



International

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

EUROPEAN NATIONS TO DISCUSS INLAND FISHERIES:

An organization designed for discussion and combined action on common problems of European inland fisheries held its first meeting April 25-30, 1960, at Dublin, Ireland. Among the problems are prevention of water pollution, control of aquatic weeds and fertilization of fish ponds, and removal of predatory fish. The new group is known as the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC) and is sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

All European members of FAO had been invited to the meeting as participants or as observers, and 14 countries had already signified their desire to become commission members. Five international organizations, involved in work related to fisheries, had been invited to attend as observers.

The new commission resulted from a meeting of an intergovernmental group of inland fisheries experts in Helsinki, Finland, in 1956. This group recommended that FAO establish an organization to meet the specific needs of European inland fisheries services.

"Although European fish culture has already reached a high degree of development," said the Chief of the Inland Resources Section, Fisheries Division, FAO, "the pooling of research methods and techniques should increase food production far beyond that achieved by traditional means."

At its first meeting the Commission was expected to establish its rules of procedure and to set up its internal structure.

LAW OF THE SEA

DEVELOPMENTS AT GENEVA CONFERENCE:

April 6-11: The Second Law of the Sea Conference sponsored by the United Nations convened at Geneva on March 17, 1960, with representatives of 87 nations on hand to arrive at some understanding on the territorial sea and fishing rights. It appears that there are many nations anxious to reach some kind of agreement.

Although representatives of various nations were still scheduled to make speeches on the various "positions" of their respective countries, as of April 6 four principal proposals had been made in the Committee of the Whole:

- (1) U.S.S.R.: Territorial sea up to 12 miles; if less than 12 miles territorial sea is chosen by a nation, the balance up to 12 is exclusive fishing zone for the coastal state. Means a fishing limit of 12 miles for the coastal state.
- (2) Mexico: (a) Territorial sea from 3 to 6 miles; exclusive fishing zone up to a limit of 18 miles. (b) Territorial sea 7 to 9 miles; exclusive fishing zone up to a limit of 15 miles.
- (3) United States: Territorial sea 6 miles; historic fishing between 6 and 12 miles may be continued, for same groups of species, based on five-year average.
- (4) Canada: Territorial sea 6 miles; exclusive fishing zone between 6 and 12 miles.

Ghana on April 4 made an attempt to resolve a deadlock in the Conference by offering a compromise between United States and Canadian proposals on offshore fishing limits. Although some United States delegates regarded the proposal as "perhaps the best the United States can get," others insisted that the United States should attempt to obtain a phase out of historic fishing rights. A time limit on withdrawal of fishing operations beyond the historic three-mile limit would result if the Ghana proposal prevails. The Ghana spokesman pointed out: "Complete exclusion of foreign fishermen could cause human and economic hardships. However, the United States proposal for fishing rights in perpetuity is defective.

"There should be a limit in point of time—a period of readjustment to allow foreign fishermen time to find other fishing grounds or make adjustments in their economy. It also would give coastal states time to develop their fishing potential for maximum sustainable yield."

On April 4 the Chairman of the United States delegation at the Conference indicated that the United States has no choice but to show some flexibility on fishing rights. On April 5 the Chairman confirmed reports that a high-level meeting was planned by the Canadian and United States delegations at the Conference to work out a joint proposal to offer the Conference.

The Ceylon spokesman on April 5 suggested modification of the Canadian proposal to cover later bilateral agreements with the United States. This, in effect, would put Canada on record to give ground on historic fishing rights.

On April 6 it was reported that the principal Western maritime nations had worked out a compromise on fishing rights. The compromise will be between the proposals of the United States and Canada for a six-mile territorial sea, with a contiguous six-mile fishing zone. Canada advocated the exclusion of foreign trawlers while the United States reserved

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limited rights for foreign fishermen who regularly fished the waters concerned. The compromise proposes that coastal states receive exclusive fishing rights in a six-mile zone adjoining their territorial sea after a ten-year waiting period. The United Kingdom also is reported to support this compromise.

April 12-22: On the first day of voting at the Conference, April 13, 1960, the joint United States-Canadian compromise proposal received a plurality of the votes cast in the Committee of the Whole, 43 to 33, with 12 abstentions. This fell short of the two-thirds majority required for final adoption. The abstaining countries were Argentina, Belgium, Cambodia, Cuba, Finland, France, Ghana, Guatemala, Holy See, India, Philippines, and Sweden. It was expected that a number of these countries would later switch their votes in favor of the joint proposal.

Mexico and Venezuela joined the 16 Afro-Asian nations in a revised proposal, in favor of which the Soviet proposal was finally withdrawn. The revised Afro-Asian proposal was narrowly beaten, 36 to 39, with 13 abstentions. As of April 13, therefore, only the joint United States-Canadian proposal and an Icelandic proposal were approved by the Committee and referred to the plenary. More than half the Conference abstained from voting on the Icelandic proposal.

The 12-mile Russian-backed proposal was defeated in the Committee of the Whole, where it secured 44 percent of the total votes. There was therefore reason to hope that a number of countries would then be able to change their votes in favor of the joint United States-Canadian proposal so that in the plenary session it would gain the 59 votes required if all delegations were present and voting. If there were abstentions, correspondingly fewer votes would be required. The plenary was scheduled to convene on April 19.

On April 8, Ambassador Dean addressed the Conference in behalf of the joint United States-Canadian compromise proposal. He stated that it clearly would satisfy both the needs and future aspirations of coastal states, while at the same time it would protect foreign fishing interests from unnecessary or precipitate injury; therefore, he asserted, it is the only proposal acceptable to enough nations for adoption by the Conference. He emphasized the two concessions which the United States is making--placing a time limitation on foreign fishing rights, and making the limit 10 years; the proposal thus goes more than halfway to meet the objections of other countries. He thanked individually the many delegates who had given him cooperation and understanding, and he reiterated that the unusual situations of certain other countries that are overwhelmingly dependent upon their fisheries within the 12-mile zone must be given careful and sympathetic consideration. The many complex and varying problems of basic fishing rights in the fisheries zone will need, he continued, to be implemented by bilateral or multilateral arrangements consistent with the basic principles now established, so that the principles may be applied in an orderly and practical manner. With this proposal an important new principle concerning fishing jurisdiction is to be embodied in international law. Finally, Ambassador Dean took advantage of the occasion to note that the Four Conventions and Optional Protocol which had been approved at the 1958 Conference had just been favorably reported to the United States Senate; this, he hoped, augured well for the success of the present Conference.

The first of several proposals to be submitted at Geneva during the fourth week of the Conference was put forward by Iceland on April 7, and revised on April 12. The revision provides that where a people is overwhelmingly dependent upon its coastal fisheries for its livelihood or economic development and it becomes necessary to limit the total catch in areas adjacent to the coastal fisheries zone, the nation shall have preferential rights under such limitations to the extent rendered necessary by its dependence on fishery. On April 13, the Committee of the Whole approved it for further action by a vote of 31 to 11, with 46 abstentions.

A revised version of the 16-nation Afro-Asian proposal, previously mentioned, was presented on April 10 by the original sponsors, now increased to 18 by the addition of Mexico and Venezuela. The revision provided that every country should enact the laws and regulations necessary to prevent its nationals from fishing in the territorial seas and fishery zones of other countries unless especially authorized to do so. It was voted down on April 13, as above.

The Philippine amendment, previously mentioned, had been withdrawn on April 12. On April 13, the Cuban delegate proposed an additional protocol to the Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas whereby a coastal state might unilaterally limit the catch in special circumstances. Argentina on April 11 and Guatemala on April 12 submitted amendments to the United States-Canadian compromise proposal, but they were voted down on April 13. Thereupon the Guatemalan delegate proposed to have the United States-Canadian measure voted on, paragraph by paragraph. Ambassador Dean made it quite clear, however, that the joint proposal was an integrated whole, and must be so voted on. This Guatemalan proposal was also defeated. Peru offered a resolution which provided that a country might, in an exceptional situation and in certain conditions, establish unilaterally the extent of the area of its jurisdiction in which it would apply fishery-conservation and control measures.

The 88-nation Law of the Sea Conference decided on April 20 to put off until April 26 the final voting on the twin issues of the width of the territorial sea and fishing rights. The five-week-old Conference, as of April 20, was scheduled to finish its work by April 22, but the lack of speakers has delayed final action in the plenary sessions which began April 19. The only formal proposal before the Conference as of April 20 was the joint United States-Canadian plan for a six-mile limit for the territorial sea coupled with a further six-mile fishing limit for the coastal state. All foreign fishing vessels would be barred from fishing within 12 miles of the territorial waters of a coastal state beginning in 1970.

On April 22 Sweden told the Conference that it would vote for the United States-Canadian proposal the week of April 24. The delegate from Sweden told the Conference he previously abstained from voting for the United States-Canadian proposal because Sweden is opposed to the idea of exclusive coastal fishing rights beyond the territorial sea. But he said Sweden would support the proposal "to help the Conference to arrive at a positive result and prevent anarchy along the world's coasts."

WHALING

ANTARCTIC SPERM WHALE OIL PRODUCTION LOWER FOR 1959/60 SEASON:

Sperm whaling prior to the December 28, 1959, opening of the regular 1959/60 Antarctic season yielded 18,414 short tons of oil, excluding production of the Soviet Union for which no data are available. Comparable production last season was 34,563 tons, nearly twice as much.

Whaling expeditions normally arrive in the Antarctic prior to the opening of the regular season set by the International Whaling Convention and conduct sperm whaling operations until the regular season opens. Sperm whaling, not controlled by the Convention, virtually ceases when the season opens.

