16,000 tons in 1947 were the highest since the war. The following year imports were negligible and, apart from some purchases from Japan in 1949 and 1950, the market has been wholly supplied by Cornwall and South Africa. In 1952, total supplies were over 8,000 tons, of which 33 percent were Cornish and the balance were from South Africa.

In 1953, exports from the Union declined and the Cornish cannerymen supplied 45 percent of the 5,000-ton total.

The South African pack declined in 1954 and so did output in Cornwall, but imports from South-West Africa showed a substantial increase to well over half the total of 5,200 tons. The following year, despite a good pack, Cornish cannerymen supplied only 10 percent of the British market and 8,700 tons of the 10,700-ton total came from South Africa. Over-all supplies last year were 14,800 tons, nearly up to the 1947 figure of more than 16,000 tons; the Cornish pack was a record at 2,700 tons and South-West Africa shipped 11,000 tons, but Union exports were just under 1,000 tons.

The Cornish pilchard industry comprises 6 or 7 firms. Two firms with their own sales force can sell their pilchards without much difficulty, and they report increased demand. The remaining cannerymen market through agents in the same way that South African cannerymen in Britain.

The biggest packer sells 1-lb. talls in tomato at 16s. 10d. (US\$2.35) a dozen cans as against the new season's South African price which is about 13s. (US\$1.82) a dozen ex-wharf. This packer has always paid higher prices for fish but this year they will pay 3s. 9d. a stone (3.7 U. S. cents a pound) or 4s. (4 U. S. cents a pound) for fish packed straight from the nets into metal containers. The other cannerymen are paying 2s. 6d. a stone (2.5 U. S. cents a pound), but one or two have been refusing fish owing to poor quality normal at this time of the year.

Labor costs in Cornwall are also believed to be much higher--girls receive about 2s. 6d. (35 U. S. cents) an hour in the cannerymen.

Other British firms are quoting 15s. (US\$2.10) a dozen cases delivered to wholesalers for 250-case lots of 1-lb. ovals and this is about the same as the ex-store price for new season South African ovals, without quantity discounts.

Salmon has been in very short supply since the war and shows a considerable profit margin. A buyer who takes up a combined offer makes his profit on the salmon and offers his pilchards for re-sale at below cost. This, and the discounts, have been the chief factors for the carry-over stocks of Cornish pilchards. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, April 1957.)

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WHITE FISH EXPORTS TO RUSSIA PROPOSED TO OFFSET CRAB MEAT IMPORTS: Russia has been asked to balance a definite part of her exports of canned crab meat to Britain with imports of white fish from that country. The Government hoped that this would result in a substantial amount of white fish from Britain entering

Russia. The Parliamentary Secretary of the Board of Trade announced this in the House of Commons.

He said that white fish exports to Russia would thus be supported in the same way as herring exports in the past.

There is a potential market for white fish in Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, and East Germany, but these are being supplied mainly by the Scandinavian countries, Iceland, and to a lesser extent Holland.

Russia is supplying Britain with about £1 million (US\$2.8 million) worth of canned salmon and crab annually, and the barter agreement under which it was sent provided that herring should be supplied against it. In 1955, the herring exports to Russia fell short of the £1 million by £676,000 (US\$1.9 million) and in 1953 by £462,000 (US\$1.3 million).

"In 1957 Iceland will export to Russia large quantities of herring, but in addition she will send 32,000 metric tons of cod fillets, valued at about £4 million (US\$11.2 million). We could have a good slice of this trade if we had that active support we believe we should have from the Government," a member of Parliament said.

As to East Germany, Norway will supply white fish worth about £2.3 million (US\$6.3 million) this year, while Iceland will supply East Germany with about £1 million (US\$2.8 million) worth of white fish.

Britain supplied £120,000 (US\$336,000) worth of frozen white fish fillets to Czechoslovakia in 1955. In 1957 while the Government had gone ahead with the proposal to export herring there, white fish had been left out altogether. The Czechs are importing 7,000 tons of white fish valued at about £900,000 (US\$2.5 million) from Iceland, states the British fishery periodical, The Fishing News, of May 17, 1957.

A member of Parliament said: "We should be tough with the Russians and insist that a part of the herring shortfall be taken in white fish.

"If that were done, we could develop our deep-freezing industry, which would mean more employment. We have had reports from Hull that the unemployment figures are creeping up again.

"We need extra filleters, extra men on the dock and in the ice factories, and men for developing ice factories and deep-freeze facilities. That would benefit the Northeast and East coast and would help the export trade."

The Board of Trade is willing to continue arrangements for the issue of licenses for the import of certain less essential East German goods against the export to them of white fish of equivalent value, as already made by the herring industry. At the moment they had not been successful in securing a quota for exports of white fish to Czechoslovakia.

Under current trade arrangements Hungary has established a quota for imports of cured, frozen, or salted fish to a value of £20,000 (US\$56,000) and Bulgaria a quota for herring and white fish, value £50,000 (US\$140,000).

