



## International

### EUROPEAN FREE TRADE AREA

#### BRITISH-NORWEGIAN FISH TALKS BREAK DOWN:

The discussions in London in mid-October 1959 between British and Norwegian Ministers regarding trade in fish and fish products within a European Free Trade Area broke down. The discussions centered on a proposal by Norway that fishery products be treated as ordinary industrial goods within the area. This proposal has caused great concern to the British fishing industry, which fears that the British market would be flooded with foreign fishery products.

The Norwegians are seeking easier access to the British market for Norwegian fish products in return for the opening up of the Norwegian market for industrial goods under the new agreement.

Last summer when the proposals were submitted at the Stockholm conference, it was decided to leave the matter open for future discussion; hence the London meeting. At the time the British argued that while a reduction and elimination of the tariff on canned fish was possible there was a difference in the case of frozen fish.

The present British tariff on most fish products is 10 percent.

The distant-water trawler owners desired that any concessions made on tariffs should be matched by some ressur-ance regarding the fisheries limits problem.

The Hull Fishing Vessel Owners' Association says: "Our direct interest in connection with this proposed agreement is that if it permits additional quantities

of fish or fish products to be exported from Norway to this country it will affect our own market.

"The proposal of the Free Trade Area Outer Seven would involve an immediate or a progressive abolition of the ten per cent ad valorem duties on all imported wet fish. Until we know what fish it is proposed should be allowed in we are not in a position to comment." (The Fishing News, October 23, 1959.)

#### FIRST SOUTH AMERICAN ATLANTIC REGIONAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE ON EXPLOITATION OF THE SEA

A regional International Fisheries Conference was held in Montevideo, Uruguay, September 28-30, 1959, under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization. The conference was attended by delegations from Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and two representatives of FAO.

The meeting (termed as highly successful by the participating technicians) re-emphasized the importance of increased scientific and commercial exploitation of the South Atlantic. Necessity for unification of efforts and joint studies among the three countries was also highlighted. A Uruguayan participant in the conference stated that the four most important final recommendations adopted at the conference were the following:

(1) To intensify studies and investigations about tuna fishing in order to obtain larger catches and to find out more about the migration habits of tuna;

(2) To share the services of the shrimp fishing expert recently contracted by the Uruguayan Government with Argentina and Brazil, each country paying one year's salary of the technician;

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(3) To intensify jointly the whale fishing industry and request from the FAO on a regional basis the services of an expert to advise the three countries;

(4) To decide on a joint commercial policy which would insure all three countries the highest possible earnings from their fishing industry.

The delegates were pleased with the progress made at the conference and both commercial and scientific interests expressed satisfaction that a closer regional understanding of the whole fisheries' complex had been achieved. A spokesman for the Uruguayan delegation stated that the findings of this conference will be used as a basis for a joint working plan which will eventually benefit each country by increased yields from the fishing industry and at the same time assure equal costs and profits and avoid repetition of scientific endeavors.

The need for additional technicians was repeatedly stressed and it was decided to make all future requests for FAO technicians on a regional basis, thus decreasing the cost of the expert's services to each country.

This conference appears to be indicative of recent intense interest displayed in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay to increase the fishing potential, an effort based to a great extent on the increasing meat shortage in those countries. (United States Embassy in Montevideo, October 5, 1959.)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
ORGANIZATION

#### TENTH SESSION OF CONFERENCE:

The Tenth Session of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) convened at Rome, October 31, 1959.

The Conference of the FAO, which was established in 1945, is the chief legislative and policy-making organ of the Organization. Its membership comprises 76 countries. The chief aims of the FAO are to raise the levels of nutri-

tion and standards of living of the people under the jurisdiction of the Member Governments; secure improvements in the efficiency of production and distribution of all food and agricultural products; and to better the conditions of rural populations.

This session of the Conference considered, among other things, the world situation and outlook in respect to food and agriculture; food production in relation to population trends; economic position of farm populations; problems of agricultural development in underdeveloped countries and a proposed Freedom-from-Hunger Campaign. It also determined the budget for the next biennial period.

The Conference meets every two years in regular session and may meet in special session if necessary.

#### OCEANOGRAPHERS CALL FOR WORLD FISH CENSUS

How many fish are there in the sea, and where they are and how their numbers can be increased to feed the ever-increasing human population of the earth were practical questions in the background of one session of the International Oceanographic Congress at the United Nations in September 1959. But no one among the 500 experts from 38 countries knew the answers.

The great need for human nutrition is protein and fish is a rich source of proteins. If they could be raised as beef on fertile watery farms and ranges their numbers could be increased enormously and the fish themselves would grow to much larger size. But their growth and numbers are limited by the amount of food they can find. Increasing fish production requires an increase in the microscopic fish food called plankton on which fish life depends. A plankton census must precede a fish census.

Studies of plankton made by the Scottish Oceanographic Laboratory were reported to the Congress. These microscopic plants and animals occur in astronomical numbers in most sea water. More than 50,000 samples of plankton were analyzed annually and each was separated into about 100 different species to discover where each is most plentiful. A plankton map of the North Sea and the nearby parts of the Atlantic and Arctic oceans will soon be published as a guide to the fish-feeding grounds.

Extension of such a map to the entire ocean and to a world fish census is being discussed as a major project in the near future for one of the international organizations such as UNESCO or the International Council of Scientific Unions. Meanwhile there have been some successful transplantations of young fish over long oceanic distances to better feeding grounds. This was done for the European plaice with a large increase in the catch at the new location. The striped sea bass has been successfully transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific. But every attempt to grow Atlantic shore oysters in the Pacific has failed. Much research will be needed on sea plants and small animals before any effect can be expected on the catch of edible fish.

A professor of Cambridge University in England reported to the Congress on the fantastic forms that have developed among fishes of the great deeps of the ocean—fish with mouths that extend half the length of their bodies, stomachs that can be extended to permit a fish to devour

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a fish larger than itself, and luminous bait that some fish carry before them on long antennae-like organs to attract their food. The reason for the existence of these queer fish is unknown but the professor claimed that the absolutely unchanging environment in the dark depths of the sea would permit mutation to run wild over millions of years. In the deep trenches that sink a mile or more below the great plains of the sea bottom, the odd species that develop in one trench may be quite different from those in a neighboring trench.

## WHALING

### RUSSIA ASKS NORWAY AND NETHERLANDS TO RECONSIDER WITHDRAWAL FROM CONVENTION:

A Soviet Foreign Ministry Note (No. 79/osa) of October 12, 1959, forwarded to the United States Government for deposit identical Soviet notes of October 3, 1959, to Great Britain, the Netherlands, Norway, and Japan. These notes concern the Soviet attitude toward the withdrawal of Norway and the Netherlands from the International Whaling Convention of 1946. A translation of the note to Great Britain follows:

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics presents its compliments to the Embassy of Great Britain and has the honor to state the following:

"The Government of the Union SSR has examined questions connected with the whaling industry in Antarctica and the situation created as a result of the withdrawal of Norway and Holland from the International Convention on Regulation of the Whaling Industry of 1946.

"As is known, 20 whaling flotillas have been working in the Antarctic during past years, among this number nine Norwegian flotillas and one Dutch flotilla, which obtain approximately half of the whaling quota established in the Convention. It is not by chance, therefore, that Article X of the Convention states that it comes into force on condition of the obligatory participation of Norway and Holland. Under these conditions the withdrawal of Norway and Holland from the Convention signifies the disruption of the cooperation, which has developed successfully for more than 10 years in the field of protection of the reserves of whales, and the beginning of unregulated exploitation.

"The question arises whether or not everything has been done to avoid those undesirable consequences for the supply of whales in the Antarctic which will take place as a result of the situation which has developed.

"In analyzing the proceedings of the London Conference of five countries which took place at the end of June of this year, it is necessary to acknowledge that efforts were made on the part of a number of countries, in particular on the part of Norway, to reach an agreement acceptable to all within the framework of the Convention on the basis of known recommendations accepted by the same countries in the conference in London in November 1958. As the result of this conference and the conferences which preceded it, some approximation of points of view occurred which, however, did not result in final agreement with respect to the distribution of the general quota for whaling among the main countries which carry on whaling in the Antarctic.

"In this connection, the Government of the Union SSR cannot but express its concern, since scientific data show that the state of the reserves of whales in the Antarctic continues to remain acute, and the beginning of unregulated whaling with the present season will inevitably lead to their rapid reduction to a level at which whaling will become entirely unprofitable for many countries. Under these circumstances it will in the future be still more difficult to reach agreement on protection of reserves of whales in the Antarctic and on rational conduct of whaling.

"The Government of the Union SSR considers that all possibilities have not yet been exhausted for reaching agreement on the basis of the aforementioned 1958 London recommendations. The Soviet Union for its part is ready to cooperate fully in strengthening international collaboration in the matter of protection of reserves of whales and the rational conduct of whaling on the basis of the 1946 Convention.

"In connection with this the Government of the Union SSR hopes that the Governments of Norway and Holland will find it possible to reconsider their

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decision to leave the Convention and will devote efforts to reaching agreement between the countries which conduct whaling in the Antarctic. Such a step on the part of Norway and Holland would without doubt be welcomed by all participants of the Convention.

"At the same time, the Government of the Union SSR is compelled to state that, if the force and authority of the Convention, which have been weakened by the withdrawal from it of Norway and Holland, are not restored by the beginning of the whaling season in the Antarctic, the Soviet Union, under these new conditions, will be guided by the Convention in the conduct of whaling in the Antarctic, with the position and practice of other countries taken into account and having in view the interests of the Soviet whaling industry."



## Angola

FISH MEAL PLANT INSTALLED  
BY NORWEGIAN FIRM:

A Norwegian firm has equipped an entire fish-meal plant at Porto Alexandre in Angola. The capacity of the plant is 150 metric tons a day, according to the journal Norway Exports. The contract price was £80,000 (US\$224,000). The Norwegian firm installed the Angolan plant and is providing technical assistance for six months after the plant starts operating.

The firm's connection with the Angolan fish-meal industry started in 1956 when some meal from that area, sundried by many small plants, was rejected by the German market. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, September 1959.)



## Argentina

IMPORT SURCHARGES REMOVED  
ON LARGE FISHING VESSELS:

The Argentine Government has issued an executive decree (No. 13,287 of October 22, 1959, published in the Boletín Oficial of November 3, 1959) which eliminates surcharges and prior deposits on the importation of deep-sea fishing vessels. The free-entry privilege applies to vessels which are imported and registered in the country within a period of 360 days from the date of the decree.

The decree establishes that three Government departments (the Dirección Nacional de la Marina Mercante y Puertos, the Dirección General de Pesca, and the Prefectura Nacional Marítima) must certify in advance that each proposed importation is suitable as a deep-sea fishing vessel. Following this procedure, the Secretariat of Industry and Mining and the Secretariat of the Navy must prepare in each case a document for submission to Customs certifying that the proposed importation is eligible for free entry under the decree. The free entry will not be applicable to types of vessels which can be produced in "technically adequate conditions" by local industry. The two Secretariats will decide whether the proposed importation can be satisfactorily produced in the country.

The decree answers repeated complaints by spokesmen of the Argentine fishing industry that development of the industry has been held up for years by restrictions on importation of vessels, among other factors. Most of the present Argentine deep-sea fishing fleet (some 26 vessels) is antiquated and ill-equipped. Although credit is very tight in the Argentine market at present, it is believed that some of the fishing companies will be able to take advantage of this decree. The decree does not require the vessels to be imported be new.



## Australia

### CANNERIES SET TUNA PRICE FOR 1959/60 SEASON:

The tuna canneries owned by a Sydney, Australia, firm and located in Eden and Narooma, New South Wales, will pay 6d. per pound (about 5.6 U. S. cents a pound or US\$112 a short ton) for raw tuna delivered to the canneries in the 1959/60 season. The canneries will take a minimum of 1,200 tons. Additional purchases will depend on market conditions as the season progresses.

Good signs of bluefin tuna were reported outside the 100-fathom line south-east of Lakes Entrance, Victoria, the latter part of July and early in August. These tuna were mainly in the 40-60 pound size group, the Australian Fisheries Newsletter reported in its September 1959 issue.

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### EXPORTS OF SPINY LOBSTERS CONTINUE TO RISE:

During the year ending June 30, 1959, Australian spiny lobster exports (practically all went to the United States) rose 14 percent in quantity. The value (about US\$7 million) was over five times the value of spiny lobster exports to the United States ten years ago.

The Australian Ministry of Primary Industry in releasing these figures said that the number of men and vessels engaged had increased in all spiny lobster fishing areas, but that the fishermen had been forced to operate over larger and larger areas and in many cases were fishing out to the 60-fathom line, the United States Embassy in Canberra reported on October 16, 1959.

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### LAND-BASED WHALING SEASON ENDS:

Two of the five Australian coastal whaling stations obtained their 1959 permitted quota in August and ceased whaling for this season.

Byron Bay commenced on June 3 and finished on July 28, having taken

150 whales in 56 days, compared with 120 whales last year in 57 days.

Moreton Island, which commenced the season on June 8, finished on August 9, having taken 660 whales in 63 days, compared with 600 whales last year in 65 days.

At Norfolk Island, where whaling commenced on June 12, 87 whales had been taken to August 8.

At the same date, Cheynes Beach, which commenced on May 18, had taken 148 humpbacks and 6 blue whales.

Also as at August 8, Carnarvon, which commenced on May 17, had taken 332 humpbacks, 6 blues and 1 fin whale. (The Fisheries News Letter, Sept. 1959.)

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### NEW SPECIES OF SHRIMP FOUND IN DEEP WATER BY EXPLORATORY VESSEL:

A species of shrimp not previously known in Australian waters was caught by the Government-chartered survey vessel Challenge in the Australian Broken Bay-Norah Head area in 145-155 fathoms. The shrimp survey is being conducted by the Australian Fisheries Division.