Country	1959/60	1958/59
	. . . (Short Tons) .	
Norway (8 expeditions, 9 last season)	5,842	10,341
Japan (6 expeditions)	11,480	17,889
United Kingdom (3 expeditions)	1,092	4,761
Netherlands (1 expedition)	0	1,571
Total	18,414	34,562

International (Contd.):

Sperm oil production in the Antarctic usually accounts for 40 to 50 percent of the annual world production and most of the variation in total world production. Sperm oil output outside the Antarctic has increased slightly in recent years, the U. S. Department of Agriculture reported in its March 28, 1960, issue of Foreign Crops and Markets.

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ANTARCTIC WHALE OIL PRODUCTION LOWER FOR 1959/60 SEASON:

According to information from the International Association of Whaling Companies, Sandefjord, Norway, all countries participating in the Antarctic 1959/60 whaling season had ceased operations by April 7, 1960, with the exception of the Netherlands expedition. The catch in terms of blue-whale units amounted to 15,437 units. This amount exceeds the over-all catch quota in effect during the 1958/59 season, but was well below the predicted catch of 17,000-18,000 units. The quota established by the International Whaling Commission for the current season was inoperative because both Norway and the Netherlands were operating outside of the convention for the first time.

1957/58. (United States Embassy in Oslo, April 12, 1960.)



British Honduras

FISHERY PRODUCTS EXPORTS, 1958-59:

British Honduras exports of fishery products during 1959 totaled 523,249 pounds, valued at US\$187,607, as compared with a total of 352,196 pounds, valued at US\$153,698, in 1958.

Product	1959		1958	
	Quantity Lbs.	Value US\$	Quantity Lbs.	Value US\$
Fresh, frozen, or live fish:				
Total exports	80,479	12,737	53,377	6,701
Exports to U. S.	49,680	9,482	26,608	3,764
Salted, dried fish, etc.:				
Total exports	32,638	3,192	58,208	6,108
Exports to U. S.	-	-	-	-
Spiny lobster, whole and tails:				
Total exports	398,043	167,685	369,028	157,760
Exports to U. S.	368,920	162,411	324,768	149,740
Tortoise shell:				
Total exports	1,507	3,101	696	1,844
Exports to U. S.	-	-	-	-
Unclassified:				
Total exports	10,582	892	12,070	1,099
Exports to U. S.	400	182	820	194
Total all fishery products:				
Total exports	523,249	187,607	493,379	173,512
Exports to U. S.	419,000	172,075	352,196	153,698

Exports of fish and shellfish to the United States from British Honduras in 1959 accounted for 80.1 percent of the volume and 91.7 percent of the value.

Antarctic Whale Oil Production^{1/}, 1957/58-1959/60

Country	Catch	Oil Production			
	1959/60	1959/60	1959/60	1958/59	1957/58
	Blue-Whale	 (1,000 Short Tons)		
	Units	Bbls.			
Norway	4,565	588,450	110	148	153
United Kingdom . . .	1,898	234,420	44	46	60
Japan	5,217	551,265	103	115	109
Netherlands	2/ 968	2/ 125,452	23	24	21
U. S. S. R.	2,789	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	15,437	3/ 1,499,587	3/ 280	3/ 333	3/ 343

1/Preliminary data.
 2/Netherlands still operating after the Whaling Commission closing date of April 7. Data for Netherlands are as of March 26.
 3/Exclusive of U. S. S. R. production.
 NA - not available.

Preliminary statistics for 1959/60 indicate whale oil production of 280,000 short tons, a drop of about 15.9 percent from the 333,000 tons produced in the 1958/59 season and a drop of 18.4 percent from the 343,000 tons produced in

There was an increase of 19.0 percent in volume and 12.0 percent in value as compared with 1958.



Canada

BIOLOGISTS SURVEY ARCTIC FISHERY RESOURCES:

With the development of fishery projects in the Canadian Arctic area becoming more concentrated in recent years, fishery biologists are increasing their efforts to discover basic yet vital information on fish stocks of the many water systems throughout that vast area. For countless generations, Eskimos have fished those lakes on a subsistence basis, supplementing their hunting excursions in search of food. In recent years both commercial and sports fishing enterprises have been established in the Canadian north. Science has benefited fishing operations in other parts of Canada, and a project conducted in 1959 by the Arctic Unit of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada will undoubtedly be of great value to Federal fishery officials, the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and those concerned with fishing operations in the Arctic.

The Arctic Unit, which is based in Montreal, has made a survey of fish stocks of the Mackenzie and Keewatin Districts. This survey covered some 21 lakes extending east from Great Bear Lake to the northwest coast of Hudson Bay. The unit's base of operations was located at Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. From that base 4 field parties were transported by air to spend nearly 2 weeks on each lake. The lakes were carefully selected to represent many watersheds including those drained by the Coppermine, Back, Thelon, and Dubawnt Rivers.

The biologists amassed a prodigious amount of data during their investigations in the "land of the midnight sun," and considerable time will be required before a complete analysis can be made.

The common whitefish and lake trout were the dominant species in all water areas studied, followed by round whitefish, pike, cisco, and grayling. The distribution of arctic char was limited to waters draining directly into the Arctic Ocean.

The Research Board made special arrangements with the Institute of Fisheries of the University of British Columbia, and with the Division of Fishes of the Royal Ontario Museum, for the participation in the survey of senior biologists from those institutions. Both the University and the Museum are now identifying the fish taken from the area during the survey.

In addition to information gathered on the fish of the area, the biologists collected a variety of associated material for other organizations and specialists in the many different fields of biology. (Canadian Trade News, January 1960.)



Costa Rica

FISHERIES TRENDS, APRIL 1960:

A meeting was held at Puntarenas, Costa Rica, on April 3, 1960, between officials of the Chamber of Fishermen of Puntarenas, the Minister of Economy and Finance, and other government and banking officials.

The Chamber made known the economic difficulties which the fishing industry has been encountering owing to a lack of financial support from Costa Rican sectors. They reported that their operations heretofore have been financed almost exclusively by United States investors who, according to a press report, "have reaped fabulous profits at the expense of Costa Rican fishermen."

The possibility of establishing a fishmeal plant on a cooperative basis, and eventually a fish canning operation, was discussed.

The Minister of Economy and Finance offered a concession in the form of an increase in the proportion (from 65 to 99 percent) of the foreign exchange that could be authorized from fish products exports, at the legal free rate (CR\$1.00 equals US\$0.1504). It was also proposed to facilitate the granting of bank loans to the fishermen. For this purpose, the utilization of some CR\$2,000,000

Costa Rica (Contd.):

(US\$300,800 at free rate) from a pending bank loan might be considered.

Another matter discussed at the meeting which appears significant, in view of the United States Export Promotion Program, was the possibility of purchasing a large shrimp boat, at a cost of approximately US\$75,000 which could be operated on a cooperative basis. (United States Embassy in San Jose, April 5, 1960.)

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SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRENDS, 1959:

Costa Rica's shrimp landings in 1959, were 1,356,300 pounds (1,095,700 pounds of large and 260,600 pounds of small shrimp). These data appeared in an article in La Nacion of March 23, 1960. The newspaper reported that the Fish and Wildlife Section of the Ministry of Agriculture had completed a thorough statistical study of the production of fish and shrimp at Limon and Puntarenas.

It had been estimated that in a good year production could reach 1,500,000 pounds. Shrimp landings in 1959 were the highest in Costa Rica's history. In 1958, landings were only 930,000 pounds.

As of March 1960 there were 43 motorized fishing vessels at Puntarenas engaged exclusively in the fishing of shrimp, representing an investment in excess of CR\$6 million (US\$905,000). As a part of this industry there also are three refrigeration plants and two packing houses which represent a financial investment in excess of CR\$2 million (US\$302,000). The fishing industry of Costa Rica maintains no less than 600 families whose chief source of income is derived from fishing for shrimp or from the shrimp-processing plants. (Report of March 23 of United States Embassy, San Jose.)

Notes: (1) Values converted at rate of CR\$6.63 equals US\$1.

(2) Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, March 1960, p. 44.



Cuba

FISHERIES TRENDS, MARCH 1960:

During the eighth meeting in Havana of the National Institute for Agrarian Reform held in March 1960, the Executive Director reported on "the achievements" of the organization for the ten months of its operation. In the field of fisheries he reported the following: 38 fishing and 6 frog cooperatives have been formed; 6 dockyards have been constructed, of which 5 are in full operation; 6 packing and freezing plants are controlled by the Institute; and it operates a cannery which has been taken over from the Ministry of Misapplied Goods.

The Department of Fisheries now controls the prices and the distribution of fish, including exports of frozen fish. (United States Embassy in Habana, March 21, 1960.)

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CLOSED SEASON ON SHRIMP TRAWLING AND SEVERAL SPECIES OF FISH:

The Cuban Instituto Nacional de la Pesca (INP) by a Resolution published in the Official Gazette No. 63 of March 31, 1960, imposed a closed season on the capture of the species *biajaca* (triple tail), *joturo*, *dajao* and *mojarra* (perch), effective during the period April 10 through July 1, 1960, inclusive.

The INP, in the same Official Gazette, issued another Resolution which prohibited April 1-30, 1960, the capture of shrimp by trawl nets in that portion of the southern shelf east of meridian 77°24' west longitude, which passes through the Santa Clara Shoal. Previously the capture of shrimp by trawl nets had been prohibited in the southern shelf east of meridian 77°24' west longitude, which passes through the extreme eastern portion of the Chinchorro Shoal.

Previously on March 23, a circular (No. 89) was issued by the Cuban Customs Office which announced that the Fisheries Division of the INRA (Agrarian Reform Institute) declared a closed season on the capture of sea shrimp ("camaron de mar") April 1 to April 30, 1960, both dates inclusive.

