



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Agriculture

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

VIEWS ON U. S. STANDARDS OF FROZEN RAW BREADED SHRIMP REQUESTED:

Proposed United States Standards for Grades of Frozen Raw Breaded Shrimp were set forth in a notice published in the Federal Register of May 18, 1957. The Federal Register publication of July 30, 1957, provided an additional period of time, until October 16, 1957, for the submission of comments and suggestions concerning the proposed grade standards.

In consideration of comments and suggestions received indicating the need for further study of the proposed grade standards, notice was given in the November 7, 1957, Federal Register of a further additional period of time until November 23, 1957, within which written data, views, or arguments could be submitted by interested parties for consideration in connection with the aforesaid proposed United States Standards for Grades of Frozen Raw Breaded Shrimp. Processors, buyers, distributors, and other interested parties were requested to send their views to the U. S. Department of Agriculture which has legal responsibility for promulgating such standards.

The research and development of the Standards have been the responsibility of the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. The National Fisheries Institute, acting as the contract research agency for the Bureau, has supplied the liaison with the breaded shrimp industry essential to the standards program and has supplied consulting services at meetings and conferences.

NOTE: SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, JUNE 1957, P. 65.



Department of Commerce

WORLD TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED:

The Secretary of Commerce announced on December 6, 1957, the establishment of a World Trade Advisory Committee of 60 prominent United States business executives to advise his Department in formulating policies and programs promoting international trade, travel, and investment.

In making the announcement, the Secretary said: "We in the Department of Commerce plan to meet periodically with these businessmen who have so generously offered their time and experience in accepting membership on this Committee. In this fast-moving era, it is imperative that we obtain as full knowledge as possible of the interests, needs, and views of the United States foreign trade community as well as their assistance in determining how the Department's foreign trade responsibilities can best be carried out."

The first meeting of the Committee was held on December 16 in Washington, D. C. Among the topics discussed were East-West trade, export control policies, pending renewal of the Trade Agreements Act, United States private investment overseas, the international trade fair and trade missions programs, and prospects for further development of world trade.

Members of the Committee were invited to serve on the basis of their business experience and interest in foreign trade. Representing a cross-section of United States business, they come from both large and small business and industrial firms located in every part of the United States. Members serve on a voluntary basis and without compensation. The Committee is expected to meet in one-day sessions four times a year.

None of the members are directly connected with fishery and allied industries.

The Secretary of Commerce told the group that international trade is a growing enterprise of great volume and stressed its importance to the United States economy both to industry and workers. "I think it is possible," he said, "to steer a middle course between free traders and protectionists, maintaining present liberal trade policies while at the same time preventing damage to domestic industry."



Department of Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

REGIONAL OFFICES ESTABLISHED FOR BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES:

The establishment of four new regional offices and a new southern California program office for the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the appointment of regional directors to head up the new field organizations were announced on November 22, 1957, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife. All of the new directors are present members of the staff of the Service.

The new regional offices will be located at Gloucester, Mass.; St. Petersburg, Fla.; Ann Arbor, Mich.; and Seattle, Wash. The fifth regional office already is in existence at Juneau, Alaska. The new program office in southern California will be located at San Pedro.

The new regional directors appointed are: Joseph F. Puncochar, at Gloucester; Seton H. Thompson, St. Petersburg; Samuel J. Hutchinson, Seattle; W. F. Carbine, Ann Arbor; and John Gharrett, Juneau.

The function of the new regional offices will be to implement the expanded

commercial fishery program authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Service Act of 1956 and to improve services to the fishing industry and the general public by better coordination of field activities. The new southern California program office will supervise the semitropical fisheries work of the Bureau off that coast.

The Assistant Secretary stressed that the establishment of these new offices will not affect the present regional pattern of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife activities. They will continue to be located at Boston, Mass.; Atlanta, Ga.; Minneapolis, Minn.; Albuquerque, N. Mex.; Portland, Ore.; and Juneau, Alaska.

Seattle was selected as the site for the direction of Pacific operations because the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries already has several important projects located there--Pribilof seal management, the North Pacific technological laboratory, Pacific Coast fishery investigations, a Market News and Statistical office, and research activities in connection with the North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

Juneau is already the site of the present administrative office for Service activities and is the home of the Territorial government.

Gloucester, Mass., was chosen because of its importance as a fishing port, its proximity to Boston, its central location in the fishery, and because of plans for a technological laboratory and other installations there.