The species was later identified by a marine biologist as "most certainly" of the genus Hymenopenaeus. He said that if it proved to be a new species, it would be named after the Challenge. The shrimp has an average body length of 7½ inches, bright pink body, and tailfin marked with deep red. A species of Hymenopenaeus is trawled commercially in the United States where it is known as royal-red shrimp (Hymenopenaeus robustus).

Three other new species of shrimp commercially unimportant, were also found in June and July 1959.

Concentrations of Parapenaeus australiensis were found in Stockton Bight mixed with king shrimp. P. australiensis is orange-red with a red tailfin, grows to about 6½ inches, and is very tasty. It may still be found in commercial quantities. P. australiensis is nearly always found with king shrimp in the

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proportion of about 2 to 3. Its optimal habitat seems to be the range between 45 and 65 fathoms, and it does not occur further inshore. The larvae have been found in plankton catches indicating that this shrimp spawns much earlier than all Australian commercial species.

The red shrimp (*Aristaeomorpha foliacea*) was taken by the Challenge in the Broken Bay-Norah Head area. This shrimp, which was a record for New South Wales, was found 45 years ago by the Commonwealth research trawler Endeavour in the vicinity of Gabo Island. This species seems to be common below 110 fathoms for it has been captured on nearly all tows on the Continental Slope. It is not certain, however, whether it does not school well above the bottom, in which case it may have been encountered on the net's way up. Further work is necessary to establish whether it can be taken in commercial quantity. In July, the Challenge worked first in the Norah Head-Newcastle area, then north to Port Stephens and back to Sidney.

A run of good weather enabled further deep-water work to be carried out off Norah Head-Newcastle. Several royal-red and one red shrimp were taken, but there was no sign of shrimp in quantity. The shelf slope was steeper and rougher in this area.

King and red shrimp were caught off Newcastle in 30 to 50 fathoms, but commercial vessels had ceased fishing for lack of sufficient quantities, although large catches had been obtained a month earlier.

Leaving Sydney, the Challenge worked off Botany Bay and then Jervis Bay. There the water temperature was 2° C. lower than a month earlier and the number of shrimp taken was even less.

A considerable time was spent looking for suitable bottom in depths over 80 fathoms from east of Ulladulla to Jervis Bay. The bottom in this area seemed to be all very rough and the slope from 90 fathoms was extremely

steep and cut by deep gutters. None of the area covered was workable.

The Challenge then worked in Shoalhaven Bight, and off Lake Illawarra and Cronulla, before returning to Sydney.

Small catches of school shrimp were made off Crookhaven River entrance. Several commercial vessels were working in this area and catches had been better several days previously.

Generally speaking the catches showed that there was a poorer indication of king shrimp in the deeper water than there had been about a month earlier. (Australian Fisheries Newsletter, September 1959.)

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#### NEW TYPE SPINY LOBSTER FISHING VESSEL:

An unusual type spiny lobster fishing vessel, under construction at Hamilton Hill, Australia, is expected to do the work of two conventional vessels. The vessel is being built by the captain-owner for his own use.

The new vessel will be steered by two hemispherical metal shells around each propeller. By closing the shells the boat will go astern.

Instead of pulling spiny lobster pots up over the side, specially designed gear will automatically pull the pots up over the sloping stern.

Hexagonal floats and thin steel cables will be used. A winch, recessed to take the six-sided floats, will wrap the cable neatly around the float as it is revolved.

The bases of the pots can be quickly detached, the spiny lobsters removed, and freshly-baited bases clipped on.

A 300-case freezing chamber will be added later.

The double-skinned, steel, 41-foot boat, with twin Diesel engines, was designed jointly by a Fremantle marine designer and the owner.

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Australia (Contd.):

### SNAPPER CATCHES IMPROVED BY USING TRAPS:

Use of traps instead of line fishing for snapper has been producing heavy catches in Western Australia from the Shark Bay grounds.

The Fremantle Fisherman's Co-operative Manager said at the end of July 1959 that Co-operative boats had already caught almost 500,000 pounds of snapper.

Among the big catches reported were 67,000 pounds taken in 11 days' fishing by the new aluminium alloy vessel Lady of Fatima, 54,000 pounds by Miss Phoenix, 26,000 pounds in each of three trips by Kingfisher, and 26,000 pounds by Proton.

In mid-August, the snapper was being sold direct from the boats to merchants at an average price of about 18 U.S. cents a pound. (Australian Fisheries Newsletter, September 1959.)



## Belgium

### MINIMUM EX-VESSEL FISH PRICES ESTABLISHED:

The Belgium Ministry of Agriculture has approved the 1959/60 minimum prices for fish sold at wholesale markets on the Belgian coast. The prices were fixed by the Rederscentrale (Fishing Companies Association) of Ostend at 2.4-4.5 U. S. cents a pound according to the size and quality of the various species.

These minimum prices for fish went into effect on September 28, 1959. The Rederscentrale is working out a minimum price system for shrimp and sprat.

The following species are sold at a minimum price of 5.00 Belgian francs per kilo (about 4.5 U. S. cents a pound): cod (over 60 cm. or 23 inches); haddock (over 35 cm. or 14 inches); coalfish (over 60 cm.); pollock (over 60 cm.); ling (over 60 cm.); whiting, large (over

30 cm. or 12 inches); gurnard, large (over 35 cm.); sea bream, large (over 35 cm.); dogfish, large (over 60 cm.); plaice (over 30 cm.); dab (over 30 cm.); and ray, large (over 50 cm. or 20 inches width of wings).

The following species are sold at a minimum price of 4.00 Belgian francs per kilo (about 3.6 U. S. cents a pound): coalfish, small (from 30 to 60 cm. or 12-24 inches); pollock, small (from 30 to 60 cm.); ling, small (from 30 to 60 cm.); whiting (from 25 to 30 cm. or 10-12 inches); brill, small (over 50 cm.); conger eel; gurnard, small (less than 35 cm.); sea bream, small (less than 35 cm.); catfish; flatfish, small (from 25 to 30 cm.); dab, small (from 25 to 30 cm.); plaice (from 25 to 30 cm.); witch (over 28 cm. or 11 inches); ray (from 35 to 50 cm.); grey gurnard (over 28 cm.); latchet (over 28 cm.); mackerel; and herring.

The following species are sold at a minimum price of 3.00 Belgian francs per kilo (about 2.7 U. S. cents a pound): houndfish, small (from 50 to 60 cm.); dogfish, small (from 50 to 60 cm.); sand dogfish (over 50 cm.); flounder (over 30 cm.); cat ray (from 30 to 35 cm.); small herring; and pilchards.

The following species are sold at a minimum price of 2.60 francs per kilo (about 2.4 U. S. cents a pound): small mackerel and herring for canneries.

Whenever the wholesale prices offered at the Belgian coast are lower than the fixed minimum prices, the fish will be purchased at those minimum prices by the Government Purchase Program of the Ministry of Agriculture, and sold to the fish meal industries. (United States Consul in Antwerp, October 7, 1959.)



## Canada

### CONSUMPTION OF FISHERY PRODUCTS IN 1956 AND 1957:

In terms of edible weight the consumption of fishery products in Canada in 1957 amounted to 13.4 pounds per capita--unchanged from 1956. In both years, Ca-

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nadians consumed 7.2 pounds of fresh and frozen fish and shellfish, 4.5 pounds canned fish and shellfish, and 1.7 pounds of smoked, salted, and pickled fish.

In the United States per capita consumption of fishery products in 1957 amounted to 5.6 pounds of fresh and frozen fish and shellfish, 3.9 pounds of canned fish and shellfish, and 0.6 pounds of smoked, salted, and cured fishery products--or a total of 10.1 pounds, edible weight.

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#### NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERY TRENDS, 1958-59:

Stormy weather, a shortage of bait, and a scarcity of cod on Newfoundland's inshore fishing grounds in 1958 are given as the causes of the worst cod fishery in 20 years. Consequently, most fishermen were barely able to qualify for the minimum unemployment insurance (C\$9.00 per week for 15 weeks). Due to the scarcity of cod, exporters of salted fish were unable to supply their markets before the year's end.

There were few developments of any consequence in the fishing industry which would cause optimism. Efforts made to obtain financial aid from the Canadian Government for fishermen were unsuccessful. There was some legislation which may be helpful in the future, but afforded no immediate relief, except for modest employment in some areas. These included the construction of 20 fishing stages, the introduction of four portable bait lockers which are said to have proven successful, and the purchase of two refrigerator trucks to transport bait from freezing plants to holding lockers.

Production of frozen fillets in 1958 increased over 1957 for all species except cod. Had it not been for the large increase in production of frozen fillets the fisheries most likely would have been a complete failure.

The outset of the 1959 fishery had prospects of being a repetition of the previous year due to adverse weather

conditions and heavy ice. However, after a late start landings began to pick up. It is now considered that the 1959 fishery may be the best in the past five years due to an excellent cod trap fishery during July and August. The industry as a whole should enjoy a healthy and profitable year in 1959, and should give encouragement to more fishermen to return to the sea.

As in 1958, there were few developments offering encouragement to the industry or the fishermen as a whole. Probably the most noteworthy was the purchase of a freezing plant at Fortune, which was closed for nearly three years, by a Chicago, Ill., firm. The reopening of this plant means the re-employment of from 200-250 persons, when operating at full capacity.

The Newfoundland Associated Fish Exporters' Ltd. (NAFEL) exclusive license to export salted cod expired on July 31, 1959. While there were fears in some circles that if order was not retained in the marketing of salt fish, havoc in the industry might occur, this apparently has not proven to be the case so far. Since NAFEL lost its charter, it has continued to function as an exporter of salted fish. According to official sources there has been little change in the organizational pattern of NAFEL, and the majority of fish producers are continuing to use its services.

With a view toward improving the quality of processed fish, which would benefit the industry, the Canadian Government passed the Meat and Canned Foods Act and the Fish Inspection Act, both of which became effective in Newfoundland on July 1, 1959.

In July 1959 the Canadian Government announced, without giving any advance notice, that it was relinquishing the administration of the fish-culling regulations in Newfoundland. Subsequent to this announcement the Provincial Government stated that it was not in a position at present to take over this work due to lack of trained personnel and funds. This state of affairs has caused much concern to the fish trades group who have declared that without culling regulations the fishing industry has been



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placed in a precarious state. Many are afraid that some producers may include inferior quality with choice fish destined for "high class" overseas markets, thus causing a loss of the market. It is believed that when the Newfoundland Provincial House of Assembly meets again it will be pressured by the Fish Trades Association and other interested groups into taking some action to rectify the present situation.

Landings, 1957-58: Total fish landings for the year 1958 amounted to 464 million pounds, valued at C\$11,272,000, as compared with 576 million pounds, valued at C\$13,639,573 in 1957, a decrease of 19.4 percent in quantity and 17.4 percent in value. In 1958, as in 1957, cod, haddock, caplin, and squid were responsible for a further decline in total landings. Landings of cod totaled 300 million pounds in 1958, as compared with 401.6 million pounds in 1957, a decrease of 25.4 percent. Landings of haddock declined by 30.1 percent with 30.8 million pounds in 1958, as compared with 44 million pounds in 1957. Caplin (used for bait) dropped

Vessel Type	Number	Total Landings (Round Weight) 1,000 Lbs.
Trawlers . . . . .	17	72,591
Driggers . . . . .	8	17,832
Danish seiners . . . . .	6	665
Long liners . . . . .	23	6,040

17.0 percent as they failed to appear in the usual large quantities, and squid, another form of bait, registered the largest decrease in total landings. Only 1.6 million pounds of this favored bait were landed, as compared with 5.8 million pounds in 1957, a drop of 72.7 percent. The only noticeable increases registered among the major species were for ocean perch, sea dabs, and grey sole. Landings of ocean perch were up 58.2 percent, 25.4 million pounds being taken, as compared with 16.1 million pounds in 1957. Landings of sea dabs and grey sole increased by 17.4 percent over 1957. Herring, used primarily as bait, also registered an increase in total landings of 30.8 percent over the 1957 catch. Landings of salmon, most valuable spe-

cies on a per pound basis, continued to increase. 2.2 million pounds were landed in 1958, as compared with 2.0 million pounds in 1957, an increase of 9.6 percent.

There were no laws or regulations enacted during 1958, affecting the Newfoundland fishery. (United States Consulate in St. John's, Newfoundland, reported on October 7, 1959.)

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#### PRODUCTION, IMPORTS, EXPORTS OF MARINE OILS:

If the Canadian fish landings late in 1959 are at all satisfactory, the production of marine oils for 1959 will exceed the 5.7 million Imperial gallons produced in 1958. Production of both cod and British Columbia herring oil was higher through July 1959 as compared with January-July 1958.

In 1958, as compared with 1956 and 1957, increasing amounts of marine oil were used in the manufacture of margarine, and decreasing amounts in the manufacture of shortening. In 1959 the amount of marine oil used in those products was much lower than in 1958, being replaced largely by cheaper vegetable oils and lard. During January-August 1959, only 11.7 million pounds of marine oils were used in margarine and shortening as compared with the use of 24.8 million pounds during the comparable period of 1958.

In 1956 and 1957 Canada was a net exporter of marine oils and in 1958 imports and exports about balanced. In 1959, as a result of the large over-all supply of fats and oils, Canada was a heavy exporter of marine oils. During the first eight months 1959, as compared with the comparable period in 1958, larger supplies of cod-liver and herring oils moved to the United States and the United Kingdom, respectively.

Imports in 1959 were much lower than in 1958, the largest decrease being in fish and marine animal oils from the United States. (See tables 1, 2, and 3 on following page.)

Table 1 - Canada's Production of Marine Oils, 1956-58 and January-July 1958-59

Products	January-July		Year 1958	Year 1957	Year 1956
	1959	1958			
..... (Imperial Gallons) .....					
<u>Atlantic:</u>					
Cod oil .....	448,467	297,877	630,540	823,323	965,198
Herring oil .....	1/	1/	1/	107,900	148,271
Other (seal, etc.) .....	2/265,056	2/557,566	2/938,562	712,843	405,436
Total .....	713,523	955,443	1,569,102	1,644,066	1,518,905
<u>British Columbia:</u>					
Herring oil .....	4,127,761	2,180,510	4,127,761	2,180,510	4,725,903
Grand Total .....	4,841,284	3,135,953	5,696,863	3,824,576	6,244,808

1/Not available.  
2/Includes herring oil.