Cuba (Contd.):

Five days after the closed season became effective, it was forbidden to transport, sell, or store live or frozen shrimp. (United States Embassy in Habana, April 6, 1960.)



Denmark

**HERRING MEAL
EXPORTS THREATENED:**

Denmark's export of herring and other fish meals is in serious jeopardy because of lower-price, higher-quality fish meals coming from Peru, states a Danish newspaper *Kristelig Dagblad* (Independent Daily). The paper cites the Ministry of Fisheries as saying that Peru has driven Denmark completely out of the United States and French markets, and that sales to the United Kingdom have been reduced by 50 percent, all since the beginning of 1960. (United States Embassy in Copenhagen, April 1, 1960.)



Ecuador

**EXCHANGE REGULATIONS
MODERATED ON SHRIMP EXPORTS:**

The Ecuadoran Monetary Board Resolution 352 eased existing exchange regulations on shrimp exports with a view to promoting exports. Shrimp exporters now are required to turn in only the first US\$100 per metric ton of the f.o.b. price received to the Central Bank at the official rate (Sucre 15 per US\$1.00). Heretofore, shrimp exporters were required to turn in the first US\$300 per metric ton of the f.o.b. price received.

The Board's action reflects not only interest in expanding exports but the country's ability to grant free exchange privileges to exporters in increasing degree. Exports of shrimp have been increasing sharply and were valued at close to US\$4 million f.o.b. in 1959. Ecuador has expressed keen interest in the reported consideration by the United States Congress of restricting foreign

shrimp imports. (U. S. Embassy in Quito, April 8, 1960.)



French Polynesia

**DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING
INDUSTRY UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

Fishing, while traditionally important in French Polynesia, is still primarily conducted to supply the local demand for fresh fish. The Government would like to place it on an industrial basis, both in order to augment local food resources and to create an additional export industry. During 1959, an expert from Paris on fishing and fish preservation, conducted a study in the Territory, and his recommendations for the establishment of this industry are due. At present the local population is suspicious of frozen fish, but at the same time likes canned fish. Thus when catches are good, prices in Papeete are very low, but otherwise they tend to be abnormally high and imports of canned fish are required.

As indicated, the Government hopes soon to eliminate the paradox presented by the importation of canned fish into this island territory which abounds with fish. The Administration intends to participate in the establishment of a large-scale fishing industry and the installation of facilities for fish processing and the manufacture of byproducts. (United States Consulate in Suva, March 10, 1960.)



French West Africa

TUNA FISHERY:

An important conference on Senegal's tuna fishing and canning industries in Dakar was held in Dakar on January 29-30, 1960. It was attended by several Senegalese Ministers and high officials, delegates from the French government and fishing interests as well as local canners. They discussed the problems pertaining to the development of the tuna resource, 16,000 metric tons of which are expected to be obtained this season. They believe, with some justification, that annual production could reach 50,000

French West Africa (Contd.):

tons in a few years, the greater part of which would be exported canned or frozen outside the franc area.

A new tuna cannery built in two months by the Societe des Pecheurs de France began operating on January 30, 1960. It can process 40 tons of fish a day, the United States Consul at Dakar reported on March 7, 1960.

**Honduras****RESTRICTIONS ON SHRIMP FISHING TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED:**

Shrimp fishing operations off the Bay Islands of Honduras came to a virtual halt during the summer months of 1959 when the National Congress approved a fishing law which limited fishing activities by foreigners except for sport, scientific purposes, or personal consumption. In the event the catch is to be used for "exploitation or profit," the law declared that "only resident Hondurans and Honduran corporations, at least 51 percent of whose capital belongs to Honduras, may obtain permits or licenses to fish."

However, the Minister of Natural Resources was subsequently given authority to grant temporary permits, since the Executive Branch hoped that the Congress would reconsider the fishing law and approve a version which would be more favorable for the development of the fishing resources of the country. As of March 28, 1960, the Congress had failed to act, according to a dispatch of the same date from the United States Embassy in Tegucigalpa.

**Iceland****BRITISH FISHING VESSELS LEAVE FISHING BANKS OFF ICELAND:**

On March 14, 1960, all British trawlers and accompanying naval escorts left Iceland's 12-mile fishing waters at the height of an unusually good season. The press estimated that shortly before the withdrawal ordered by the Association of

British Trawler Owners for the Law of the Sea Conference period, 40 to 50 British trawlers were fishing in the waters near Iceland. The press also noted that this was the first time in 80 years that the Icelandic fishing banks were free of British fishing boats.

Since September 1, 1958, when Iceland unilaterally declared jurisdiction over the fisheries out to 12 miles, 273 United Kingdom fishing vessels have been reported fishing inside the 12-mile limit off the Icelandic coast. (Report of March 18 from United States Embassy, Reykjavik.)

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COMPETITION FOR FISH STOCKS CAUSES CONCERN:

The increasing competition for available fish stocks is causing concern in Iceland's fishing industry. The Social Democratic newspaper early in April again reminded its readers that this competition, particularly from the Soviet Union, becomes more serious each day. It cited the Soviet goal of self-sufficiency in fish by 1965. As a means of meeting increasing competition, the newspaper stated, Iceland must guarantee high-quality fish and must seek markets all over the world. (U. S. Embassy report from Reykjavik, April 20, 1960.)

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DISAGREEMENT ON EX-VESSEL FISH PRICES:

The National Federation of Icelandic Fisheries Owners and the Freezing Plants Corporation in mid-March could not agree on ex-vessel prices for fish. This dispute between the fishermen and motorboat owners is over a higher amount demanded by the fishermen for each kilogram of fish caught than the freezing plants are willing to grant.

On March 21, the vessel owners still unable to reach agreement with the fish-freezing plants on the price of cod and haddock, unilaterally announced an ex-vessel price of Ikr. 2.65 per kilogram (about 3.16 U. S. cents a pound at rate of 38 kronur equal US\$1) for net fish.

The freezing plants had been offering a much lower price which averaged Ikr.

Iceland (Contd.):

2.20 per kilogram (about 2.63 U. S. cents a pound).

This disagreement over fish prices is something which occurs each year. This season, however, there is added Government determination that wages shall not rise. (March 18 and 24, 1960, reports from the United States Embassy, Reykjavik.)

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EVENTS AT LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE FOLLOWED CLOSELY:

Interest in the Law of the Sea Conference in Geneva, at which Iceland is represented by a relatively powerful delegation made up of members of all four Althing parties, continued to run high during the latter part of March 1960. The press gave daily front page attention to the proceedings, and continued to reflect unqualified unanimity behind Iceland's position. The newspaper Morgunbladid (Independence Party) probably spoke the national sentiment when it characterized the conference as of "overriding importance insofar as Iceland's economy and independence are concerned." Public support of the Canadian position appeared to be undivided. On the other hand, a Morgunbladid headline declared, "The United States' Proposal Is Still the Most Dangerous One for Iceland." The newspaper Visir (Independence Party) stated emphatically that Iceland's future aim must be the whole continental shelf.

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FISH FARMING PROJECT PROPOSED:

An Icelandic citizen is planning a fish-farming project to raise principally sea trout (Salmo trutta trutta) for export. He has acquired a tract of land on the Snaefells Peninsula (in Western Iceland) adjoining a bay, and by damming up an arm of the bay he expects to create a large fish pond of 20,000 to 25,000 square meters (23,920-29,000 square yards). In one section he plans to hatch the trout eggs in fresh water, and then raise them in the brackish water section. He plans to feed the fish by placing fish waste from fish processing plants in the

water as food for plankton, which in turn would nourish the sea trout. This method of culture has been verified by a Professor in the Fisheries Department, University of Washington, Seattle, who visited Iceland in 1959.

By raising and exporting principally sea trout, the University of Iceland Research Council has estimated that the project could gross Ikr. 3 million (US\$79,000) annually. The Parliament has under consideration an appropriation request for Ikr. 750,000 (US\$20,000) to get this project started. The export of the frozen sea trout to France, other West European markets, and to the United States is planned. The Icelandic citizen has formulated his plans with the Fisheries Department and the Director of the Fresh Water Fisheries. (United States Embassy in Reykjavik, April 7, 1960.)

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FISHERY LANDINGS, 1957-59:

Icelandic fishery landings during 1959 were 11.8 percent higher than in 1958 and 29.4 percent higher than during 1957. Cod and ocean perch landings were down, but landings of herring and flounder were up in 1959 as compared with 1958. (Aegir, February 15, 1959.)

Icelandic Landings ^{1/} by Species, 1957-59			
Species	1959	1958	1957
 (Metric Tons)		
Flounders:			
Plaice	875	569	1,320
Lemon sole	231	157	1,157
Megrim	640	364	143
Witch	157	160	100
Dab	34	23	1
Halibut	1,048	844	914
Skate	653	731	209
Cod	232,052	235,448	201,160
Haddock	18,705	18,753	20,083
Ling	2,211	3,304	2,684
Wolffish (catfish)	8,745	9,547	8,824
Ocean perch (redfish)	99,329	109,920	61,552
Saithe	12,008	11,891	14,376
Cusk	3,032	4,615	3,386
Herring	182,887	107,318	117,495
Other	1,800	1,394	2,923
Total	564,407	505,038	436,327

^{1/}Except for herring which are landed round, all fish are landed drawn.

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MANPOWER SHORTAGE FELT BY FISHING FLEET:

The Icelandic fishing fleet continues to receive new fishing vessels at a high

Iceland (Contd.):

rate. This points up the problem as to whether enough manpower is available in Iceland itself to man the fleet.