Because of the many fishery activities which the Bureau conducts from Texas to North Carolina and because St. Petersburg is centrally located and has the necessary transportation facilities, it was chosen for South Atlantic-Gulf headquarters. This region is important for its big shrimp industry, its large menhaden fishery, its oyster and crab operations, and because of substantial landings of mullet, red snapper, and Spanish mackerel.

The southern California site at San Pedro for a program office is centrally

located with respect to the important semitropical fisheries of that area. Important problems of this office relate to the tuna and sardine fisheries. They are separate problems from those re-

lating to the North Temperate Zone fisheries of the Pacific Northwest. As in the case of the Bureau's program office in Hawaii, the southern California office will report to the Bureau Director in Washington.



White House

TRADE POLICY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED:

The President on November 25, 1957, established a Trade Policy Committee. The Committee, composed of seven Cabinet members, will make recommenda-

tions to the President on basic trade policy issues arising in the administration of the Trade Agreements Program. The announcement of the order establishing the Committee as it appeared in the November 27, 1957, Federal Register follows:

TITLE 3—THE PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE ORDER 10741

ESTABLISHING THE TRADE POLICY COMMITTEE

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, including the Trade Agreements Act approved June 12, 1934, as amended (48 Stat. 943; 57 Stat. 125; 59 Stat. 410; 63 Stat. 698; 65 Stat. 72; 69 Stat. 162; 19 U. S. C. 1351-1354), it is ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established the Trade Policy Committee, consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Labor, or of alternates designated by them. Such alternates shall be officials who are required to be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Secretary of Commerce or his alternate shall be the Chairman of the Committee. The Committee may

invite the participation in its activities of other Government agencies when matters of interest thereto are under consideration; provided that such participation shall be limited to the heads of such agencies, or their alternates who are required to be appointed to office as above described.

SEC. 2. The Trade Policy Committee shall make recommendations to the President on basic policy issues arising in the administration of the trade-agreements program, which, as approved by the President, shall guide the Interdepartmental Committee on Trade Agreements established by paragraph 1 of Executive Order No. 10082 of October 5, 1949 (hereinafter referred to as the Trade Agreements Committee), in carrying out its functions.

SEC. 3. Each recommendation made by the Trade Agreements Committee to the President, together with the dissent of any agency, shall be transmitted to the President through the Trade Policy Committee, which shall submit to the

President such advice with respect to such recommendation as it may deem appropriate. The said Executive Order No. 10082 is hereby amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. The Trade Policy Committee shall make recommendations to the President as to what action, if any, he should take on reports submitted to him by the United States Tariff Commission pursuant to section 7 of the Trade Agreements Extension Act of 1951, as amended (65 Stat. 74; 67 Stat. 472; 69 Stat. 166), and pursuant to Executive Order No. 10401 of October 14, 1952.

SEC. 5. Agencies of the Government shall furnish the Trade Policy Committee available information upon request of the Committee therefor for use in connection with the carrying out of the functions conferred upon the Committee by this order.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

THE WHITE HOUSE,
November 25, 1957.

Following the announcement by the White House that the President had established a Trade Policy Committee, the Secretary of Commerce, Chairman of the Trade Policy Committee, said:

"A major objective of the new Cabinet Committee will be to strengthen the American economy through the sound and vigorous development of world trade.

"International trade is not something apart from American industry or a substitute for it. Rather, it is a projection and an aid to American industry and commerce. Hence its healthy development both safeguards the nation's economy from weakening influences and provides increasing opportunities for expanded business and employment.

"Instead of creating hazards to domestic business, its proper development strengthens the economy and thereby helps all business and those employed by business.

"Among the new steps to promote the reciprocal trade program are the following:

"(1) A policy-recommending unit at Cabinet level reflecting widespread responsibilities in foreign economic policy and domestic affairs.

"(2) Since 1934 an interagency committee known as the Trade Agreements Committee has made recommendations to the President on the administration of the Trade Agreement Act. Such recommendations will now be reviewed by the Cabinet Committee before going to the President.

"(3) An extremely important new function assigned to the Cabinet Committee is to advise the President on action to be taken by him on recommendations by the Tariff Commission in escape clause cases. The President thus will receive counsel reflecting a wide scope of experience and responsibility.

"The new arrangement is another demonstration of the importance which the Administration places on the development of vigorous trade programs with a favorable impact on the entire economy. It will be a sort of 'watchdog' group, giving constant consideration to the progress of the nation's reciprocal trade program."