Table 2 - Canada's Exports of Marine Oils, 1956-58 and January-August 1958-59

Products	January-May		Year 1958	Year 1957	Year 1956
	1959	1958			
..... (Imperial Gallons) .....					
<u>Cod Liver Oil:</u>					
Total Exports .....	449,482	321,106	540,867	601,550	655,020
To United States .....	390,884	257,599	443,893	571,585	655,020
<u>Herring Oil:</u>					
Total Exports .....	1,725,893	-	739,236	20,100	1,374,569
To United States .....	56,196	-	277,733	20,100	139,234
<u>Whale Oil:</u>					
Total Exports .....	109,546	48,876	356,715	213,102	349,150
To United States .....	53,724	43,167	87,290	193,312	257,776
<u>Other Fish Oil:</u>					
Total Exports .....	423	1,219	5,078	33,417	13,379
To United States .....	420	1,217	5,076	33,410	12,008
Total Exports .....	2,285,344	371,201	1,641,896	868,169	2,392,118
Total to United States .....	501,224	301,983	813,992	818,407	1,064,038

Table 3 - Canada's Imports of Marine Oils, 1956-58 and January-May 1958-59

Products	January-May		Year 1958	Year 1957	Year 1956
	1959	1958			
..... (Imperial Gallons <sup>1/</sup> ) .....					
<u>Cod Liver Oil:</u>					
Total Imports .....	80,328	76,674	231,081	122,031	134,117
From United States .....	-	11	11	537	396
<u>Whale and Sperm Oil:</u>					
Total Imports .....	13,391	6,912	21,225	24,497	28,889
From United States .....	11,703	3,898	10,199	1,118	-
<u>Other Fish and Marine Animal Oils:</u>					
Total Imports .....	109,312	982,341	1,409,910	301,874	328,427
From United States .....	107,419	966,937	1,375,162	280,563	300,160
Total Imports all Marine Oils .....	203,031	1,065,927	1,662,216	448,402	491,433
Total from United States ..	119,122	970,846	1,385,372	282,218	300,556

1/One Imperial gallon is equal to 1.2009 U. S. gallons.

\* \* \* \* \*

Canada (Contd.):

### REFRIGERATION STANDARDS FOR FRESH AND FROZEN FISHERY PRODUCTS AMENDED:

Regulations on refrigeration under section 5.4.9 of Canada's Specification 32-GP-141A--the voluntary standard for fresh and frozen fishery products are being amended. The fishing industry was not unanimous on this change, but a majority favored it. The amendment will read:

"5.4.9 Frozen fish or processed fish shall be continuously maintained at the lowest practical temperature during frozen storage. A temperature not higher than  $-10^{\circ}$  F. is recommended. Delivery of frozen fish, acceptable under this Specification, if made by railway transport, shall be made under maximum icing procedures which are as follows for the winter and summer seasons:

"April 1 to November 30 inclusive: Initially ice to capacity with crushed ice and 30 percent salt about 24 hours before loading commences, and re-ice to capacity after loading completed. Endorse billing: - 'Re-ice in transit, to capacity, at all regular icing stations with crushed ice and 30 percent salt.'

"December 1 to March 31 inclusive: Initially ice to capacity with crushed ice and 30 percent salt about 24 hours before loading commences, and re-ice to capacity after loading completed. Endorse billing: - 'Re-ice in transit, to capacity, at all regular icing stations with crushed ice and 30 percent salt, only when car requires total 1,500 pounds or more ice.'

"In the railway transport of fresh fish acceptable under this Specification, maximum icing procedures of the rail cars will be observed with the mixture of crushed ice and 10 percent salt in summer and crushed ice alone in winter.

"Delivery of frozen or fresh fish, acceptable under this Specification, if made other than by railway transport, shall be made by a carrier using good commercially practical refrigeration."

The change from the previous wording of the Specification consists of the addition of the specific instructions for re-icing for railway shipments. Many shippers now use these same icing instructions but, once the Specification has been officially amended, these instructions will be mandatory for moving products inspected under this Specification by rail.

\* \* \* \* \*

### SMALL-TYPE GILL-NET BOAT BUILT FOR FRASER RIVER SALMON FISHERY:

The forerunner of a possible trend in smaller size gill-net boats for the Fraser

River salmon fishery was viewed recently. For the past few years the move has been to larger gill-netters of about 35 feet in length; however, this isn't the case with the Agnes T, built by a Steveston, British Columbia, shipyard.

The Agnes T is 30 feet long with a beam of  $8\frac{1}{2}$ -feet, has the popular new style wheelhouse which provides more comfort and visibility, and boasts automatic steering equipment with power drum and steering controls at the stern. The vessel is powered by a 140-hp. gas engine. (Canadian Trade News, September 1959.)



## Colombia

### NEW FISH FREEZING PLANT INSTALLED:

A new fish-freezing plant has been installed in the Colombia Pacific Coast port of Buenaventura. The plant was expected to begin operations in November or December 1959.

The new freezing plant has a storage capacity of 500,000 pounds and a freezing capacity of 30 metric tons, plus space for drying 30 tons of cod. The plant cost about US\$191,000 (at rate of exchange 7.84 pesos equal US\$1), employs 300 persons, and is supplied by 50 fishing vessels with a complement of 250 fishermen.



## Cuba

### JOINT CUBAN-JAPANESE TUNA PROCESSING FIRM DENIED NEW INDUSTRY STATUS:

A Cuban Ministry of Treasury resolution published in Official Gazette No. 195 of October 15, 1959, denied "new industry" benefits to the Cuban firm Pesqueras Internacionales, S. A. (International Fisheries Incorporated). The firm originally requested these benefits on July 5, 1957. The Treasury resolution admitted that some of the firm's seafood products, such as sausages and hams manufactured from fish and shellfish, were considered new to Cuba as far as presentation and preparation were con-

## Cuba (Contd.):

cerned. However, they were deemed not to be too dissimilar from products already manufactured by various firms in Cuba which have been packing fish and shellfish items over many years.

As far as is known, no production of hams or sausages by the referenced firm for Cuban consumption ever took place. Those tuna loins which were manufactured from the tuna catch of the Japanese tuna clipper Sumiyoshi Maru, were exported to the United States for final processing. The Treasury ruling is not expected to affect seriously the operations of the Cuban-Japanese firm, the United States Embassy in Habana reported on November 12, 1959.



## Denmark

FISHERIES TRADE FAIR  
HELD IN COPENHAGEN:

The Third International Fisheries Trade Fair was held in Copenhagen from September 25-October 4, 1959. The number of visitors totaled 70,000, or about 10,000 more than the previous fair. There were many visitors from European and overseas countries. Sales effected at the fair were reported to be in excess of 200 million kroner (US\$29 million).

Exhibitors from several European countries as well as from Japan and the United States were represented. The American exhibitors included one Diesel engine firm of Peoria, Ill., a fork lift truck firm from Portland, Ore., a New Orleans, La., firm with shrimp processing machinery, and an outboard motor Company of West Bend, Wis.

The Fourth International Fisheries Trade Fair in Copenhagen is planned for 1962. (United States Embassy in Copenhagen, October 14, 1959.)

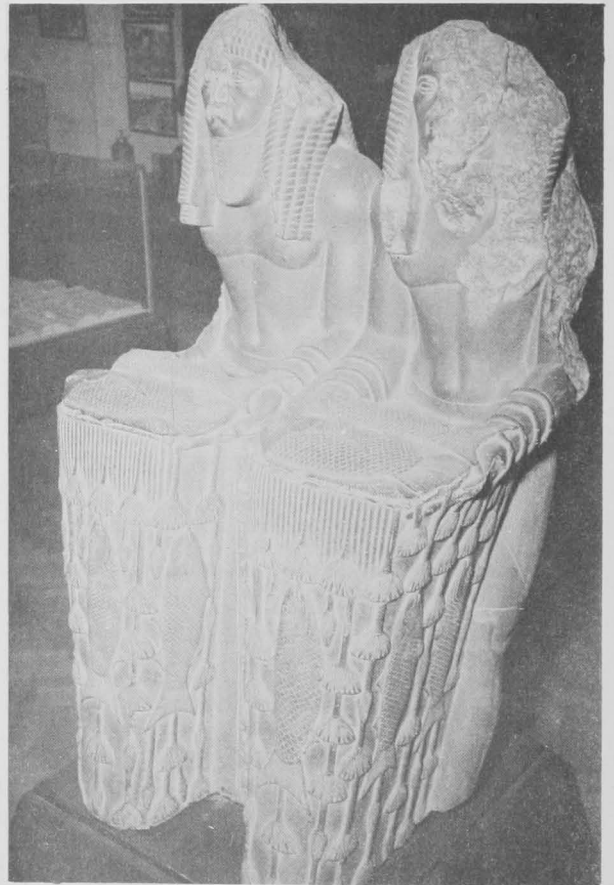
Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, Sept. 1959, p. 51.



## Egypt

FISHERIES TRENDS, OCTOBER 1959:

In February 1959, the Egyptian Government announced the establishment of a High Council for Fisheries to be headed by the Vice President, and to include representatives from the Ministries of Agriculture, Industry, Supply, Economy, and Coast Guard. The move was an attempt to coordinate the policies of these various ministries, each of which had some interest in fishery problems. It was expected that the Council would coordinate and develop plans for research and expansion of the Egyptian fishing industry.



The importance of fish in Ancient Egypt is shown by this model of the Nile God (Hapi) on which are fish, water fowl, and lotus flowers. Statue is in Agricultural Museum, Cairo. Original statue dates back to about 2,000 B. C.

The Government took a number of positive steps in 1959 to implement plans for the development of the fishing industry. It appears to have concentrated its efforts on improving the production of the inland-water fisheries.

## Egypt (Contd.):

It has reopened the channels leading from Lakes Edkou and Monzalah to the sea. The decreased water salinity resulting from this action is expected to increase the catch in those two lakes, which provided about 35 percent of the total fishery landings in 1958.

Another step taken by the Government has been to grant, through the Agricultural Bank, loans to fishermen's cooperatives. These loans are expected to reach £E195,000 (US\$560,000) in 1959, and will probably be increased in 1960. By enabling the fishermen to obtain easier credit with which to buy boats, nets, and maintain their equipment, it is hoped catches will increase.

Further, the Government has continued to try to improve internal distributing facilities. During the past year it added a number of refrigerator trucks to transport fresh fish from Suez to Cairo.

During a part of 1958, four Yugoslav fishing vessels, under contract to the Egyptian Government, carried out exploratory and research work in Egyptian waters. Two of the vessels operated in the Red Sea and two in the Mediterranean. The latter finished their work early in 1959 while it is understood the former are continuing their operations. According to an official of the Hydrobiological Institute, the results have not yet been fully studied, although the prospects for significant catches of tuna in the Mediterranean area west of Alexandria to the Libyan border were reported as discouraging.

In March 1959, the Japanese fishing research vessel Shoyo Maru arrived in Alexandria. The vessel did work in the Mediterranean and Red Seas, with the principal object of discovering whether or not commercial catches of tuna might be found. Again, the results were disappointing in the Mediterranean, and only slightly less so in the Red Sea. It is believed that the failure of the Yugoslav and the Japanese vessels to find significant quantities of tuna has considerably dampened earlier hopes for

the establishment of a tuna fishing and processing industry.

Meanwhile, efforts appear to be concentrated on research being carried out, with Food and Agriculture Organization assistance, in the inland lakes. It is understood that the results of this research are much more promising.

There have been no significant developments of changes in the size or composition of Egypt's fishing fleet during 1959. The present fleet consists of approximately 485 small motor fishing vessels and probably about 1,500 small sailing vessels (excluding the inland lake boats). The total absence of larger trawlers, both for shrimp and fish, continues to be one of the principal factors limiting possibilities for significantly increasing the production of Egypt's ocean fishing industry.

In 1958 Egypt imported twice as much fish and fish products as she exported-- imports £E389,316 (US\$1,118,000) and exports £E186,161 (US\$535,000). In previous years Egypt imported much larger quantities of fish and fish products (£E1,068,570 or about US\$3,069,000 in 1957). Egyptian exports, principally shrimp, have increased considerably, up from £E92,719 in 1957. Egypt is expected to continue to restrict imports and encourage exports of fishery products.

Aside from the Yugoslav and Japanese research assistance mentioned, the only countries known to have an active interest in the development of the Egyptian fishing industry, and these on a very small scale, are Greece and Japan. Greece has a small interest in the sponge fishing industry, and several private Greek interests in the past have expressed a willingness to participate in establishing fishing operations. Japan has shown an interest in assisting in the establishment of economically-feasible fishing operations and processing plants. Except for the possible establishment of a sardine canning factory which would use Japanese equipment and technical assistance, it is believed no other foreign investment plans exist. Whether foreign assistance remains

### Egypt (Contd.):

confined to research, the provision of processing equipment and technical advice will depend to a large extent on the Egyptian Government's general policy regarding private foreign investment.

In addition to the sardine canning factory, it is believed the Government plans to increase the size of its Red Sea fishing fleet, and establish a number of small freezing and storage plants for the use of fishermen along the Red Sea and Gulf of Suez coasts. The plants will not be on a large scale. Another plan is to establish a shark-liver oil processing plant in the Red Sea. Even if these plans materialize in 1960, it is doubtful they will have much immediate effect on the country's fishing industry.

The prospects for any large increase in Egypt's over-all fish production in 1960 are not bright; however, inland water catches may increase somewhat. Any such increase will probably be consumed locally.

In the long run Egypt's fishing industry may have considerable potential. If more coordinated and intensive research indicates the existence of fish resources that lend themselves to commercial exploitation, the development of the industry will depend upon (1) the acquisition of modern efficient fishing vessels and the training of local fishermen in their use, and (2) the continued improvement of local distribution and processing facilities. From the point of view of foreign trade, the expansion of shrimp production would appear to be the most promising and should yield the highest returns. (United States Consulate in Alexandria, October 6, 1959.)