Only a few Faroese crew members have gone to Iceland to work, despite the recent lifting of a ban on working on Icelandic vessels by the Faroese Fishermen's Union. The press reported on March 17 that some British and Polish seamen had signed-on to man Icelandic fishing vessels.

Although a trickle of manpower is coming in from the outside, there is no doubt that it will fail to make up for the normal influx of about 800 Faroese seamen which usually takes place in the spring. This was despite reported unemployment in the Faroe Islands and an unusually good spring cod season for the Icelanders. A number of Icelandic trawlers continued to tie-up at the dock, reportedly for lack of crewmen. (March 18 report from the United States Embassy, Reykjavik.)

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MARKET FOR HERRING SOUGHT IN THE UNITED STATES:

Approximately 2,000 metric tons of frozen herring from the 1959 catch remain unsold due to failure of Soviet Bloc countries to buy their usual quotas.

This frozen herring, valued at Ikr. 12 million (about US\$315,790), will spoil if it goes unsold; therefore, the owners are making strenuous efforts to sell it in non-Communist countries. The Federation of Cooperative Societies contracted for delivery during April 1960 of 250 tons of frozen herring to West Germany, and the Freezing Plants Corporation recently shipped 45 tons to the United States in an attempt to interest buyers there.

Iceland has been singularly unsuccessful in selling salted herring in the United States during the past two years. The Managing Director of the Herring Production Board left for the United States in April to seek markets for salted herring. This and the Freezing Plants Corporation's winter and April

shipments of frozen herring to the United States indicate renewed efforts to promote Icelandic herring sales outside the Communist Bloc. (United States Embassy in Reykjavik, April 20, 1960.)

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MARKETING SURVEY FOR CANNED FISH IN UNITED STATES:

The Icelandic Government's Coordinating Committee for Foreign Aid, the Federation of Icelandic Cooperative Societies (Samband), and the Icelandic Fisheries Association plans for the marketing survey for Icelandic canned products in the United States are completed, according to a March 18, 1960, dispatch from the United States Embassy in Reykjavik.

It is proposed that the services of a United States marketing expert be engaged for a period of two months to collect data on marketing possibilities in the United States for Icelandic canned products (including, but not limited to, herring, seafood products, lamb and lamb stew).

It is hoped that the project will get under way during July 1960, but in any event it must start by September 1960.

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TRAWLER OFFICERS' DISPUTE SETTLED:

On March 22, 1960, the officers employed on Icelandic trawlers announced their intention to go on strike March 30 unless prior agreement was reached with the Association of Steam Trawler Owners on wage increases. The difficulty goes back to 1958 when the deckhands received a wage increase which the officers have since been trying to match. Both categories receive a basic wage plus a bonus dependent on the fish catch. The improvement sought by the officers in their basic salary would amount to approximately a 35-percent increase in their total income.

The dispute was settled March 31 through efforts of the State Labor Mediator. Since only two trawlers were in port to take part in the strike, its effects were minimal.

Iceland (Contd.):

Representatives of the Trawler Owners Association and the unions of the various trawler officer groups agreed to an increase of about 42 percent in bonuses based on the fish catch. No basic wage settlement was made, the United States Embassy in Reykjavik reported on March 24, 1960.



India

SMALL MODEL FISH-MEAL PLANT
NOW IN OPERATION:

A small fish-meal plant, developed by a United States-educated fisheries engineer, was demonstrated in June 1959 in Bandra, Bombay. The plant was the first of its kind in India and was built entirely to suit local conditions. It requires no power and it consists of a double-jacketed dryer, a superheater, boiler and furnace, all built as one compact unit. The plant can be operated on any fuel available. Cost of operation is low, and each unit can handle some 5,000 pounds of raw fish per 24 hours. The plant is expected to cost about Rs. 6,000 (about US\$1,270).

One plant was expected to go into production in February at Manipal, District Udipi, Mysore State.



Italy

SPECIAL LICENSE SUSPENDED
ON MOST FISHERY IMPORTS
FROM DOLLAR AREA:

The Government of Italy no longer requires that special licenses be obtained for a number of commodities imported into that country from the United States and other nations in the dollar area. Thus, U. S. exporters of certain fishery products were placed on an equal basis, as far as tariff treatment is concerned, with exporters of similar products from non-dollar area countries.

The following fishery products were included among the items liberalized:

(1) fish--fresh, chilled, or frozen; salted or in brine, dried, or smoked; canned (in hermetically sealed containers); (2) crustaceans and molluscs (whether in shell or not)--fresh, chilled, or frozen; salted or in brine, dried, or smoked; and (3) fish and shellfish meal.

Still requiring special import licenses, however, were imports of fish oils, canned crustaceans and molluscs, and shelled crustaceans simply boiled in water (for example, peeled shrimp simply boiled in water).



Japan

SUMMER ALBACORE SEASON
EXPECTED TO BEGIN
EARLIER THAN USUAL:

It is generally conceded by Japanese observers that the 1960 Japanese summer albacore season will begin earlier than usual. The great mass of cold water which formed last fall off Shizuoka Prefecture coast still maintains a great strength and the Black Current is forced to go round its southern side and move northward along the Izu Seven Islands. Coming close to shore at the Nojimazaki Point, it reached the coast of Kinkazan, Miyagi Prefecture, late in March.

For this reason water temperatures along the coast late in March were 1° or 2° C. (1.8°-3.6° F.) higher than usual, and off the Nojimazaki Point were about 4° C. (7.2° F.) higher. This means that spring has come sooner to the sea and by mid-April the vanguard of summer albacore schools was expected.

News of the appearance of skipjack (small fish ranging in size from 9-13 pounds) at various points along the coast of Central Honshu was received late in March. This species, too, was about one month earlier than usual and substantiated the belief that spring oceanic conditions were beginning to prevail.

According to a spokesman for the Shimizu fish market, he had never seen skipjack landings as early as this spring. The earliest landings are usually seen in the beginning of April. He predicted

Japan (Contd.)

an early beginning of summer albacore fishing under the prevailing conditions.

The Fisheries Research Institute of Tokai University is reported to have stated that summer albacore fishing will begin earlier this year. The present oceanic conditions are similar to those in 1954 and 1955. In those years, skipjack fishing was very good but that of summer albacore was normal. In 1959, the summer albacore fishing was extremely poor but this year winter albacore fishing was fair. Good conditions, therefore, for the coming summer albacore fishing prevail. At any rate, although information with which to judge the summer fishery is incomplete, normal albacore fishing can be reasonably expected at least. (Fisheries Economic News, March 30, 1960.)

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STUDY OF ALBACORE SPAWNING
IN BONIN ISLANDS AREA PLANNED:

The theory is generally accepted at the present time that the principal spawning ground of albacore in the North Pacific is the area, approximately 10°-30° north latitude, under the influence of the North Equator Current and that the peak of the albacore spawning season is in the summer.

In order to verify this theory, the Nankai-ku Fisheries Research Institute will send its research vessel Shimyo Maru to waters around the Bonin Islands in June-July to conduct an oceanic investigation.

The international investigation of albacore tuna came up for discussion at the Japan-United States tuna conference held in Tokyo in October 1959. It was proposed at that time that the tuna investigations would be conducted jointly, but later it was decided that the investigations would be carried out individually. However, it was agreed that, after completion of the investigations, biological data would be exchanged.

The investigation of albacore spawning in the designated area had not been made thoroughly up to the present time.

If detailed knowledge of the albacore spawning ground in the North Pacific is obtained through the joint undertaking by Japan and the United States during the summer months, an important key to the knowledge of tuna resources will be acquired and results of the investigation are expected to produce much in connection with the development of new albacore fishing grounds. (Fisheries Economic News, March 26, 1960.)

* * * * *

FROZEN TUNA EXPORT QUOTAS
ESTABLISHED FOR 1960:

The 1960 export quotas for frozen tuna have been set up, according to a report of agreement reached at a mid-March meeting of the Export Frozen Tuna Fisheries Association Atlantic tuna liaison committee.

The quotas approved were slightly different than those reported earlier and are as follows:

Yellowfin 35,000 metric tons for direct shipments from Japan; for transshipped exports, voyages will be limited to 100 or less with the quantity in proportion to direct shipments as a premise. Loins 3,000 tons. Albacore 30,000 tons. Quotas for Italy set at 15,000 tons of tuna.

At the March 15 directors' meeting of Japan Frozen Foods Exporters Association, reports on 1960 (April 1960-March 1961) frozen tuna export regulations for Italy, frozen tuna loins export regulations, those for the frozen broadbill swordfish, and allocations of frozen albacore exports to the United States and Canada were discussed. They were approved as originally introduced and were expected to be presented to an emergency general meeting.

A meeting of the Italian division of the Association was also held. The report of the director of a Japanese fishing company, who is traveling in Europe, pointed out that the Italian tuna importers had stated that in addition to direct receipts from Japanese vessels, Japanese frozen tuna was finding its way in large quantities to Italy via Yugoslavia, France, and other countries.

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Japan (Contd.):

EXPORTS OF FROZEN TUNA:

The Japan Frozen Tuna Export Sales Company compiled data on frozen tuna exports shipped from Japan from March 1, 1959, through February 1960. Frozen albacore amounted to 25,800 short tons, yellowfin to 22,900 tons, and loins to 3,970 tons. Prices (f.o.b. per short ton) ranged from a low of US\$270 to a high of US\$420 for albacore, US\$220 to US\$255 for yellowfin; prices of loins were \$730-\$885 for albacore and \$565-\$635 for yellowfin. There was a considerable fluctuation of prices during the year.