**PRESIDENT'S PROPOSALS ON
RENEWAL OF THE TRADE
AGREEMENTS ACT:**

At the President's meeting on December 3, 1957, the Congressional leaders were informed of his proposals with respect to renewal of the Trade Agreements Act, which are designed to provide the necessary new tariff bargaining authority for an adequate period with safeguards for the American economy. The Secretary of Commerce and the Deputy Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs announced on December 9, 1957, details of the Administration proposals.

It is proposed that authority to enter into trade agreements would be extended for five years from the date of its expiration on June 30, 1958. New tariff reduction authority will be proposed as follows:

The President would be authorized to reduce any rate of duty existing on July 1, 1958:

(1) By 5 percent of the duty annually for five successive years. However, as an alternative, he could reduce a duty by this same total amount over a 3-year period if no yearly reduction exceeded 10 percent of the duty.

(2) By three percentage points ad valorem, without any yearly reduction exceeding 1 percentage point.

(3) To 50 percent ad valorem if an existing duty is in excess of that amount. In such cases not more than one-third of the total reduction could be made in any one year.

These would be alternative methods which could not be used cumulatively.

All safeguards for American industry contained in the present act would be continued. In addition, increased authority will be sought to raise duties to remedy threatened or actual serious injury to domestic industries when found necessary after "escape clause" investigations. The President would be authorized to raise the duty in such cases to 50 percent above the rate of duty in effect on

July 1, 1934 (instead of 50 percent above the lower duties of July 1, 1945, as in existing law).

The President's proposals would also authorize the immediate institution of "escape clause" proceedings after peril-point investigations disclose that existing rates of duty threaten or cause serious injury, rather than delaying such investigations until after the President has sought to negotiate increases in duty with foreign countries, in accordance with existing law. These changes will enable more prompt and effective action in serious injury cases.

The next five years will be of critical significance. In Western Europe the six governments of Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands have taken a tremendous step toward freeing international trade among themselves with the establishment of the European Economic Community. The Community was expected to come into being on January 1, 1958. Thereafter, over a period of several years, trade among the six countries will become progressively freer, and a single tariff will be established with respect to imports from other countries.

It will be of great importance to the economic well being of the United States and to other free world countries that the new common tariff of the European Economic Community be reduced as low as possible in order that all may benefit more fully from trade with this new market of 160,000,000 customers. To this end it will be necessary to conduct comprehensive tariff negotiations between the Common Market countries and other free world countries prepared to participate. Such negotiations will require extensive preparations and will take some 5 years to complete.

The Common Market countries, in the Treaty Establishing the European Economic Community, have declared their willingness to enter into negotiations on a reciprocal basis with nonmember countries. It remains for other countries and especially the United States, to respond to this initiative. If it is to do so, an effective 5-year extension of the trade-agreements legislation is essential.

Eighty-Fifth Congress

(First Session)

The following hearings are being reported to complete the history of actions that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries.

FOOD COSTS: Food Cost Trends (Hearings before the Subcommittee on Consumers Study of the Committee on Agriculture, House of Representatives, Eighty-Fifth Congress, First Session, May 7, 8, and July 18, 1957, Part I, 128 pp., printed. Statements submitted on the various costs that enter into the distribution of food products.



RADIO SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS SELL FISH

A recording containing thirteen radio spot public service announcements has been sent by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries to each of the more than



DON RICHARDS, STATION WTOP, MAKING RADIO SPOT ANNOUNCEMENT TO SELL FISH.

3,000 radio stations in the United States. The announcements range from 10 seconds to one minute. One of the 20-second announcements reads as follows: "Fish on Friday? You bet! But... fish on Saturday, Sunday, Monday, too! Every day is fish day! After a rich harvest from the sea... the biggest haul in years... fish prices are lower than ever. Buy any variety you like... fresh, frozen, canned... but buy fish now while they're inexpensive! Serve fish today!"

Surveys are being made in various parts of the country to determine the effectiveness of the announcements. The results thus far have been very gratifying. For example, a radio station covering the populated northeastern portion of the United States is broadcasting these announcements 14 times a week over a 6-months period. Similar reports have been received from other stations all over the country.

Members of the industry who believe they can encourage local station use have requested copies of the record, which are available for this purpose. Promotion-minded members of the industry have found a way to follow up these public service announcements with their own local radio advertising campaigns.