### Ghana

#### UNITED STATES FISH CANNERY AND GHANA GOVERNMENT JOINTLY EXPLORING GULF OF GUINEA FOR TUNA:

A United States west coast canner and the African Republic of Ghana are jointly conducting fishery explorations in the Gulf of Guinea off central Africa. The objectives of the ex-

plorations are: (1) to assess the fishery resources of the coastal and high seas waters adjacent to Ghana; (2) to stimulate a new Ghana fishery for pelagic species if they are found to be available in sufficiently large concentrations; (3) to study the possibilities of establishing a tuna processing and freezing plant in Ghana; (4) to study the biological and oceanographic conditions existing in the waters of the Gulf of Guinea and along the shores of the Gold Coast.

The diet of the Ghana people consists mainly of fish and marine products as a source of protein. Beef is not raised in Ghana due to the lack of grasslands and the presence of the tsetse fly. As a consequence the six-million Ghanians in their diet rely very heavily on fishery products.

Unfortunately, the fishermen of Ghana cannot fulfill the growing requirements of the nation. Importation of fishery products is not practical from a financial standpoint. As a consequence more fishery development is needed within the country.

The Government of Ghana, in an effort to alleviate the present status, has teamed up with a United States fish canner. Together they will ascertain the potential of the coastal fisheries as well as the pelagic offshore stocks. From this arrangement Ghana will be able to learn more efficient means of catching fish. On the other hand, the United States canner also has an interest in the pelagic fishes of the Gold Coast. If the explorations disclose an abundance of tuna and tuna-bait fishes in the vicinity of Ghana, the canner will begin tuna fishing operations there. Some of the fish caught would supplement the local landings and the remainder will be shipped to the canner's new cannery being built in Puerto Rico. Eventually, the canner plans to build a cannery in Ghana.

The vessel employed for the explorations is the 220-ton capacity tuna clipper Columbia. Manned by a crew of eight United States fishermen and a fisheries scientist, the Columbia arrived in Ghana to commence operations on November 3, 1959. The remainder of the crew consists of five fishery technicians from the Ghana Fisheries Department. While exploring African waters for the next several months, the Columbia will sail from Takoradi, Ghana.

Throughout the cruise biological and oceanographic observations will be made in conjunction with fishing. Some of the scientific objectives are: (1) to study the salinity, temperature, current, and thermocline distribution within the Gulf of Guinea over a period of several months; (2) to further relate these oceanographic phenomenon with the distribution of various types of fishes; (3) to collect, identify, and study the distribution of inshore and pelagic fishes; (4) to contribute knowledge to the biology of the yellowfin and skipjack tunas. The studies will include food habits, growth rate, size composition of schools, population structure, and fecundity. A special effort will be made to collect larval tunas and find tuna spawning areas by means of plankton tows.



### Honduras

#### REVISION OF FISHING LAW PLANNED:

As the result of certain clauses contained in the Honduran Law of Fishing, commercial fishing in Honduran waters by foreign vessels was virtually suspended during July 1959. On August 15, however, Acuerdo No. 1351 was issued by the Executive Branch of the Government of Honduras whereby the Minister of Natural Resources is given authority to consider and grant temporary permits to fish in spite of the restrictive clauses of the Law. This Acuerdo also stipulates

### Honduras (Contd.):

that revision of the existing law is to be considered by the session of Congress which convened in November.

With a view towards acting upon this last stipulation of the Acuerdo, the Ministry of Natural Resources is drafting a revised Fishing Law and preparing the Regulations to the Fishing Law, states an October 19, 1959, dispatch from the United States Embassy at Tegucigalpa.



### Hong Kong

#### FISHERIES TRENDS, SECOND QUARTER 1959:

During the second quarter of 1959, Hong Kong marketing cooperatives handled 187,492 piculs (about 25.0 million pounds) of fresh marine fish and 23,712 piculs (about 3.2 million pounds) of salted fish landed. During the same period, 4,190 piculs (about 559,000 pounds) of shrimp were handled by the Fish Marketing Organization. The average price in the second quarter of 1959 for fresh fish was HK\$0.70 per catty (about 9.2 U. S. cents a pound).

Shrimp sales were not recorded by the marketing organization after June 17 as they were no longer eligible for the United States market. During 17-day period in June only 246 piculs (about 32,000 pounds) were sold. Widespread irregularities in exports to the United States were brought to light and the U. S. Treasury Department refused to approve further imports from Hong Kong pending establishment of a new certification procedure.

The Chinese Communists continued to harass fishing boats from Hong Kong when they left Hong Kong waters.

During a Legislative Council Budget debate the Deputy Colonial Secretary made some suggestions for improving the fishing fleet. In mentioning the lower landings in 1958, he suggested a new type of ocean-going trawler that could

fish in "safe" international waters and thus ensure continuity of supplies. Cost per boat would approximate HK\$500,000 (about US\$87,500). The only staple food in which Hong Kong is self-sufficient comes from its fishing fleet, the United States Consulate in Hong Kong reported on October 15, 1959.



### Iceland

#### SOVIET UNION BUYS 2,800 TONS OF ICELANDIC FROZEN FISH FILLETS:

On October 23, 1959, the Icelandic newspaper *Thjodviljinn* announced that the Soviet Union had agreed to purchase 2,800 metric tons of frozen fish fillets. The Ministry of Commerce had announced on August 6 that the Soviets were considering the purchase of 6,000 tons of frozen fillets to bring their purchases up to the 32,000 tons provided for in the trade agreement.

Although the Soviet purchases of frozen fish fillets are still 3,200 tons below the amount provided for in the trade agreement, the purchase of 2,800 tons should enable Iceland to close out its 3-year trade agreement with Russia on December 31 with payments about in balance.



### India

#### TWO SMALL SHRIMP CANNERIES IN OPERATION:

A small shrimp cannery in the fall of 1959 started to can shrimp in the small fishing village of Malpe, Mangalore, South Kanara, India. The equipment of the plant was designed and locally fabricated by its manager, a United States-educated fisheries engineer. The cannery at Malpe has an output of about 3,000 cans per 8-hour working day, and is the second cannery in operation in India.

A somewhat larger cannery, located at Cochin, started packing shrimp in September 1958 and its capacity is rated

### India (Contd.):

at 12,000 cans per 12-hour working day.

Both of the canneries put together are expected to pack annually nearly 2 million cans, valued at about Rs. 3 million (US\$628,000) to the canners, for export to the United States. (The Bombay East Indian, October 1, 1959.)



### Ireland

#### TERRITORIAL FISHING LIMITS TO BE MEASURED FROM BASE LINES INSTEAD OF SHORELINE:

The Eire Government has given notice that from January 1, 1960, the territorial fishing limits around the Irish coast will operate on the base-line system. This means that the limit line will be measured from base lines drawn from headland to headland and will not be measured from the shoreline.

However, Irish vessels will be permitted to fish the grounds excluded to non-Irish craft by the introduction of the system. Irish fishermen have been pressing for base-line limits.

The Eire Government, in a note explaining the reason for their action, stated that the old system gave rise to many difficulties. The new one would give the State jurisdiction over a greater sea area. (The Fishing News, October 23, 1959.)



### Japan

#### AGREEMENT ON SAFE FISHING SIGNED WITH COMMUNIST CHINA:

The conclusion of a safe fishing agreement between the Japan-Communist China Fisheries Council and the China Fisheries Association was announced on October 29, 1959, in Peiping by a joint declaration of the two contracting parties. A Japanese member of the standing committee of the Japan-Communist China Fisheries Council, signed the agreement for the Japanese side.

The agreement designates two ports on the mainland, Lien Yün Kang and Wu Sung Kou, as ports of refuge for Japanese fishing boats in case of typhoon, shipwreck, accident, or sickness. The Japanese named the ports of Nagasaki, Tananoura, and Yamskawa. Severe restrictions are placed on the activities of Japanese boats and men while in Chinese Communist ports, and it is specified that the agreement does not apply to cases of sickness which are of an epidemic nature.

The Japan-Communist China Fisheries Council has applied to the Japanese's Maritime Safety Board of the Ministry of Transportation for official approval of the arrangement. In view of the fact that the agreement deals with humanitarian questions that are "non-political in nature," approval is expected in the near future. From a practical standpoint the Japanese consider the agreement to be advantageous, because their boats frequently fish in Communist China's coastal waters while few Chinese boats approach the shores of Japan, the American Embassy in Tokyo reported on November 1959.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### BUILDING OF REPLACEMENT FISHING VESSELS STEPPED UP:

An increase in building of replacement fishing vessels in Japan is aiding that country's shipbuilding and related industries. Most of the new vessels are for tuna fishing. Due to the stabilization of the tuna industry, construction tonnage has increased to almost three times as much as previous years and shipyards and ironworks are said to be holding orders for the coming six months.

Compared with construction tonnage of 25,463 in 1958, by September 1959 it had reached 49,850 tons, almost twice as much. One reason for this increase in construction is the fact that a considerable amount of money is loaned out by financing institutions. Another reason is that many fishing vessels have reached both fishing companies and individual owners have shifted from off-shore waters near Japan to distant fishing and direct exports or landings of catches of foreign ports or bases in the Atlantic.



## Japan (Contd.):

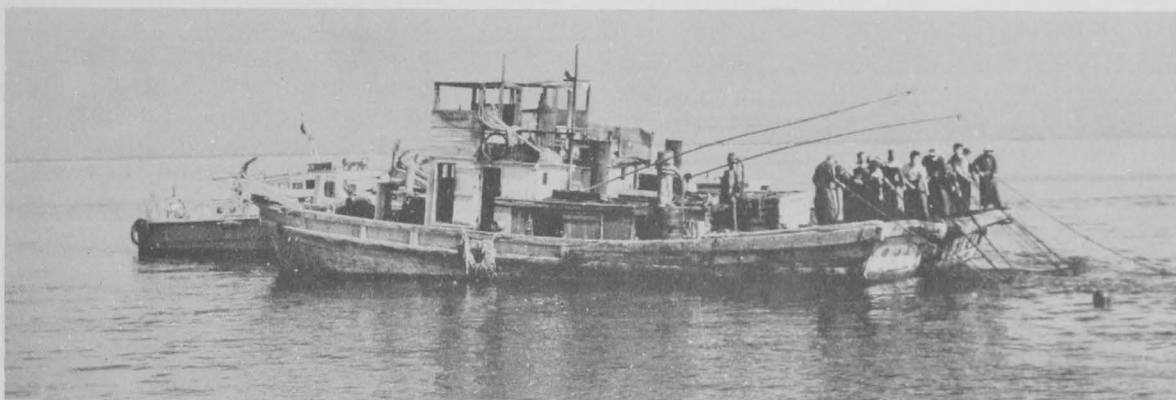
As far as the number of vessels is concerned, there does not seem to be much difference from 407 as of September 15, 1958, and 420 vessels as of September 1959. But while there was a drop of 34 wooden fishing vessels, there was an increase of 47 steel vessels in the first nine months of 1959. Each firm and vessel owner is trying to improve equipment and the efficiency of the fishing vessels, and at the same time a tendency is noticeable for building larger vessels. For instance, three

company's plans to expand its tuna fishery. After completion these vessels will be based at Misaki, Kanagawa Prefecture. (Fisheries Economic News, November 5, 1959.)

\* \* \* \* \*

CANNED SALMON SALES TRENDS:

The Japanese Canned Salmon Sales Company commenced the second-period sale of canned salmon early in November 1959, and in addition to 225,000 cases of canned pink salmon, about 370,000 cases of red, silver, and chum salmon



Pelagic two-boating trawling near Shizuoka, Japan. Shows nets being hauled in.

firms are building tuna vessels of the 500-2,000 ton class. According to the shipyards, all the shipowners are trying to figure out how the fish hold can be made larger in order to utilize the ship's tonnage to the maximum. For this purpose, they are making the engine room smaller and the weight of the main engine lighter. In the first nine months of 1959, vessels built or building for the skipjack tuna fishery totaled 123 as compared with 62 vessels built or building by September 15, 1958.

The Japanese Fishery Agency comments that the present condition does not necessarily indicate similar activities in 1960 and some quarters in the industry seem to be of the opinion that construction tonnage may be beginning to decrease. (Suisan Tsushin, October 30, 1959.)

One Japanese firm on November 5, 1959, was reported to have ordered two vessels of 480 tons each from a shipyard in Shizuoka Prefecture. Construction of these two vessels is part of the

were expected to be sold for export to Britain. Including those sold during the first period, the total sold to Britain in 1959 is estimated to be 1,100,000 cases.

Also, about 40,000 cases (tall cans) of pink salmon for the United States and some 110,000 cases for areas other than Britain, United States, and Canada were expected to be sold. With the 40,000 cases of tall cans and 250,000 cases of No. 2 cans, a total of 490,000 cases of canned pink salmon was sold to the United States. (Suisan Tsushin, November 4, 1959.)

\* \* \* \* \*

EXPORTS OF SELECTED FISHERY PRODUCTS TO THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY-JUNE 1959:

During the first six months of 1959, Japanese exports of 37,300 metric tons of frozen tuna to the United States were valued at US\$10,531,000, an increase of 29.9 percent in quantity and 26.1 percent in value, as compared with the same period in 1958. Canned tuna exports (4,578

## Libya (Contd.):

the Zuara cannery believed the tuna packed from the Japanese fish would be attractive to the Americans in Libya. One problem remained unsolved regard-

tends to declare as having pioneer or protective status. The new list increases the number of industries likely to qualify from 31 to 34 and products from 174 to 189. Included in the list of products proposed for pioneer status are: Fish, includ-



Tuna fishing with set nets off coast of Libya. Net extends almost two miles from shore. Fishermen use barges first to put out a wire skeleton, held in position by anchors, and then fix the net over the wire.. This takes 60 fishermen 2 to 3 weeks. Catches per haul vary from 12 to 500 tuna.

ing the landings of Japanese tuna--that is the customs duties to be assessed by the Director of Customs. (United States Embassy dispatch from Tripoli reported October 12, 1959.)