The spread in albacore prices was particularly wide because the 1959 summer albacore catch was only about half that of 1958 (24.8 million pounds), and competition between canners and freezers sent the ex-vessel price up and also for a time raised the export price. Later an increase in transshipments due to good fishing in the Atlantic brought the price down again.

Yellowfin came under regulation beginning with the 1959 export year, but because of an increase in United States demand and the problems connected with the quality and recovery of shipboard-frozen fish transshipped directly from the Atlantic fishery to the United States, exports from Japan showed a rapid increase. Loins attained the 3,000-ton quota for the 1959 export year, and are showing a stabilized trade pattern. (Nippon Suisan Shimbun, March 28, 1960.)

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CANNED LIGHTMEAT TUNA PRICE TO CANADA RAISED SLIGHTLY:

Japan Export Canned Tuna Manufacturers Association at its directors' meeting on March 11, 1960, discussed a new price list for exports to Canada. The price for Canada was raised by about ¥100 (about 25 U. S. cents) per case for lightmeat with no change for whitemeat.

Prices for exports to the United States were to be discussed at the next meeting.

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THIRD SALE OF CANNED TUNA FOR EXPORT TO UNITED STATES:

Japan Canned Foods Exporters Association is expecting the third sale of canned tuna for export to the United States soon, according to the Fisheries Economic News of March 31, 1960. Because stocks on hand are light at present, only 100,000 cases of whitemeat and 100,000 cases of lightmeat tuna will be put on sale. The prices will be \$10.15 on whitemeat and \$6.80 a case f.o.b. on lightmeat tuna, as in the recent past.

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STUDY OF OVERSEAS MARKET FOR CANNED TUNA:

The Japan Export Canned Tuna Manufacturers Association at its directors' meeting on March 11, 1960, discussed the sending of teams to the United States, Europe, and Asia to study the overseas market for canned tuna.

The United States and European teams were scheduled to leave Japan early in April. Length of the trip was to be about a month. The sending of the Asiatic team was postponed.

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POLICY ON TUNA MOTHERSHIP OPERATIONS:

The Japanese Fishery Agency is reported to have started to consider its licensing policies for the mothership tuna fishery in 1960. Last year the policy was to grant permission to those firms that had past records (4 fleets operated in 1959), but this year a new policy may be adopted in connection with the reorganization of Japan's northern seas fisheries. The fishery companies' views are: (1) expansion of operation area, (2) use of catchers carried on board the motherships, and (3) licensing of new mothership fleets.

The Fishery Agency seems to be reluctant at present to expand the operational area but a study will be made on small catchers carried aboard the motherships and increased number of motherships resulting from reorganization of fisheries in northern seas.

Japan (Contd.):

Each mothership company is busy making preparations and asking authorities in charge to clarify their stand regarding this year's policy. (Fisheries Economic News, March 25, 1960.)

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LARGE-SIZE TUNA VESSEL LAUNCHED:

At the Shimizu shipyard of a Japanese firm, a large size tuna vessel-freezer-carrier, Eio Maru, 1,280 tons, was launched for one of the large Japanese fishing companies.

The ship was expected to be completed at the end of April and sail for the Indian Ocean to carry out tuna fishing, using its 19-ton catcher, carried on board. (Fisheries Economic News, March 30, 1960.)

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CRAB FACTORYSHIP SAILS FOR BRISTOL BAY:

The Japanese crab factoryship Tokai Maru (5,286 tons) left the port of Hakodate, April 5, 1960, for Bristol Bay, Alaska, to fish and process king crabs. The vessel is jointly operated by two Japanese fishing companies.

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FISHING COMPANY STARTS TRAWLING OPERATION IN NORTH AFRICA:

A Japanese fishing company has established a joint fishing company at Tangier, Morocco, Africa, to carry out trawling operations. The Japanese ves-

sel Taiyo Maru No. 6, which is a part of the Japanese investment in the enterprise, is understood to be on its way to Italy with its first catch. With extremely abundant bottomfish, including sea bream, the value of the fishing ground is considered high. The Japanese firm is said to be planning to send 5 trawlers of the 1,300-ton class and begin regular trawling operations. It also plans a cold-storage facility at nearby Las Palmas in the Canary Islands (Spanish territory).

The Japanese firm's plan was for the operations to begin in May. Catches will be landed at the Las Palmas base and sorted out for Europe and Japan. A thorough investigation of local conditions is being expedited. The Spanish, however, are said to be planning to refuse permission for the Japanese to operate out of Las Palmas unless their joint investment formula is accepted. Also, Spanish registration is required for operations in its territorial waters and shipments of some of the catch to Japan must take the form of exports from Spain.

Trawling operations are planned in the area, south of 25° South latitude off the eastern coast of Africa. At present, plans call for two trawlers of the 1,300-ton class to operate in the designated area.

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FISHING VESSELS LICENSED FOR CONSTRUCTION, APRIL 1, 1959-MARCH 31, 1960:

From April 1, 1959, to March 31, 1960, the Japanese Fisheries Agency issued licenses for 1,062 fishing vessels (including 16 Government vessels)--a total of

Japanese Fishing Vessels Licensed for Construction, April 1, 1959-March 31, 1960

Vessel Type	Total		Steel		Wood	
	Number	Gross Tons	Number	Gross Tons	Number	Gross Tons
Whale catcher	3	1,068	2	1,039	1	29
Otter trawler	6	9,023	6	9,023	-	-
East China Sea trawler	100	8,180	95	7,833	5	347
Medium trawler	134	5,786	22	1,906	112	3,880
Tuna boats	322	39,823	93	28,969	229	10,854
Seiners	145	6,040	61	3,584	84	2,456
Mackerel pole and line	42	1,638	-	-	42	1,638
Lift netters	42	1,685	3	252	39	1,433
Miscellaneous long-liners	109	5,305	12	878	97	4,427
Salmon gill-netters	68	3,239	16	1,335	52	1,904
Carriers	22	20,473	7	20,040	15	433
Government vessel	16	2,406	8	1,935	8	471
Other	53	1,504	-	-	53	1,504
Totals	1,062	106,170	325	76,794	737	29,376

Japan (Contd.):

106,170 gross tons. The total vessels licensed for construction included 325 steel vessels (76,794 gross tons) and 737 wooden vessels (29,376 gross tons). Eighteen vessels totaling 1,205 gross tons were licensed for construction, but the licenses were withdrawn during the fiscal year. The 325 steel vessels averaged 236.3 gross tons and the 737 wooden vessels averaged 39.9 gross tons in size.

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FISH MEAL AND FLOUNDER FACTORYSHIP OPERATIONS IN BERING SEA FOR 1960:

This year there will be a total of four Japanese fleets producing fish meal and flatfish in North Pacific waters, two operated by the Hokuyo Suisan Company, one by Taiyo Gyogyo, and one by Nippon Suisan. They were due to leave their bases between April 16-22 for about four months of operation in the Bering Sea. This year a total fish-meal production of 53,500 tons is planned. Of this quantity, about 36,000 tons will be for export and the remaining 17,500 tons will be sold on the domestic market.

The first fish-meal factoryship operation was conducted by the Hokuyo Suisan Company with one fleet in 1958. In 1959 there were two such fleets, and this year full-scale operations will be carried on with four fleets. The industry considers that four fleets is probably the limit, in terms of fishing grounds and the fishery resource. Even in last year's operations, competition with the flatfish freezing fleets became somewhat of a problem, and from the standpoint of the resource an operating scale of four fish-meal fleets seems likely to become the standard. However, in terms of breaking even financially, all of the companies fear that operating for fish-meal production alone will be unprofitable, and so they are placing more emphasis on frozen products, liver oil, solubles, and other byproducts in order to utilize all the raw material. The companies--Taiyo Gyogyo and Nippon Suisan--which are newly entering the field, are also looking at fish-meal operations as a compensation for the cutback of their salmon fishing, but they are taking a cautious view of the profit possibilities, and for that reason this year's fish-meal fishery will be watched with great interest.

Composition of the fleets and production plans are as follows:

Hokuyo Suisan Company: Kinyo Maru fleet: 24 fishing boats (16 pair trawlers, 8 single trawlers), 1 scouting boat. Planned catch, 48,000 tons of raw fish. Planned production, 13,500 tons of meal, 450 tons of liver oil, and 200 tons of frozen fish. Renshin Maru fleet: 27 fishing boats (22 pair trawlers, 5 single trawlers), and 2 scouting boats. Planned catch, 99,000 tons of raw fish. Planned production, 14,000 tons of meal, 450 tons of liver oil, 2,500 tons of solubles, and 4,000 tons of frozen products.

Taiyo Gyogyo Company: Soyo Maru fleet: 30 fishing boats (14 pair trawlers, 16 single trawlers). Planned production, 13,000 tons of meal, 6,500 tons of frozen products, and 3,800 tons of solubles.

Nippon Suisan Company: Gyokuei Maru fleet: 25 fishing boats (11 pair trawlers 1/2, 14 single trawlers). Planned catch, 85,079 tons of raw fish. Planned production, 13,068 tons of meal, 2,650 tons of frozen products, 750 tons of liver oil, and 1,500 tons of solubles.

The Kinyo Maru and the Renshin Maru were due to sail from Hakodate on April 16, the Soyo Maru sailed from Tokyo on the 13th, and the Gyokuei Maru was due to sail from Kobe on April 22.

A reception was held at Yokohama on April 11 aboard the Hokuyo Suisan Company's new fish-meal ship Renshin Maru (14,094 gross tons), a former oil tanker. The reception was attended by the Director and former Director of the Japanese Fisheries Agency.