## Malaya

**FISHERY AND WHALE PRODUCTS  
PROPOSED FOR PIONEER STATUS:**

On October 1, 1959, the Malayan Federation promulgated its eighth notice of products and industries which the Minister of Commerce and Industry in-

ing crustacea, molluscs, cetacea (whales), and preparations thereof. (United States Embassy dispatch from Kuala Lumpur, October 6, 1959.)



## Mexico

**EXPORT DUTIES ON FISHERY  
PRODUCTS CHANGED EFFECTIVE  
AUGUST 8, 1959:**

Export duties on some of Mexico's fishery products were reduced effective August 8, 1959 (announced in the Diario Oficial on August 4, 1959).

## Mexico (Contd.):

Mexico's Export Duties on Fishery Products Effective August 8, 1959, with Comparisons							
Tariff No.	Product	NEW RATES			OLD RATES		
		Ad valorem	Specific		Ad valorem	Specific	
		%	Pesos Per Gross Kilo	US\$ Per Short Ton <sup>2/</sup>	%	Pesos Per Gross Kilo	US\$ Per Short Ton <sup>2/</sup>
040-00-02	Oysters in the shell	10	-	-	20	-	-
040-00-06	Tortoise shell turtles	10	-	-	20	3.00	218.00
040-00-99	Live animals, edible; from salt or fresh water, not specified	15	-	-	12	-	-
041-00-00	Fresh abalone whole, with or without shell	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-01	Fresh abalone fillets, refrigerated or frozen	5	-	-	8	-	-
041-00-03	Clams, without shell, fresh or refrigerated	5	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-09	Shrimp, fresh or refrigerated, from Gulf of Mexico	25	1/0.003	0.22	35	1/0.003	0.22
041-00-10	Shrimp, fresh or refrigerated, from the Pacific	25	1/0.003	0.22	35	1/0.003	0.22
041-00-13	Crayfish, "moro," fresh, refrigerated or frozen	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-14	Crayfish, other than "moro," fresh, refrigerated or frozen	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-19	Crabs, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-22	Lobster, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-27	Oysters, shucked, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	5	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-32	Goose barnacles, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	10	-	-	10	0.03	2.18
041-00-96	Crustaceans, not specified, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	15	-	-	20	0.03	2.18
041-00-97	Mollusks, not specified, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	15	-	-	20	0.03	2.18
041-00-98	Fresh-water fish, not specified, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	12	-	-	12	0.01	0.73
041-00-99	Salt-water, not specified, fresh, refrigerated or frozen	12	-	-	8	-	-
042-00-00	Abalone, salted	3	-	-	5	-	-
042-00-01	Clams, shucked, salted	3	-	-	5	-	-
042-00-02	Dried shrimp, peeled or not, even if pulverized	20	1/0.003	0.22	35	1/0.003	0.22
042-00-03	Oysters, shucked, salted	3	-	-	5	-	-
042-00-04	Octopus, salted	3	-	-	5	-	-
042-00-98	Crustaceans or mollusks, not specified, smoked, salted, in brine, or dry	5	-	-	10	-	-
042-00-99	Fish, not specified, smoked salted, in brine or dry	5	-	-	10	-	-
044-00-99	Fish sounds	10	-	-	15	-	-

1/ Listed in tariff as 0.30 pesos per 100 net kilograms.

2/ Equivalent in US\$.

\* \* \* \* \*

Mexico (Contd.):

**EXPORT DUTIES INCREASED ON RED SNAPPERS, TURTLES, AND CRAYFISH:**

The Mexican Government has increased export duties on red snapper, marine turtles, and fresh-water crayfish (*Diario Oficial*, October 21, 1959). In U. S. cents per gross pound the export duties now are about 1.2 cents for red snappers, 1.0 cent for turtles, and 2.8 cents for fresh-water crayfish.

The increases in duties were effected by increases in the official prices. It is not expected that these increases will have any appreciable effect on exports. In 1958 Mexico exported about 255 metric tons of red snapper, 32 tons of marine turtles, and one ton of fresh-water crayfish. All of these products were shipped to the United States.

\* \* \* \* \*

**MERIDA AREA SHRIMP FISHERY TRENDS, JULY-SEPTEMBER 1959:**

Landings of shrimp from the Gulf of Mexico during the third quarter of 1959 in the Campeche-Ciudad del Carmen area exceeded the total catch of the second quarter by approximately 50 percent. A sudden drop in the price of shrimp in the Brownsville, Texas, market virtually eliminated the profits earned from this increase.

Table 1 - Landings of Shrimp at Carmen and Campeche, July-September 1959

Month	Carmen	Campeche
	.....(1,000 Lbs.).....	
July .....	844	291
August .....	848	338
September .....	1,397	302
Totals .....	3,089	931

The price drop was due largely to the high inventories in the United States. Heavy catches by United States vessels off the Texas coast added to the problem.

The new price level is actually not as low as it might seem, since prices have remained relatively high for the past two years. Previous to that, however, prices averaged about the same as September prices and lower.

Table 2 - Exports to U. S. of Selected Fishery Products from all Ports in the Merida Area, July-September, 1959

Product			
Shrimp	Frozen Fish	Shark Fins	Shark Skins
..... (1,000 Lbs.) .....			
4,026	578	4	18

The local effect of this change in the market has been to further reduce the number of marginal-profit boats operat-

ing in the Carmen-Campeche area. At present production levels, a fair profit may be earned even at the lower prices, provided that the operation is properly financed. However, in the Carmen area especially, many owners who entered the shrimp business during its highly profitable days backed by very little capital are finding it increasingly difficult to finance their operations. Forced to resort to excessively expensive credit facilities with interest rates as high as five percent per month, these owners suffer most from the reduced profit margin. In Campeche, however, the effect is not as severe since the majority of the shrimp boat owners are local business men whose financial situation is more stable and whose livelihood does not depend completely on the shrimp catches.

The increased volume of production on the Yucatan Peninsula during the July-September quarter had little or nothing to do with the self-imposed white shrimp ban along the Campeche coast for two months last spring. The catches during the last quarter were primarily pink and brown shrimp, although signs of a new crop of small white shrimp recently appeared.

On October 18, a group of Mexican Federal Government technicians were visiting Ciudad del Carmen as their first stop in a tour of the Yucatan Peninsula aimed at the study of the various problems of the regional economy. The group, which included representatives of several Government departments, made the investigation under the direction of the Secretariat of the President. Meetings were held in Carmen with representatives of the shrimp industry and it was reported certain recommendations concerning their difficulties will be made by the Government later. It appears that the executive branch of the Government may be taking more of an interest in the problems of the shrimp industry.

Shrimp production for the third quarter of 1959 totaled about 4.0 million pounds in the Carmen-Campeche area. The comparable figure for the previous quarter was 2.6 million pounds. (United States Consulate in Merida, October 23, 1959.)

\* \* \* \* \*

**SHRIMP FISHERIES TRENDS, OCTOBER 1959:**

The Mexican shrimp fishing industry, particularly the vessel owners, in October 1959 were discouraged over the drop in shrimp prices. Reports from the Pa-



Fig. 1 - New shrimp trawler (built in November 1958) approaching dock at shipyard in Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico.

cific Coast indicated a decline in white shrimp production for the Guaymas-Mazatlan fleets. During the latter part of October some of those vessels began fishing for brown shrimp, as fishermen

Mexico (Contd.):

believed that the season for white shrimp was over. Because of the size and price of brown shrimp, the vessel owners claimed to be losing money on catches of that species.

At the west coast port of Salina Cruz, catches began picking up towards the end of October with landings consisting mostly of brown shrimp. Boat owners complained of low prices. Trips yielding less than 4,000 or 5,000 pounds of headless shrimp were reported to be in the red. Three Salina Cruz vessels fishing off Guatemala were forced into San Jose, Guatemala, for alleged illegal fishing in Guatemalan waters on October 25, 1959.



Fig. 2 - Portion of shipyard at Mazatlan devoted to construction of steel vessels.

In the Carmen-Campeche area of the Gulf of Mexico landings averaged less than 2,000 pounds a trip in October. At Carmen during the first half of the month, about half of the landings were pink shrimp. Of the remaining half, white shrimp accounted for about twice as much as brown shrimp. The white shrimp picked up at the end of the month and were reported running ahead of the

pink, with browns insignificant. Sizes were averaging about 50 percent 26-30 count to the pound or larger.



Fig. 3 - Small shipyard near Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico, showing three partially completed 66-foot wooden shrimp vessels.

At Campeche landings were about 95 percent pink with white accounting for most of the remainder. Sizes were running larger than at Carmen with better than 75 percent being 26-30 count or larger, the United States Embassy in Mexico City reported on November 6, 1959.



Morocco

FISHING VESSELS AND GEAR:

In 1959, according to statistics published by the Moroccan Bureau of Merchant Marine and Sea-Fishing, the fishing fleet consisted of 147 trawlers (average 56 tons), 312 sardine seiners (average 18 tons), and 2,120 small trawlers and line boats (average 3.4 tons). In addition to the fishing vessels, six tuna trap nets (madragues) operated on the Moroccan coast. At the two principal

Moroccan Fishing Vessels and Gear					
Port	Trawlers (Chalutiers et chalutiers-sardiniers)		Seiners (sardine fleet, sardiniers)		Small Trawlers and Line Boats (3.4 tons average, palangriers)
	Number	Tons	Number	Tons	Number
Tanger . . . . .	19	2,958	2	32	70
Khenitra (ex Port Lyautey)	5	246	1	6	99
Rabat . . . . .	2	94	3	37	73
Mohammedia (ex-Fedale)	1	12	10	95	101
Casablanca . . . . .	42	2,078	54	702	202
El Jadida (ex-Mazagan) .	-	-	7	68	168
Safi . . . . .	35	1,252	93	2,332	266
Essaeuira (ex-Mogador)	3	118	13	270	197
Agadir . . . . .	29	1,002	116	1,870	799
Larache . . . . .	11	465	13	279	145
Totals . . . . .	147	8,225	312	5,691	2,120

## Morocco (Contd.):

sardine fishing ports of Safi and Agadir, nylon twine is being used more frequently in the seine nets. (United States Consul in Casablanca, October 5, 1959.)

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### SARDINE FISHERY TRENDS, THIRD QUARTER 1959:

Marketing Moroccan canned sardines continues to be a matter of selling at a profit in France at 5,800 to 6,200 French francs (about US\$11.81-12.63) per case and at a loss elsewhere at about 3,000 Moroccan francs (about US\$7.14) per case. Cannerymen seem now to be coming to terms with reality and are curtailing production to the approximate size of the French duty-free quota of 600,000 cases. In doing so, they face the opposition of the Government, which wishes to keep Moroccan sardines on the world market. The cannerymen and the Government have settled upon a compromise of 1,300,000 cases, which, added to the 650,000 cases left over from the 1958 season, make 1,950,000 cases to be sold, more than two-thirds of which will probably have to be sold at a loss. No effective measures have been taken to reduce the high cost price of Moroccan sardines in order to bring it down to a competitive level. At the beginning of September 1959, only 40 factories were active and many were canning mostly mackerel, which is salable abroad.

According to a Casablanca commercial newspaper, a price of 3,500 francs (about US\$8.33) per case has been offered by Soviet Russia but with "conditions fixed by the buyers which partly nullify the additional value offered."

The dispute between the fishermen and the fish meal and oil industry about the price of sardines has not yet been settled. It had been agreed that the price of sardines for byproducts factories would rise during the season from 8 to 11 francs per kilo (0.86-1.2 U. S. cents a pound or \$17-24 a short ton). The factory owners later backed down on the agreement, due to the decline in prices for fish meal on the world market. The matter is now in the hands of

the Ministry for Industry, and fish are being sold for 9 francs a kilo (about 0.97 U. S. cents a pound or \$19 a short ton).

The fish meal industry has grown considerably in the past two years due partly to the closing of many canneries, and considerable investments have been made in equipping some 7 or 8 new plants, the United States Embassy in Rabat reported on October 20, 1959.

Note: Moroccan franc valued at 420 francs to US\$1 and French franc at 491 francs equal US\$1.



### Netherlands

#### ANTARCTIC WHALING FLEET DEPARTS AFTER SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTE OVER WAGES:

The wage dispute between the Union for Seamen and the Netherlands Whaling Company, which threatened to delay the departure of the factoryship Willem Barendsz and its fleet of catcher vessels to the Antarctic whaling grounds, has been settled for the 1959/60 season. The old labor agreement has been extended for this coming season. Wages were not lowered as was the original intention of the Company and agreement was reached concerning the premium to be paid the seamen on the basis of the whale oil produced. Earlier in 1959 the Dutch Whaling Company, in anticipation of a lower blue-whale unit quota, had announced its intention of seeking a new agreement with the seamen for lower wage levels. As the Netherlands is now no longer bound by the International Whaling Commission quota, the Company plans to increase the whale catch from about 700 blue-whale units to 1,200 blue-whale units.

The Willem Barendsz was delayed in sailing on the scheduled date of October 31 due to a delay in completing the installation of a new deep-freezing unit. However, the whaling fleet was reported to have left on November 4 and was expected to arrive on the Antarctic whaling grounds in time to operate the full 107 days as scheduled. (United States Embassy in Amsterdam reported on October 23, 1959.)

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, December, p. 91.

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## Netherlands (Contd.):

IMPORTS OF MARINE OILS,  
JANUARY-JUNE 1959:

During the first six months of 1959, imports of marine oils (include oils produced at sea by Dutch fishing and

Country of Origin	January-June 1959		January-June 1958	
	Quantity Metric Tons	Value <sup>1/</sup> US\$ 1,000	Quantity Metric Tons	Value <sup>1/</sup> US\$ 1,000
United States . .	5,318	929	2,382	444
United Kingdom	-	-	256	60
West Germany . .	863	153	1,263	266
Iceland . . . . .	3,777	734	187	42
Norway . . . . .	2,261	482	309	89
Portugal . . . . .	332	44	256	41
Union of South Africa . . . . .	-	-	282	66
Peru . . . . .	495	73	150	28
Falkland Islands	3,462	695	542	94
Japan . . . . .	1,308	327	9	3/2
Sea 2/ . . . . .	16,710	3,324	18,038	3,913
Other . . . . .	1,073	209	692	169
Total . . . . .	35,599	6,970	24,366	5,214

1/Values converted at rate of 3.775 guilders equal US\$1.

2/Represents fish and whale oil production by Dutch fishing and whaling fleets.

3/Value estimated

whaling fleets) amounted to 35,599 metric tons, an increase of 46.1 percent as compared with the 24,366 tons imported in the same period of 1958. Values were up about 33.7 percent in the first six months of 1959 from January-June 1958. The approximate value per metric ton for imported marine oils declined from about US\$217.27 in the first half of 1958 to about 195.79 per ton in January-June 1959. (Report of October 3, 1959, from Agricultural Attache with U. S. Embassy, the Hague.)



## Norway

EXPORTS OF MARINE  
PRODUCTS, 1957-58:

Norwegian exports (includes products delivered directly from fishing grounds) of fishery and marine-animal products during 1958 amounted to 632,770 metric tons, valued at US\$165.2 million. As compared with 1957, the exports in 1958 were lower by 12.7 percent in quantity and 11.5 percent in value. The decline in Norway's exports of fish and fish and marine-animal by products was due largely to the failure of the 1958 winter herring fishery. Products derived directly from the herring fishery (exclusive

Norway's Exports of Marine Products, 1957-58

Product	1958			1957	
	Quantity Metric Tons	Value		Quantity Metric Tons	Value US\$1,000
		1,000 Kroner	US\$1,000		
<b>Fresh Fish:</b>					
Herring . . . . .	30,080	14,377	2,014	57,138	3,839
Filletts . . . . .	1,242	2,925	410	316	100
Other fish . . . . .	26,984	49,112	6,878	26,375	6,417
Total fresh fish . . . . .	58,306	66,414	9,302	83,829	10,356
<b>Frozen Fish:</b>					
Herring . . . . .	34,484	22,499	3,151	45,686	4,009
Whole fish . . . . .	14,933	37,999	5,322	7,872	4,152
Filletts . . . . .	18,038	51,926	7,273	17,318	6,237
Total frozen fish . . . . .	67,455	112,424	15,746	70,876	14,398
<b>Dried, Salted, and Smoked:</b>					
Stockfish (dried) . . . . .	37,551	71,762	24,056	36,040	21,772
Klipfish (salted and dried) . . . . .	33,467	108,201	15,154	42,193	20,058
Herring (salted) . . . . .	60,263	57,936	8,114	62,883	8,381
Fish (salted) . . . . .	13,957	23,255	3,257	9,942	2,324
Herring (salted and smoked) . . . . .	3,864	5,866	822	4,004	833
Cod roe (salted) . . . . .	1,747	2,020	283	1,387	239
Total dried, salted, and smoked . . . . .	150,849	369,040	51,686	156,449	53,607
Shellfish . . . . .	2,880	30,995	4,341	2,897	4,034
Canned fish (all kinds) . . . . .	39,133	155,906	21,836	42,881	24,284
<b>Fish and Whale Meal:</b>					
Herring meal . . . . .	89,437	102,976	14,422	120,468	20,005
Fish meal, ground fish . . . . .	16,527	16,032	2,245	14,231	1,921
Sea weed meal . . . . .	6,360	2,495	349	7,342	415
Fish liver meal . . . . .	1,025	1,061	149	920	139
Whale meal . . . . .	7,810	7,190	1,007	10,106	1,285
Total fish and whale meals . . . . .	121,159	129,754	18,172	153,067	23,765
Fish oils and fish-liver oils . . . . .	134,999	202,174	28,316	141,697	34,166
Refined hardened oils and fats, inedible and edible . . . . .	57,989	112,739	15,790	72,988	21,941
Totals . . . . .	632,770	1,179,446	165,189	724,684	186,551

### Norway (Contd.):

of herring oil and herring oil refined into hardened oils and fats) declined from 290,169 tons in 1957 to 218,128 tons in 1958, or about 24.8 percent.



### Pakistan

#### NEW WHOLESALE FISH MARKET AT KARACHI OPENED BY PRESIDENT:

On October 2, 1959, the New Karachi wholesale fish market was opened by the President of Pakistan. The Minister of Food and Agriculture made the introductory speech in which he outlined the status of the fish harbor and revealed for the first time publicly the Martial Law Regulation which had been signed on September 29, 1959, whereby no one is permitted to sell or otherwise dispose of fish, fresh, dried, or salted, except at places designated by the Central Government. This provision of the Martial Law applies only to wholesale auctions. Retail sales and sales by hawkers will be unaffected. After the Minister's speech, the President's speech emphasized mostly the food and nutritional value of fish and the necessity for developing fisheries as a means of increasing food supply.

The President then went out into the sorting room of the wholesale market. In the undredged channel there were several small gaily decorated fishing boats which could navigate the channel, and it had been arranged that one fishing vessel would tie up alongside and discharge its cargo which in turn would be sorted. The President watched the unloading and sorting, inspected the weighing system, and departed. The market was officially open.

The market did not actually start auction operations until October 6, at which time 60 metric tons of fish were disposed of. The quantity has increased, and on October 9, 140 tons were sold of which about half were fresh and the other cured or processed. The daily capacity had been estimated at 120 tons.

The channel at the waterside where fishing boats were to land their catch has not been dredged to sufficient depths and catches continue to be landed elsewhere and brought into the market by camels, rickshaws, and trucks, so that the planned smooth flow from the ships to the sorting room and into the auction room has not yet been effected.

The Government has stated that the fish harbor will be in full operation by the middle of 1960. Following is the status of the installations in the fish harbor, and the anticipated date of completion as set forth by the Government: Jetty built on the reclaimed land completed; wholesale fish market, completed; oil pier, completed; Fishermen's Cafe, completed; building for storing, display, and sale of fishing equipment, completed; four sheds to be used for making and mending nets as well as the fishermen's rest house, completed; the sea food cafe, construction completed but not open pending a decision as to who will operate; two cold storage plants, 120 tons each, completed; one chip-ice plant and 2 block-ice plants with combined capacity for freezing 40 tons a day, completed; research station (marine fisheries laboratory), January 1960; dredging, April 1960; boat basin, workshop, and slipway for repair of vessels, no estimated date of completion but construction will not begin until after dredging has been completed; curing yard, no estimated date of completion but construction is to begin early in 1960. Private enterprise area, 37,000 square yards have been earmarked for private industry and 7 plots have been allotted. Construction has started on one freezing plant. No date of completion indicated. The other 3 freezing plants, the 2 canning plants, and 1 shark-liver plant are just now placing orders for machinery; and road network, the major portion of network completed.

The Martial Law Regulation No. 75 promulgated at the time of the opening reads as follows:

"No person shall sell or otherwise dispose of, within the Federal Capital, fish whether fresh, dried or salted except at such place or places and in such manner as the Central Government may from time to time by notification in the official Gazette direct. . . ."



## Pakistan (Contd.):

Under this regulation only the Karachi Fish Harbor, West Wharf, has been designated as the place for disposing of fish.

Official press handout hails this regulation as a welfare measure for the general fishing community and the consuming public by breaking the monopoly of the 11 auctioneers known as "moleholders" and who are said to "resort to malpractices of various sorts," so that "the fishermen do not get an adequate return for the labor involved in sea fishing." It also is touted as a means of increasing the foreign exchange earnings of the country by preventing the wastage of fish in transit and in handling as well as by improving the quality of processed fish. (United States Embassy report, Karachi, October 16, 1959.)



## Peru

#### NEW LAW MODIFIES RESTRICTIONS ON EXPANSION OF FISH MEAL PLANTS:

The Peruvian Supreme Resolution No. 217 of December 1, 1956, which prohibited the establishment of new fish meal plants or the expansion of existing plants, has been superseded by Supreme Decree No. 09 of October 9, 1959.

At the same time, the Decree also modified Article 25 of Supreme Decree No. 12 of December 5, 1958, in such a way as to impose certain limitations upon the establishment or expansion of plants. Under the Decree of October 9, 1959, licenses will be issued only for land installations and for plants whose capacities do not exceed those of existing plants. Applications will be accepted only from individuals or entities having sufficient economic means to complete a project, and they must own their own fishing vessels. Licenses will not be issued for the operation of new plants in three specified zones, and closed seasons will be established by the Ministry of Agriculture as necessary for conservation. There are other provisions re-

lating to the use of licenses within one year of issuance, and to inspection.

Plants already in operation have 12 months from date of publication of the October Decree in which to bring their operations into accord with the Decree. Licenses limit tonnage to that which can be processed in 20 hours a day and 300 days a year.

In regard to the requirement that plant operators must own their own vessels, vessels normally engaged in supplying fresh fish for consumption, freezing, or canning have been diverted to anchovy fishing, causing a severe shortage in the supplies of edible fish. The vessel ownership requirement is designed to correct the shortage of fresh fish by preventing diversion of boats to the presently more lucrative fishery for the reduction plants. (United States Embassy reported from Lima on October 19, 1959.)

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, December 1959, p. 95.



## Portugal

#### CANNED FISH EXPORTS, JANUARY-JULY 1959:

Portugal's exports of canned fish during January-July 1959, amounted to 38,605 metric tons (2,117,000 cases), valued at US\$19.8 million as compared with 32,868 tons, valued at US\$17.7 million for the same period in 1958. Sardines in olive oil exported during the first seven months of 1959 amounted to 27,858 tons, valued at US\$13.5.

Species	January-July 1959	
	Metric Tons	US\$
Sardines in olive oil . . . . .	27,853	13,485
Sardine & sardinelike fish in brine	1,072	216
Tuna & tunalike fish in olive oil .	1,965	1,400
Anchovy fillets . . . . .	3,790	2,843
Mackerel in olive oil . . . . .	2,391	1,179
Other fish . . . . .	1,529	702
Total . . . . .	38,605	19,835

During January-July 1959, the leading canned fish buyer was Germany with 8,506 tons (valued at US\$4.2 million), followed by Italy with 5,385 tons (valued at US\$3.1 million), United States with

## Portugal (Contd.):

3,614 tons (valued at US\$2.5 million), Great Britain with 3,426 tons (valued at US\$1.6 million), and Belgium-Luxembourg with 2,540 tons (valued at US\$1.2 million). Exports to the United States included 1,585 tons of anchovies, 406 tons of tuna, 1,536 tons of sardines, and 28 tons of mackerel. (Conservas de Peixe, September 1959.)

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CANNED FISH PACK,  
JANUARY-JULY 1959:

The total pack of canned fish for January-July 1959 amounted to 17,679 metric tons as compared with 17,849 tons for the same period in 1958. Canned sardines in oil (9,257 tons) accounted for 52.4 percent of the January-July 1959 total pack, up by 1.0 percent from the pack of 9,164 tons for the same period of 1958, the September 1959 Conservas de Peixe reports.

Portuguese Canned Fish Pack, January-July 1959		
Product	Net Weight	Cases
	Metric Tons	1,000
<b>In Olive Oil:</b>		
Sardines . . . . .	9,257	487
Sardinelike fish . . . . .	504	26
Anchovy fillets . . . . .	3,655	365
Tuna . . . . .	3,345	119
Mackerel . . . . .	306	12
Other species . . . . .	612	32
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>17,679</b>	<b>1,041</b>

\* \* \* \* \*

FISHERIES TRENDS,  
JANUARY-JULY 1959:

Sardine Fishing: During January-July 1959, the Portuguese fishing fleet landed 28,440 metric tons of sardines (valued at US\$2,983,756 ex-vessel or about \$104.90 a ton).

July 1959 landings of sardines totaled 11,353 tons valued at US\$1,288,174. Canneries purchased 53.2 percent or 6,040 tons of the sardines (valued at US\$693,217 ex-vessel or about \$114.77 a ton). A total of 5,276 tons was purchased for the fresh fish market, and 37 tons were salted.

Other Fishing: The January-July 1959 landings of fish other than sardines were principally 16,044 tons of chin-

chards (value US\$1,093,495) and 3,015 tons of anchovies (value US\$275,061). (Conservas de Peixe, September 1959.)



## South-West Africa

FISHING INDUSTRY  
IMPORTANT TO ECONOMIC LIFE:

The South-West Africa fishing industry, centered around Walvis Bay and Lüderitz, has grown rapidly and makes a significant contribution to the Territory's economic life. It brings in over US\$25 million worth of business a year and employs some 4,000 persons. Six modern canneries and freezing plants permit efficient production of canned pilchards (sardine), fish oil, and fish meal.

South-West Africa's Production of Selected Products and Byproducts and White Fish Landings, 1957-58

	1958	1957
	. . . (Short Tons) . . .	
<b>Pilchards:</b>		
Canned . . . . .	56,422	42,838
Fish meal . . . . .	46,200	46,768
Fish oil . . . . .	12,381	10,793
<b>Spiny lobster</b>	. . . (1,000 Lbs.) . . .	
Canned . . . . .	430	1,808
Frozen tails . . . . .	1,777	1,374
Fish meal . . . . .	1,882	3,698
Landings of white fish . . . . .	6,620	10,383

In 1959 the permissible pilchard-masbanker catch was increased by 50,000 tons to 300,000 short tons. This bodes well for the industry because there has been greater demand for fish meal and oil as well as for canned fish. Competition from the United States and Japan has been keen, however, particularly for canned fish in the Philippine market. Although canned spiny lobster production has fallen off, the United States market for frozen spiny lobster tails has kept the spiny lobster industry healthy and it has processed about 20 million pounds a year. (Canadian Foreign Trade, November 7, 1959.)

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NEW VESSEL FOR  
SPINY LOBSTER RESEARCH BUILT:

A 74-foot vessel (similar to the Trachurus and Kunene built for the Union of South Africa Fisheries Divisions)

### South-West Africa (Contd.):

has been built at Luderitz for the South-West Africa Administration for spiny lobster research.