The President of the Hokuyo Suisan Company stated that his ambition was to change fish-meal from a food for chickens and pigs to a food for humans, and that this was why the Renshin Maru has been equipped with refrigeration and with a filleting and fish-skinning machine.

The Renshin Maru is 167 meters long, 21 meters abeam, and has a 7,000 hp. Diesel engine giving a speed of 14 knots. Equipment includes two fish-meal lines, giving a daily production capacity of 100 tons; one fish skinning and filleting machine handling 30-40 fish per minute; freezing capacity of 40 tons per day; and refrigerated cargo space for 2,000 tons. (Nippon Suisan Shimbun, April 13, 1960.)

1/Obviously can't have an odd number of pair trawlers. Real distinction is between trawlers of type licensed to fish west of 130° E. longitude, mostly over 55 tons and mostly pair trawlers, and boats licensed only to fish east of that longitude, which are mostly under 50 tons and mostly single trawlers.

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HERRING CATCH OF ABOUT 9,000 TONS IN BERING SEA EXPECTED:

Two Japanese fishing companies expect to do experimental fishing for herring, using boats attached to the fish-meal fleets which are operating in the Bering Sea. According to the two Companies' tentative plans, the Kinyo Maru fleet is to catch 3,000 metric tons, while the Gyokei Maru fleet is scheduled to catch about 2,000 tons. In addition, one company will send its Shinyo Maru fleet and the other company its Itsukushima Maru fleet into the Bering Sea for mothership-type frozen flatfish operations, and these fleets will take, respectively, about 2,700 tons and 1,000 tons of herring. Thus the total planned herring catch for the two companies is about 8,700 tons. (Suisan Keizai Shimbun, April 13, 1960.)

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NORTH PACIFIC MOTHERSHIP SALMON FLEET REDUCED IN 1960:

The Japanese North Pacific mothership salmon fishing fleets in 1960 will consist of 12 motherships and 410 catcher vessels. This compares with a fleet of 16 motherships and 460 catcher vessels in 1959. The same five Japanese fishing companies will participate in the 1960 salmon fishery.

One firm with 6 motherships and 173 catchers in 1959 will have 4 motherships and 154 catchers in 1960. A second firm with 5 motherships and 145 catchers in

Japan (Contd.):

1959 will operate 4 motherships and 129 catchers in 1960. Two additional firms which operated 4 motherships (one mothership was a joint venture) and 114 catchers are allowed 2 motherships and 66 catchers in the case of one of the firms and 1 mothership and 36 catchers for the other firm. The fifth firm will operate one mothership in 1960 as in 1959, but catchers are reduced from 28 in 1959 to 25 in 1960.

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FORMER SALMON MOTHERSHIP TO ENTER BERING SEA FISHERY:

The former salmon mothership Meisei Maru, purchased about March 1960 from the Nichiro Fishing Company by the Hokuyo Suisan Company, has been renamed the Shinyo Maru. She is to be sent to the Bering Sea to produce frozen crab on the following production plan: 200 tons of frozen crab (equivalent to 20,000 cases of canned crab), 2,700 tons of frozen herring, 700 tons of frozen cod, and 400 tons of frozen rockfish and Alaska pollock. (Nippon Suisan Shimbum, April 13, 1960.)

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ANTARCTIC WHALING CATCH HIGHER FOR 1959/60:

After some indecision, the Japanese Fisheries Agency called a halt to the 1959/60 Antarctic whaling season at midnight, March 26, and the six Japanese whaling fleets left for home. In this, the first postwar season in which the catch limit set by the International Whaling Commission was inoperative, because of the withdrawal of Norway and the Netherlands, the Japanese fleets took a total of 5,217 blue-whale units. This was the largest Antarctic whale catch made by Japanese whalers in the postwar period, and was 179 blue-whale units more than the Japanese caught in the 1958/59 season.

Norway was reported to have caught a total of 4,112 units as of March 26. The European fleets, however, remained on the whaling grounds in an attempt to improve their catches in the last few days of the season, which under Whaling Commission rules ended April 7.

Not all of the three Japanese operating companies fared equally well this season. The two fleets of one company filled their initial catch quota as well as the increase granted by the Fisheries Agency just before the end of the season. The two fleets of another company filled the company's initial quota, but ended with 41 units short of the additional quota. But this company's factoryship No. 2 Nisshin Maru, with a catch of 1,121 units, was the top boat among all of the Antarctic fleets, except for the two Soviet expeditions.

It had been anticipated that Antarctic whaling this season, with two countries' fleets operating outside of the 15,000-unit over-all catch limit of the Whaling Commission, might result in an excessively large catch of 17,000-18,000 units. This danger seems to have faded now, as the total catch by all countries as of March 26, was only 14,676 units (total as of April 7 was estimated to be about 15,437 units). Reports reaching Japan from the Antarctic have tended to blame the generally poor whaling this season on bad weather. However, if the European whalers ascribe their poor performance to a scarcity of whales, there should be a renewed interest in getting all of the Antarctic whalers back under the regulations of the International Whaling Commission. (United States Embassy in Tokyo reported on April 1, 1960.)

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LICENSE FOR NEW NORTH PACIFIC WHALING FLEET REQUESTED:

Officers of two large Japanese fishing companies called on the Director of the Japanese Fisheries Agency on April 11, 1960, to present their companies' joint request for permission to engage in mothership-type whaling operations in the North Pacific. The Director of the Fisheries Agency did not give immediate approval.

The plan of the two companies calls for use of the Dutch mothership Bremendal (10,725 tons, 2,400 hp. Diesel, 13 knots speed) with seven of the 700-ton catcher boats belonging to the Dutch William Barentz fleet. The catch would be 600 blue-whale units of baleen whales the first year only, with 800 units thereafter, and 300 sperm whales.

Japan (Contd.):

It was pointed out to the applicants that using the vessels of a country that has abrogated the Whaling Convention raises a moral problem, and furthermore it was agreed at the meeting of the International Whaling Commission that no aid would be given to the nations which left the Convention. (Nikkan Suisan Tsushin, April 12, 1960.)



Korea

PROCESSORS CLOSE CONTRACTS FOR SHRIMP IN APRIL:

After a lull during March 1960, two Korean shrimp processors resumed activities during April. A US\$8,000 contract with the U. S. Army was signed. Also, a contract valued at US\$13,000 for frozen shrimp for export was closed with private business interests.



Kuwait

U. S. FIRM STARTS FISHING FOR SHRIMP:

An American firm in Kuwait has started fishing for shrimp, which are then frozen and exported, according to a March 26, 1960, report from the United States Consul in Kuwait.

Fishing in Kuwait (south of Iraq on the northwest coast of Persian Gulf) is carried out by small craft using primitive methods. These craft catch just about enough fish to take care of local needs, but none for export.



Libya

FISHERIES TRENDS, FOURTH QUARTER 1959:

The Tripolitanian fishing and canning operations were extended to late September 1959 by the appearance of a Japanese deep-sea trawler fleet. Fishing activity returned to its dormant pattern,

however, during the last quarter of 1959, but canning was reported to have extended to mid-quarter.

Available statistics regarding exports of fresh fish from Tripolitania indicate a considerable decrease from the amounts exported in 1958 for the same period. High domestic prices indicated that the catch was not being sold locally and that the production was proportionately also less than recorded for 1958, which was considered a good year.

Statistics on the landings of tuna were unavailable for the last quarter of 1959, but it is believed that the Japanese fleet increased the landings of tuna. Export of canned tuna reached record proportions in July and August 1959, but leveled off in September. During May-September 1959, 457 metric tons of canned fish were exported as compared with 255 tons exported in the same period of 1958, and 458 tons in May-September 1957. Indications are that exports during October-December 1959 will show a significant increase over levels of former years, due to the time lag in processing the catch.

There was no officially-recorded activity among the once flourishing Cyrenaican sponge fishing industry and consequently no landings. The Tripolitanian sponge industry also appears to have deteriorated further over levels of former years. Statistics for sponge exports at mid-1959 showed a countrywide total of 685 kilos (1,500 pounds) exported as compared with a total of 26,000 kilos (57,320 pounds) for all of 1958, and about 27,000 kilos (59,524 pounds) in 1957. Deep-sea fishing boats, mostly of Greek origin, made port in the country's harbors from time to time for provisioning and to escape some violent gales during the latter part of 1959.

Some observers feel that Libyan impediments to coastal sponge fishing by foreign divers might wreak severe harm to the sponge beds which require regular harvesting to remain healthy. The 1959 production of sponges in Cyrenaica is as yet unknown. A long established and reliable sponge dealer in Tripolitania has confirmed earlier estimates that the Province's sponge harvest was approxi-

Libya (Contd.):

mately 6,000 kilos (13,228 pounds) at most. Prices for export in 1959 were the best in years with first-grade sponges selling at US\$22.40 a kilo (\$10.16 a pound) while fourth-grade sponges sold at US\$2.80 a kilo (\$1.27 a pound). Mixed sponges were quoted at US\$9.80-\$11.20 a kilo (\$4.45-\$5.08 a pound). According to unofficial reports the bulk of the sponges were shipped to Italy. (United States Embassy, Tripoli, February 8, 1960.)



Mexico

DECREE PROHIBITS VESSELS FROM FISHING WITHIN NINE MILES OF BORDER:

A Mexican Executive Decree dated March 26, 1960, prohibits Mexico's fishing fleets from carrying out marine fishing activities within 9 nautical miles of her boundaries with other countries. Nonfishing zones for Mexican vessels are being set up that extend 9 miles into the sea along the borders and 9 miles along the Mexican coast adjacent to the borders.

Furthermore, Mexican vessels are only authorized to fish in Mexican territorial waters or on the high seas, unless it has been properly established that another country has granted permission for Mexican vessels to fish within their territorial waters. Mexico claims 9 nautical miles as territorial waters.

This Decree, which entered into effect 10 days after publication, provides stiff penalties for violators. Permissionnaires or concessionaires, owners, proprietors, lessees, and masters are held jointly and severally liable for violations. Masters may have their licenses suspended for as much as one year. Fines amounting up to 100,000 pesos (US\$8,000) may be assessed owners etc., and those in possession of permits or concessions shall have them cancelled. Provision is also made for seizure and auction of the vessel, if necessary, to cover the amount of the fines.

The purpose of the Decree is to maintain and develop good international relations. In recent months reports have again been current that Mexican shrimp boats had been fishing in the Pacific in waters to the south of Mexico. At the end of 1958 Guatemalan airplanes fired upon Mexican shrimp boats, allegedly fishing illegally in Guatemalan waters, and several fishermen were killed. This led to a severance of relations between the two countries which lasted a number of months.

For more than a year Mexican patrol boats have been maintaining guard along the Guatemalan border in an attempt to prevent Mexican shrimpers from entering Guatemalan waters. Various boats have been detained and fines and penalties have been placed on the owners and masters. (United States Embassy, Mexico, March 29, 1960.)

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GULF OF CALIFORNIA SHRIMP FISHERY TRENDS, MARCH 1960:

The shrimp fishing fleet out of Guaymas on the west coast of Mexico was tied-up during most of the January-March 1960 period due to a dispute between the Confederacion Nacional de Cooperativas Pesqueras (National Federation of Fishery Cooperatives) and the Camara Nacional de la Industria Pesquera (National Chamber of the Fishing Industry) over the interpretation of certain clauses in their contract. The cessation of activity lasted for 74 days, during which time the 150 boats comprising the Guaymas shrimp fleet remained at anchor in the bay, and over 3,000 families dependent on this industry had no source of income. Since the boats were inactive, the shrimp freezing plants and packing plants also remained idle.

After settlement of the dispute on March 19, over half of the boats could not sail because of damages suffered during the period of inactivity. About 30 vessels had to be hauled out for repair work before they could be considered seaworthy and other vessels had gone to other ports in the Gulf of California.

Aside from the dispute at Guaymas, shrimp catches were described as medi-

Mexico (Contd.):

ocre to poor, and vessel owners reported that they were operating at a loss of over 500 pesos (about US\$45) a metric ton under the then existing agreement with the cooperatives. The prices for shrimp exported to the United States were down about 20 percent from the previous year and the industry in the Guaymas area was fearful that the increasing competition in the United States market from Far East competitors would soon force the Mexican industry out of business unless some preferential treatment could be arranged for the Mexican product. The Mazatlan shrimp industry appeared more optimistic due to the recent decline in the stocks of fresh shrimp in the United States and the increase in prices which occurred during the Guaymas shut-down.

The Mazatlan shrimp fleet of 204 vessels which was not hampered by disagreements between vessel owners and cooperatives landed a total of 3,845 metric tons of shrimp for the season from October 1959 through February 1960. Landings of shrimp have been described as "good" and better than last year, due to the heavy rains and the opening of new fishing grounds. Shrimp catches were expected to decline quite rapidly between the end of February and the beginning of the closed season on May 15. (American Consulate, Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, March 31, 1960.)

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SPINY LOBSTER AND
ABALONE FISHERIES TRENDS:

Spiny Lobster: During the 1959/60 spiny lobster fishing season in the Ensenada area of Mexico which ended on March 15, 1960, estimated landings amounted to only 1,250,000 pounds. This amount was lower by 25 percent from the 1,600,000 pounds landed during the 1958/59 season. The highest landings in the past seven seasons were made in 1954/55 when a total of 2,200,000 pounds was landed. In the 1957/58 season landings were 1,700,000 pounds, in 1956/57 season 1,800,000 pounds, in 1955/56 season 2,000,000 pounds, and in the 1953/54 season 1,969,000 pounds.

Despite the poor landings in the 1959/60 season, the Regional Federation of Fishing Cooperatives was able to repay the Banco de Fomento Cooperative the current loan of about US\$120,000 and amortize about \$52,000 of the \$737,000 outstanding debt.

Abalone: The landings of abalone for the season that ended on December 15, 1959, according to an unconfirmed report, amounted to about 6 million pounds.

The 1960 abalone fishing season opened on March 16, and the fishermen are predicting another good year due to new equipment which permits them to fish in deeper water. About 800 families are dependent on the abalone catch for a living. Due to the refusal of the Cooperative Bank to grant credit to the fishing cooperatives, they were forced to obtain necessary funds from the abalone packing firms. (United States Consulate, Tijuana, March 29, 1960.)

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STATEMENT ON LAW OF
THE SEA CONFERENCE:

A statement was released on March 10, 1960, by the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Relations concerning the Second Conference on the Law of the Sea at Geneva, which opened on March 17.

The statement announced that the Mexican delegation would push the same formula which it advocated at the First Conference, namely at flexible 3- to 12-mile limit at the option of each coastal state. However, the statement also announced that the delegation would be conciliatory and disposed to cooperate with other states in the hope of reaching a common accord. (United States Embassy, Mexico, March 11, 1960.)

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TAMPICO AREA SHRIMP FISHERY
TRENDS, APRIL 1960:

Two United States shrimp vessels were seized for alleged fishing in Mexican territorial waters at Tuxpan in early February 1960, but after being held for 10 days were released, the seizures being declared illegal. At about the same

Mexico (Contd.):

time, 6 more U. S. vessels were seized at Tampico, each one having to post a bond of 30,000 pesos (US\$2,400).

The fishing industry has been vocal in the local press against: (1) the Santos "dynasty" in Mexico City, which they feel is responsible for the sad plight of fishermen throughout the country; and (2) the poor weather that kept the fishing fleet in the port of Tampico almost continuously during January and February.

The resignation at the end of March of the Director General of Fisheries was welcomed as a step in the right direction by the Federal Government to alleviate the economic situation of the industry. The weather improved in March, but the complaint was that there was no shrimp.

An American technician on a Mexican boat states that there are no shrimp along the coast west of Campeche, which is east along the Gulf coast almost to Yucatan. Local boats will not go that far afield for shrimp, a Tampiqueno preferring to go out in the early evening to fish in local waters and to return at dawn.

Undoubtedly United States boats are operating in the vicinity of Campeche as their presence has not been reported in the coastal waters of Tamaulipas and Veracruz since the middle of February. (United States Consulate, Tampico, April 5, 1960.)



Netherlands

JAPANESE MAY PURCHASE
WHALING VESSELS:

Two Japanese whaling companies have approached the Netherlands Whaling Company in Amsterdam about the possibility of buying the Dutch whale-oil tanker Bloemendael, which has an estimated value of fl. 10 million (about US\$2.7 million), and some old Dutch catchers located at Capetown, South Africa. The Bloemendael was built in 1931 (at which time it was called the William Barendsz) and originally used as a factoryship. Official negotiations have not yet been held,

but it is possible that a Japanese delegation will soon visit the Netherlands for this purpose. (United States Embassy report from The Hague, April 19, 1960.)



New Hebrides

TUNA OPERATIONS:

Tuna operations in the New Hebrides (South Pacific) are conducted out of Santos by a fleet of 7 Japanese long-liners and crews. The boats are between 80 and 150 tons, carry an average of 20 men, and catch about 40 tons of yellowfin, big-eyed, and albacore tuna in a 3-week trip, which may take them to fishing grounds as far as 600 miles from their base.

The lines are generally set once a day, either at dawn or sunset, when the fish are believed most likely to take the bait, which consists of frozen mackerel-pike imported from Japan. One ton of bait is said to catch about 50 tons of tuna, if fishing is good. It takes $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours to set the lines which are left in the water $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. It takes 13 hours to haul back and ice-down the fish in the holds. The fish are packed in crushed ice, not frozen. After stowing is completed, the men sleep for three hours, when it is time to set the lines again. This goes on for three weeks, as a rule, by which time the hold is full and the vessel can return to base. If the catch is 40 tons, the vessel ties up for 24 hours only, to allow the fish to be unloaded, weighed, and put into the freezer ashore; the vessel is fueled, iced, and leaves for another three-weeks trip.

The frozen albacore tuna is sent to the United States, other products to Japan. The base employs 34 Japanese ashore, helped by 35 local workers, and 5 local Europeans. The 34 Japanese are to be replaced gradually by local workers, as soon as they can be trained. The present freezer is capable of holding about 700 tons of fish; and there is an ice-making plant of 10 tons per batch. Over 100 tons of oil are used at present per month to fuel the boats and generate electricity for the shore installations. (Pacific Islands Monthly, July 1958.)



New Zealand

REACTION TO JAPANESE FISHING IN NEW ZEALAND WATERS:

The New Zealand press reported on March 15, 1960, that the Japan Fishery Board had decided to start full-scale Japanese trawling in the waters around New Zealand this year. A New Zealand fishing industry spokesman expressed alarm at this decision, stating that New Zealand fishermen were subject to certain conservation rules while Japanese fishermen would be unregulated.

Asked for comment, the New Zealand Minister of Marine stated that "he personally and the Government would do all possible to ensure the protection of the New Zealand fishing industry." Several newspaper editorials questioned why the New Zealand fishing industry was not fully using the resources available in the area. (United States Embassy, Wellington, report of March 17, 1960.)