Luderitz, one of South-West Africa's two fishing centers, has six large spiny lobster processing factories representing a capital investment of about US\$8.4 million. More than 1,000 fishermen and factory workers are dependent on the industry and during the past few years have suffered as a result of a sharp drop in the yearly catch. The Administration has a laboratory and three scientists in the town, but its only available vessel has been the 65-foot patrol boat Nautilus II.

The head of the Fisheries Section of the South-West Africa Administration said that the new vessel, which was to be named Angra Pequena, would cost about \$112,000 to build and equip. She would be powered by twin Diesel engines each developing 170 hp., and, like the other South-West Africa fishery research vessels, would be a twin-screw craft. She would have a speed of at least 11 knots. In addition to a large laboratory, she would have accommodations for 13 crew and scientists.

In addition to its proposed work on spiny lobsters, the South-West African Administration is making a substantial contribution to pilchard research with two modern vessels, the 82-foot Namib and the 70-foot Kuiseb, and a team of seven scientists.

Another project being undertaken by the Administration is the building, at a cost of \$98,000-\$112,000, of new laboratories at Walvis Bay. (The Australian Fishery Newsletter, September 1959.)



### Spain

#### CANNED TUNA EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES INCREASE SHARPLY:

Since the inauguration of the new exchange rate on July 22, 1959, there has

been a sharp increase in exports of canned albacore tuna from Spain to the United States. From July 22-August 31, 1959, a total of 1,345,685 pounds (value US\$489,403) of canned albacore tuna and 58,918 pounds (value \$22,014) of other canned fish were exported to the United States. Total exports in 1958 to the United States of all types of canned fish amounted to 1,757,572 pounds, valued at US\$556,456.

Two factors are believed to have contributed to increased exports to the United States during July and August 1959. First, and believed to be of primary importance, is the adjustment in the exchange rate of 60 pesetas to the dollar. Previously canned fish exporters had been allowed premiums of up to 8 pesetas on the official rate of 42 pesetas to the dollar, bringing the previous effective rate up to a maximum of 50 pesetas to the dollar.

The second factor mentioned as a boost to export sales is the poor catches of summer albacore tuna by the Japanese fishermen which resulted in decreased exports by Japan of canned white meat tuna to the United States.

Spanish fish canners were optimistic over prospects for exports during the remainder of 1959, although their optimism was based primarily on the hope that albacore catches would continue to be plentiful. Sales to the United States of canned fish exceeding US\$1 million are forecast for the year 1959.

In commenting on the monetary stabilization program, one canner stated his belief that the program will be successful in the long run, and cited the increased exports of canned fish as evidence of short-run success in one sector. He added that the program must work, if industries such as fish canning are to survive. (United States Consulate in Vigo, reported September 11, 1959.)



## Sweden

### EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS TO EAST GERMANY RESUMED:

Negotiations between officials of the Swedish West Coast Fishermen's Organization and East German authorities have resulted in the resumption of Swedish fish exports to East Germany. First shipments, it is said, will consist of deliveries from the 4,500 metric tons (about 100,000 cases) of herring stored in plants in southern and western Sweden. Later it is hoped to export fresh fish.

It is reported in the Goteborg press that the agreement provides that during the remainder of 1959, Sweden will be able to export 6,315 metric tons of fish (herring, eel, cod fillets, salmon, etc.) to East Germany as well as 1,825,000 cans of sprat and 100 metric tons of specialities for a total value of 6,500,000 crowns (US\$1,257,000). This amount will be in addition to the 9 million crowns (US\$1,740,000) provided for in the 1959 barter agreement with East Germany, according to an October 27, 1959, dispatch from the United States consul in Goteborg.

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, December 1959, p. 97.



## Taiwan

### FISHERY LANDINGS INCREASED IN 1958:

Salt-water and pond fish production by Taiwan in 1958 amounted to 229,667 metric tons--10.3 percent above 1957. The goal for 1959 is 242,000 metric tons. It was reported recently that production through July 1959 reached 136,045 tons and, despite flood damage to fish ponds, the 1959 production is expected to exceed the target.

Flood damage to fisheries was estimated officially at NT\$76,375,000 (about US\$2,117,000), almost all of which consisted of claimed damage to fresh-water ponds and to brackish coastal ponds near Tainan. A fisheries expert in September reported that the few fresh-water ponds in the flooded area had been repaired and restocked, at a total outlay to the Federal Agency of less than NT\$4

million (US\$111,000), and that most of the coastal ponds were better left unrepaired, since they obstruct drainage and are illegal. Thus, pond-fishery production has been little set back, and the abundance of water for ponds around Taoyuan, which frequently go dry in late summer, will probably assure an increased catch there. Certain funds were made available for rehabilitation of boats and fishing harbors.

Taiwan's fishing has expanded so fast that coastal and inshore trawling grounds are becoming less profitable, and the trawlers are tempted to wander afield. They stray occasionally within reach of Communist Chinese gunboats and are taken into custody. Though they are usually released, the Government has attempted to minimize incidents by setting limits to those parts of the Taiwan Strait and China Sea in which they can operate. The trawlers have regularly ignored the limits but, after the most recent incident last spring, the Navy began more rigid enforcement, and the trawlers have complained to the authorities that, unless restrictions are relaxed, the offshore and deep-sea fishery catch will shortly begin to decline. (United States Embassy dispatch from Taipei, October 22, 1959.)



## Thailand

### SHRIMP INDUSTRY BEING DEVELOPED:

The first shipment of frozen shrimp from Thailand to the United States took place in April 1959. The packer, with headquarters in Bangkok, has a complete processing and packing plant located in the Government freezer there. The facility offers a holding capacity of 3,500 tons. The one company is the only packer operating in the Government warehouse at present. The initial shipment of shrimp (packed in 5-pound cartons) was the first frozen product ever shipped from Thailand.

The Thailand packer expects to pack about 500,000 pounds during its first year of operation. It supplies fishermen with nets, and has secured services of Japanese technicians to teach native fish-

**Thailand (Contd.):**

ermen how to fish for shrimp with modern equipment.

The packer obtains mostly white shrimp, but has secured some tiger-stripe shrimp. Most of the catch has been jumbo size with very little smaller than 10-to-the-pound. The fishing season usually lasts about nine months. (Frosted Food Field, October 1959.)

**Tunisia****FISHERY TRENDS, OCTOBER 1959:**

In July 1959, the Director of the Tunisian Office National de Peche visited Italy where he arranged for the purchase of two used trawlers. He also concluded final construction details on 4 new trawlers being built in Italy as a part of the United States aid program to Tunisia. Two of these are to be delivered in February 1960 and two more in March. Two additional used trawlers may be purchased in Italy. The dinar-franc disparity continues to plague the Tunisian fishing industry which is also affected by Portuguese, Spanish, Japanese, and even Moroccan competition.

Tuna landings during the 1959 season, which ended in mid-July, were abnormally small. Only 200 metric tons were landed as compared to average annual landings of 1,000 tons. The light landings in 1959 may be attributed to any one or a combination of the following factors: nonappearance of tuna in Tunisian waters; depletion of tuna schools in the Mediterranean as the result of overfishing, and the fact that only two Spanish captains were available to set the fish traps for the Sidi-Daoud tuna canneries, Tunisia's largest. The Spaniards have been replaced by less experienced Tunisian trap captains.

The catch of sardines and sardine-like fish for the season which begins in late May and ends in November was poor as of early October. It is reported that price-wise Tunisia can now export to the French market, but that the

quality of Tunisian sardines is poor and French buyers are offering sales resistance. The principal reason for this is the poor handling techniques of the Tunisian fishermen, the fact that refrigeration is generally unavailable, and fish are delivered to the canneries in poor condition. However, it has been noted that total exports of salted and canned fish and shellfish increased about 21.6 percent during the first half of 1959 (264,706 dinars or about US\$630,000) as compared to the similar period of 1958 (217,696 dinars or about US\$518,000). (United States Embassy dispatch from Tunis, October 16, 1959.)

**Turkey****PLAN TO ACTIVATE FISH MEAL AND OIL PLANT IN 1960:**

The Turkish Meat and Fish Organization established Turkey's first fish meal and oil plant in Trabzon in 1958 and planned to begin operations in the 1958 season. The plant building and installation of machinery was actually completed, but activation has been delayed. Now the Meat and Fish administrators are planning to put the plant into operation early in 1960. This plant will produce industrial fish oil and fish meal. The main types of fish utilized will be porpoise and mackerel.

A small amount of fish oil is produced with primitive methods by the fishermen of the eastern Black Sea region. When they catch a porpoise, they boil it, skim off the oil, and use the meat scrap as fertilizer, as they have no fish meal reduction equipment, according to an October 6, 1959, report from the United States Agricultural Attache in Ankara.

**Union of South Africa****PILCHARD-MAASBANKER LANDINGS FOR 1959 BREAK RECORD:**

The 1959 pelagic shoal fishing season off the Union of South Africa's Cape west

### Union of South Africa (Contd.):

coast closed at midnight on August 14, 1959, with a new record catch of 34,753 short tons, made up of 286,796 tons of pilchards, 19,484 tons of maasbanker, and 36,473 tons of mackerel. This catch was higher than that of the previous record season in 1952, and exceeded the 1958 catch substantially.

The decision to close the 1959 season two weeks before the expected closing date of August 31 was made on the recommendation of the Fisheries Development Advisory Council which met at the end of July. At this meeting the Council was informed by the Union's Director of Fisheries that the pilchard-maasbanker quota had already passed the 276,723 tons landed to the end of August last year. Almost the entire pilchard catch, he reported, had been taken from the area south of Cape Town; smaller fish were being caught and the pilchards were showing signs of early spawning.

On August 14, the notice closing the season was published in the Government Gazette. This closed the Cape West Coast to the catching of pilchards and maasbanker for canneries or fish meal plants for the period August 15 to December 31. Plants were being overhauled and refitted late in 1959 in preparation for the next season which was due to start in January 1960.

An outstanding feature of the 1959 season was the huge pilchard catch of 286,796 tons, more than the previous record of 214,533 tons set in 1958. The mackerel catch of 36,473 tons was also a record. But maasbanker landings of 19,484 tons were the lowest since 1947 when the industry had only just entered its period of intensive development.

Products produced from the Union of South Africa shoal fish landings were 71,505 tons fish meal, 3,592,482 Imperial gallons fish oil, 925,000 pounds canned pilchards, 6,923,371 pounds canned maasbanker, and 12,781,276 pounds canned mackerel.

In 1957 and 1958 maasbanker landings were boosted by brief periods of heavy catching. In 1959, however, there was no

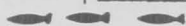
maasbanker run, although boats moving between St Helena Bay and the Cape Peninsula fishing waters kept a close watch for the shoals.

Another feature of the season was the appearance of Hout Bay as a shoal fishing center. Its proximity to the best fishing areas proved extremely advantageous to its 2 fish meal factories which, with a reduction plant capacity of only 15 tons of raw fish an hour, handled some 20 percent of the quota fish catch. The 2 Saldanha Bay factories, also reasonably well placed, handled about 20 percent of the catch; 7 large factories on the southern shores of St. Helena Bay processed 55 percent and 5 percent was handled by the factories at Lambert's Bay and Thorn Bay.

It is estimated that 95 percent of the pilchard catch was taken from the waters south of Cape Town by a fleet of 150 boats, most of which had to travel several hours to and from the fishing area.

In 1959, for the first time, the Division of Fisheries attempted a forecast of the pilchard catch. The forecast was exceeded by 50,000 tons. The estimate was, however, based on one instead of three months' autumn temperature observations; and the low maasbanker catch with subsequent concentration on pilchards was an unexpected factor. According to the Fisheries Division, temperature observations made during the autumn of 1959 indicate a "reasonably good season" in 1960. The Division is now analyzing its observations and hopes to give a more detailed forecast of the 1960 catch.

With the big catch of pelagic shoal fish in Cape waters and likely landings at South-West Africa's Walvis Bay of 300,000 short tons, fish landings in the Union and South-West Africa are almost certain to be the highest ever. The pelagic shoal fish catch will alone exceed 630,000 tons; the indications are that trawl fish landings will again pass 100,000 tons; and line fishing, including a good catch of snoek, should add another 40,000 tons to bring the total to more than 770,000 tons--56,000 tons above the record 714,000 tons of 1958. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, September 1959.)



## Union of South Africa and South-West Africa

### PILCHARD-MAASBANKER FISHERY TRENDS, JULY AND AUGUST 1959:

During July 1959, South African west coast fishing vessels landed more pilchards than in any other single month in the history of the fishery. According to the Division of Fisheries, the Union of South Africa July pilchard landings were 65,175 short tons, more than 10,000 tons higher than the previous record set in June 1959. In addition, 104 tons of maasbanker and 48 tons of mackerel were landed in July 1959. These figures compare with 25,613 tons of pilchards, 1,109 tons of maasbanker, and 1,151 tons of mackerel caught in July 1958; and with 1,911 tons of pilchards and 403 tons of maasbanker in July 1957.

The Union's total pilchard-maasbanker landings to the end of July was 286,925 short tons, made up of 267,633 tons of pilchards and 19,292 tons of maasbanker. The mackerel landings of 35,574 tons brought the shoal fish total to 323,499 tons. The 1959 season continued for the first two weeks in August.

The July 1959 landings in the Union yielded 14,780 short tons of fish meal, 361,612 Imperial gallons of fish oil, 63,840 pounds of canned pilchards, 13,260 pounds of canned maasbanker, and 39,744 pounds of canned mackerel.

The August (1 through 14) catch for the Union of South Africa west coast was 19,163 tons of pilchards and 192 tons maasbanker or jack mackerel. This compares with 26,706 tons of pilchards, 800 tons of maasbanker, and 4 tons of mackerel caught in the entire month of August 1958 and 7,612 tons of pilchards and 749 tons of maasbanker in August 1957.

Products produced from the August 1959 Union of South Africa catch were 4,521 tons fish meal, 79,572 Imperial gallons fish oil, and 31,006 pounds canned pilchards.

The South-West African Walvis Bay landings in July 1959 were 54,838 tons of pilchards and 423 tons of maasbanker.

These landings yielded 10,598 short tons of fish meal, 3,596 long tons of fish oil, and 15,505,169 pounds of canned fish. Pilchard fishing from Walvis Bay, South-West Africa, was affected in August by very bad weather. Boats had to travel 4 to 6 hours north north-west to find fish. The South-West Africa catch in August 1959 was 33,931 tons which yielded 7,429 tons of fish meal, 1,943 tons of fish oil, and 7,980,708 pounds of canned fish.

When the South-West Africa Walvis Bay pilchard-maasbanker quota of 260,000 tons was increased for the season by 40,000 tons in July 1959, it was indicated that the season would end by October 10. Most of the factories found, however, that they could not make their individual quotas by that date and so the season was again extended to October 31. Reports from South-West Africa state that fish, though mixed in size and age, yielded an average of 10 Imperial gallons of oil per short ton of raw fish. Canning virtually stopped in August and landings after that month were utilized for meal and oil. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, September 1959 and October 1959.)

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### THREE NEW PILCHARD RESEARCH VESSELS:

Three new research vessels for work on the pilchard-maasbanker resources of the south-west coast of South Africa have been completed and handed over to the Union of South Africa Fisheries Division.

The three vessels cost about £200,000 (US\$560,000). To recover this cost (and the capital cost of new shore laboratories), the South African Fisheries Development Corporation levies fishermen and processors 2d. and 4d. (about 2.3 and 4.7 U. S. cents) a ton, respectively, on pilchard-maasbanker and mackerel landings.

The research vessels will work in Benguela Current waters which extend for 1,000 miles from the Cape north to the mouth of the Kunene River on the South-West Africa-Angola border.

The Union and South-West Africa fish resources have given rise to an industry

Union of South Africa and  
South-West Africa (Contd.):

operated by 300 large boats and 19 processing factories, with a capital investment of £12,000,000 (about US\$33.6 million). From a catch of up to 500,000 metric tons each a year, there is produced canned fish, fish meal, and fish oil valued at about £8,000,000 (\$22.4 million).

The largest of the three new research vessels, the 120-foot, 360-ton (displacement) Sardinops, is reportedly the largest ever built in South Africa. It was designed by the Food and Agriculture Organization Fishing Boat Section Chief and the managing director of a South African firm.

In a description of the Sardinops, the editor of South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review says:

"For a ship of her size, the Sardinops is remarkably spacious and well equipped. She has a crew of 14 and can carry up to three scientists. Six of the crew are accommodated forward in the fore-castle below the level of the main deck. Immediately aft of this crew space are three double cabins and a single berth cabin for 2 deck and 2 engineer officers, and 3 scientists.

"These cabins open out to a corridor which leads farther aft to the chemical laboratory which is situated below the larger biological laboratory built into welded steel deckhouse. This deckhouse has been placed about 2 feet inboard on each side of the bulwarks to provide adequate working space around the hydrographical booms and winches. It is topped forward by a spacious wheelhouse which projects on three sides over the main deckhouse structure. Aft of the wheelhouse is the captain's cabin and the wireless room.

"Officers' mess, petty officers' mess, toilets, washrooms, a galley equipped with refrigerator and electric range, and the engineroom casing are all built into the aft section of the deckhouse.

"The Sardinops is completely equipped to collect water samples, to make

plankton and blanket net hauls, to trawl, and to test different types of fishing gear. To carry out this work, she is fitted throughout with hydraulic trawl winches, long-line hauler, and hydrographic deep-water and shallow-water winches. . . . The winches are worked through hydraulic pipelines connected to a 60 hp. pump directly connected to the main engine. A second pump is driven from an auxiliary engine."

The ship is powered by a Danish five-cylinder two-stroke loop-scavenging oil engine developing 600/660 b.hp. at 310 r.p.m. This engine is connected through a nonreversible friction clutch to a controllable-pitch propeller. The control of the propeller pitch, clutch, and engine speed is effected directly from the bridge.

Auxiliary plant comprises two Diesel generating sets, each developing 86 hp. at 1,150 r.p.m. and driving 55 kw. generators.

On her trials and in subsequent initial survey cruises, the Sardinops easily maintained her designed service speed of 10 knots. The ship has proved remarkably simple to maneuver, and the combination of slow-running engine and controllable-pitch propeller gives her a range comparable to that of the much larger Africana II and also makes her an extremely economic vessel to operate.

Another interesting feature of the Sardinops is the wide range of wireless, fish-finding, and navigational equipment carried. Her wireless is a 120-watt radiotelephone set, and she has a Type 14 radar, log, gyro compass with bearing repeater, and vertical and horizontal echo recorders.

The two other new South African research vessels, Trachurus and Kunene, were designed by the chief of the FAO Fishing Boat Section. They will work nearer the coast than Sardinops. Each of the two is just under 70 feet long with moulded breadth of 22 feet and draught of 8¼ feet. Each has a raking stem; raised enclosed fore-castle, a high aluminium deckhouse placed slightly aft; a transom stern; and a crew of 9 and 2 scientists in a comfortable cabin situated just below the foredeck. As in the



Union of South Africa and  
South-West Africa (Contd.):

Sardinops, six seamen are accommodated in combined sleeping quarters and mess room in the forecabin.

The accent in these boats is again on concentrating as much equipment as possible in the restricted space available. Scientists have ample working space on the foredeck and aft.

The hydraulic trawl winch is fitted forward on the port side and alongside it, as aboard the Sardinops, is a long-line hauler. In the working section aft of the deckhouse is one of the two hydraulic winches for working plankton tow nets and the blanket net, and a second hydraulic winch with hydrographic boom is placed on the port side between deckhouse and bulwark.

Each boat has a single large laboratory situated immediately below the bridge. Galley and officers' messroom are below the main deck forward.

Vertical and horizontal echo-recorders are fitted in each boat, which also carries a radiotelephone.

The main engine of the Trachurus and the Kunene is a Danish 3-cylinder unit developing 180 b.hp. at 375 r.p.m. Again, the engine is connected through nonreversible friction clutch to a controllable-pitch propeller and all control is from the bridge.

On trials, the Trachurus and Kunene maintained average speeds of 9.6 and 9.7 knots, and should therefore comfortably maintain their designed cruising speed of 9 knots. The boats also have been tried on preliminary research cruises and are considered ideal for their exacting work. (The Australian Fisheries Newsletter, September 1959.)



**U. S. S. R.**

**FISHERY RESEARCH SUBMARINE  
USED TO OBSERVE UNDERWATER  
BEHAVIOR OF TRAWL:**

The third trip of the Russian fishery research submarine Severyanka was de-

voted principally to observing the behavior of the otter trawl underwater. The Severyanka, a Russian submarine converted for fishery and oceanographic research under water, sailed on its third trip in April 1959. The operation required close and delicate maneuvering near the moving trawl.

The submarine remained directly below the trawl for several hours while engineers observed and made motion pictures of its behavior. In all, the studies extended over several days. It is expected that the results of the observations will aid in the design of new types of trawls.

At times, the Severyanka settled to the bottom of the sea for observations of marine life.

Work with hydroacoustical instruments made it possible to measure the zones of action of the echo sounders, that is, to explore the space around the submarine which is penetrated by ultrasonic energy and within the limits of which it is possible to detect schools of fish and other objects.

The third trip of the submarine was one of many trips scheduled for several years. Preparations for a fourth trip were made in mid-1959.

The Severyanka made its first trip in December 1958 in the region of Murmansk and its second trip in the herring fishing regions of the North Atlantic. Both of these trips resulted in much new and interesting scientific material. For example, the 24-hour behavior of Atlantic herring was studied. A number of oceanographic investigations were conducted. It was impossible, however, to observe the operation of the variable-depth or midwater trawl used because of the poor visibility under water during the polar night. Scientists aboard also found out how bottom fish react to danger and tested the effectiveness of finding fish with hydroacoustical instruments.

Increasing the catch of fish has been established as an objective of the Seven-Year Plan by the 21st Party Congress.

(This account (titled "Trawl above the SEVERYANKA") of the third trip of the

## U. S. S. R. (Contd.):

Severyanka, research submarine of the All-Union Scientific Research Institute of the Fish Economy and Oceanography, by V. Azhazha, Chief of the Laboratory of Technical Instruments for Underwater Research, appeared in the May 24, 1959, issue of Sovetskiy Flot, Moscow.)

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, July 1959, p. 91; February 1959, p. 68.

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SALMON CATCHES AND HATCHERIES:

Russian salmon catches have steadily declined from 1955 through 1958, according to a statement made by Michail N. Mironov, a Soviet fisheries official, at the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission annual meeting in Seattle early in November 1959. Catches dropped from 172,400 metric tons in 1955, to 160,000 tons in 1956, 150,000 tons in 1957, and 73,000 tons in 1958. Although 1959 catches are not yet available, Mironov said that they will be below those for 1958.

The Russian official, an observer at the meeting since Russia is not a member of the Commission, states that his country is trying to build the runs of salmon by strict regulation of fishing off its shores, closing spawning areas and stream mouths to fishing, opening new fisheries research institutes, and expanding its hatchery program.

Russia will more than double its number of salmon hatcheries in the next seven years. A total of 38 new hatcheries is planned in order to bring the annual production of salmon to 1.4 billion fish. Russia now has 32 hatcheries, producing 600 million salmon.

**United Kingdom****BRITISH QUEEN PROMISES CONTINUATION OF AID TO FISHING INDUSTRY:**

A continuation of subsidies and grants to the fishing industry was promised by the British Queen in a speech, delivered at the opening of the new Parliament on

October 27, 1959. She stated: "Proposals will be put before you also to continue the subsidies and grants given to the fishing industry and to make further provision for cooperation in international measures of conservation.

"At the Second World Conference on the Law of the Sea, to be held next spring, my Ministers will work for a just and reasonable settlement of the unresolved problems of the breadth of the territorial sea and of fishery limits." (The Fishing News, October 30, 1959.)

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IMPORT CONTROLS ON FRESH AND FROZEN SALMON REMOVED:

A joint statement was made by the Departments of State, Treasury, and Commerce regarding an announcement by the United Kingdom that many of the remaining controls on imports would be removed, effective November 9, 1959.

This liberalization improves the opportunities of United States firms to compete in British markets. The list of products which United States exporters will now be able to market in the United Kingdom without quantitative restrictions includes fresh and frozen salmon. With the exception of tobacco manufactures and pharmaceuticals, all products previously imported from North America under the British Token Import Plan will also be free from restrictions.

The United Kingdom will still apply discriminatory restrictions on a number of dollar commodities including important fishery products like frozen halibut. The United States Government hopes that the United Kingdom will continue making rapid progress in removing restrictions until complete liberalization is achieved.

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USE OF ANTIBIOTICS AS A FISH PRESERVATIVE UNDER STUDY BY SCIENTISTS:

"Ice incorporating antibiotics" was the theme of a discussion radio broadcast by a scientist from the British Torry Research Station. He revealed that scientists are now collecting data for an expert panel which is finding out if the introduction of antibiotics as a preservative will involve any health hazard.

The scientist explained that by adding antibiotics they would hope to extend the usefulness of ice. By using chemi-

## United Kingdom (Contd.):

cal compounds the aim would be to kill or keep in check the bacteria causing spoilage and so assist in preserving in better condition the first catches of long-distance trawlers.

Researchers have found that by adding only a few parts per million in the ice, they can extend the edibility by about 7 and sometimes even 10 days with fish like cod, haddock, and plaice. The use of the treated ice would enable the vessels to bring in fresher fish.

The antibiotics, said the scientist, could be added in small quantities as the ice is being made. This, he said, might add 15s. (US\$2.10) per ton to the price of the ice.

It is now known what sort of preservation the antibiotics can give. Data are being prepared for an expert panel set up under the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food.

It is necessary to know what quantities of the antibiotics in the ice are absorbed by the fish during storage and what is the fate of these quantities after cooking. With this information the panel will be in a better position to decide whether or not there is any health hazard involved. (The Fishing News, October 30, 1959.)



## Yugoslavia

## CONTRACTS WITH JAPAN FOR YEAR'S SUPPLY OF FROZEN TUNA:

Yugoslavia in October 1959 was reported to have contracted with three big fish suppliers of Japan to buy its entire annual requirements of frozen tuna

which is estimated to amount to about 7,000 metric tons. Delivery is scheduled October 1959-May 1960. Yugoslavia has imported tuna usually from Turkey which conducts a small fishery in the Black Sea. But currently the trade agreement between Yugoslavia and Turkey is suspended. Sales to Yugoslavia of Japanese frozen tuna caught in the Atlantic began early in 1959.

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## TUNA FISHING METHODS TAUGHT BY JAPANESE:

As part of a plan to increase tuna catches by Yugoslavian fishermen in the Adriatic, Japanese technical fishermen are teaching tuna long-lining methods to fishermen aboard Yugoslav vessels.

It has also been reported that a Yugoslavian businessman is visiting Japan in order to buy new tuna vessels from the country. Negotiations are under way for the building of 6 to 10 tuna vessels of the 1,000-ton class. There is also under discussion a plan that half the crew of the tuna vessels would be made up of Japanese fishermen.



## ANTARTIC FISH HAVE WHITE BLOOD

Russian scientists have discovered unique "white blooded" fish in the Antarctic. According to preliminary reports published by the Oceanographic Institute in Moscow, the research ship Ob, during the second expedition in the Antarctic, has made a discovery of extraordinary interest for zoologists: the scientists on board the Ob caught 18 fish whose blood contained no haemoglobin.

The 18 fish belonged to 8 different species and in four of these species this colorlessness or "whiteness" of the blood was encountered for the first time. Four of these species were entirely new to science. It is pointed out that this condition among vertebrae is unique since the presence of haemoglobin in the blood as carrier of oxygen is commonly accepted to be absolutely necessary for the sustaining of life. The Russian scientists have taken samples of this "white" blood of the fish to Russia in order to carry out further biochemical analyses and histological investigations. No explanation of this phenomenon has yet been given. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, June 1959.)