Norway

WINTER HERRING LANDINGS LOWEST IN 15 YEARS:

The 1960 winter herring fishery off Norway's west coast ended late in March with landings of only 299,870 metric tons (3,220,000 hectolitres)--the lowest landings since the war. The landings from the fat herring phase of the winter fishery, which ended on February 23, were about 200,000 tons. The second phase (spring herring) of the winter herring fishery added only about 100,000 tons to the 1960 season's total. The Norwegian herring industry has a capacity to handle about 1,118,000 tons (12 million hectolitres) and landings of 745,000 tons (8 million hectolitres) are needed to show a profit for the season.

The serious economic situation created by the failure of the winter herring fishery has been recognized by the Norwegian Government. A special committee has been appointed to investigate the entire matter and make recommendations for the future. In addition, the sum of about US\$700,000 has been made available for financing public works in the areas

hardest hit by the herring fishery failure. (United States Embassy dispatch from Oslo, April 13, 1960.)

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ONE-NINTH OF HERRING PURSE- SEINERS CAUGHT NO FISH IN 1960 SEASON:

A total of 50 of the 450 purse-seiners which took part in Norway's winter or fat herring fishery this year had no catch at all. About 300 of the vessels landed less than 3,000 hectoliters (270 metric tons). Crews aboard all these vessels may claim the Kr. 100 (US\$14.00) a week subsidy guaranteed by the state. (News of Norway, March 31, 1960.)



Pakistan

SURVEY FOR MOTHER-OF-PEARL IN BAY OF BENGAL PLANNED:

The Pakistan press reports that the Central Government has decided to conduct a survey of the sea bed surrounding St. Martin's Islands off the southern tip of East Pakistan to ascertain the quantity of mother-of-pearl deposits found at a depth of six fathoms in 1955. A button industry is under consideration, with the waste to be used in toothpaste manufacture. Because there are no Pakistani deep-sea divers, foreign divers and equipment will have to be used if the survey is made. (United States Embassy in Karachi, April 28, 1960.)



Peru

FISH MEAL INDUSTRY TRENDS, APRIL 1960:

Several problems of the Peruvian fishmeal industry have been before the public recently. Bad odors from nearby plants which have invaded the Lima area for several months reached a stage which forced the several municipalities to take action requiring the elimination of their causes. Plants have been given a limited period to do so. In that respect they have been aided by a labor dispute between the anchovy fishermen and the reduction plants which began on April 13, 1960.

Peru (Contd.):

The shutdown of the fish-meal plants due to the dispute has permitted cleaning of equipment and plants, and installation of new deodorizing equipment.

The labor dispute, which affects only anchovy fishermen, is concerned with the following: (1) an assured sum of S/80 (US\$2.89) per ton of fish caught for division among vessel crews; (2) larger allowances for food while at sea, (3) free paid Sundays, and (4) the same benefits as those given labor in other branches of the economy. Benefits to the anchovy

raising of new barriers against Peruvian products. (United States Embassy dispatch from Lima, April 15, 1960.)

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EXPORTS OF MARINE PRODUCTS, FOURTH QUARTER AND YEAR 1959:

Exports of principal marine products by Peru in 1959 amounted to 364,187 metric tons (valued at US\$44.6 million). Fish meal exports (277,600 tons) for 1959 were up about 138.1 percent from the 116,598 tons exported in 1958 and 308.5 percent from the 67,951 tons exported in 1957. Exports of fish oil were also

Peruvian Exports of Principal Marine Products, October-December and Year 1959						
Marine Products	Oct.-Dec. 1959			Year 1959		
	Quantity	Value ^{1/}		Quantity	Value ^{2/}	
	Metric Tons	Million Soles	US\$ 1,000	Metric Tons	Million Soles	US\$ 1,000
Fish meal	93,510	276.6	9,986	277,600	860.5	30,842
Fish (frozen, canned, etc.)	13,251	68.8	2,484	43,734	266.6	9,556
Fish oil	3,351	8.4	303	17,165	44.7	1,602
Sperm oil	2,100	7.6	274	10,004	33.9	1,215
Fertilizer (guano)	8,318	20.1	726	11,767	28.3	1,014
Whale meal	792	1.9	69	3,917	9.7	348
Total	121,322	383.4	13,842	364,187	1,243.7	44,577

^{1/}F.o.b. values, converted at rate of 27.70 soles equal US\$1 for 4th quarter of 1959.
^{2/}F.o.b. values, converted at rate of 27.90 soles equal US\$1 for 1959.

fishermen have lagged behind other industries because labor legislation has not kept pace with the rapid development of the fish meal and oil industry. The 13-day tie-up of the anchovy fishermen ended on April 26 without any settlement of the issues at stake. However, it is hoped that the differences between the fishermen and the fish meal industry will be settled by negotiation.

A special commission appointed last December has submitted regulations governing labor conditions in the fishing industry, particularly relations between vessel owners and fishermen. The regulations were promulgated April 15, but benefits provided are not applicable, however, to the anchovy fisherman.

Reports that United States and British fish-meal producers are seeking protection against Peruvian fish-meal exports have resulted in forecasts of paralyzation of many Peruvian plants, and strong suggestions that the Government and public opinion should fight the

up sharply in 1959. (United States Embassy dispatch from Lima, March 24, 1960.)

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BAN ON SHRIMP SALES LIFTED:

After three months of rigid enforcement, the Peruvian ban on the sale of shrimp was lifted on March 31, 1960. As a result of the closed season, the shrimp offered for sale was of good size and brought between S/20 and S/25 per kilo (32.7-40.9 U.S. cents a pound). About 1,400 kilos (3,086 pounds) were sold in Lima on the first day of permitted sale, most of it caught in Southern Peru, particularly in the Department of Arequipa, the United States Embassy in Lima reported in April 4, 1960.)

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FISHERIES PROGRAM FOR 1960:

The Peruvian Bureau of Fisheries and Hunting of the Ministry of Agriculture has announced that its program for the cur-

Peru (Contd.):

rent year will include: (1) an investigation of aquatic resources, principally bonito; (2) cultivation of fresh-water trout, shrimp, and other fish; and (3) technical studies on quality control and improvement of fishery products.

If projects now under study by the Ministry of Marine are carried out, a school of fisheries and navigation will be established in the near future near Ancon, a seaside resort a few miles north of Lima. (The United States Embassy dispatch from Lima, March 22, 1960.)



Philippines

BAN ON THE EXPORT OF ORNAMENTAL SEA SHELLS PROPOSED:

According to press reports, Philippines manufacturers of pearl or shell buttons requested the Secretary of Commerce and Industry to have the present ban on exports of sea shells and other raw materials extended to cover ornamental shells. They reportedly complained that local supplies of ornamental shells were inadequate to meet their needs because of exports to Japan, Italy, France, and the United States. Lack of raw materials was given as a principal reason why the Philippines was unable to fill its duty-free export quota of pearl or shell buttons to the United States. Another reason given was the illegal exportation of shells.

The Secretary is reported to have informed the button manufacturers that he would first examine available data on the annual supply of commercial and ornamental shells in the Philippines and its disposition before acting on the total ban recommendation. (The United States Embassy dispatch from Manila, April 8, 1960.)



Portugal

CANNED FISH EXPORTS, 1959:

Portugal's exports of canned fish during 1959, amounted to 76,985 metric tons (4,194,000 cases), valued at US\$39.7 million, as compared with 68,102 tons, valued at US\$36.0 million in 1958. Sardines in olive oil exported during 1959 amounted to 59,136 tons, valued at US\$29.0 million.

Species	Jan.-Dec. 1959	
	Metric Tons	US\$ 1,000
Sardines in olive oil	59,136	29,001
Sardine & sardinelike fish in brine	1,624	347
Tuna & tunalike fish in olive oil	3,936	2,777
Anchovy fillets	6,359	4,678
Mackerel in olive oil	3,236	1,636
Other fish	2,694	1,299
Total	76,985	39,738

During 1959 the leading canned fish buyer was Germany with 16,899 tons (valued at US\$8.5 million), followed by Italy with 10,199 tons (valued at US\$6.0 million), Great Britain with 7,688 tons (valued at US\$3.6 million), United States with 7,340 tons (valued at US\$5.0 million), and Belgium-Luxembourg with 5,026 tons (valued at US\$2.5 million). Exports to the United States included 2,707 tons of anchovies, 1,027 tons of tuna, 3,368 tons of sardines, and 40 tons of mackerel. (Conservas de Peixe, February 1960.)

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CANNED FISH PACK, 1959:

The total Portuguese pack of canned fish for 1959 amounted to 62,459 metric tons. Canned sardines in oil (49,438 tons) accounted for 79.2 percent of the 1959 pack, the February 1960 Conservas de Peixe reports.

Product	Net Weight	
	Metric Tons	1,000 Cases
In Olive Oil:		
Sardines	49,438	2,602
Sardinelike fish	852	44
Anchovy fillets	5,624	562
Tuna	4,495	161
Mackerel	583	23
Other species	1,467	78
Total	62,459	3,470

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Portugal (Contd.):

FISHERIES TRENDS, DECEMBER 1959:

Sardine Fishing: In December 1959 the Portuguese fishing fleet landed 10,434 metric tons of sardines (valued at US\$1,117,739 ex-vessel or about \$107 a ton). During January-December 1959 a total of 123,314 tons of sardines was landed (valued at \$11.9 million).

Canneries purchased 55.5 percent or 5,789 tons of the sardines (valued at \$687,791 ex-vessel or about \$119 a ton) during December 1959. A total of 4,622 tons was purchased for the fresh fish market and 23 tons were salted.

Other Fishing: December 1959 landings of fish other than sardines were principally 7,555 tons of chinchards (value \$264,869). (Conservas de Peixe, February 1960.)

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FISHERIES TRENDS,
FIRST QUARTER, 1960:

Sardine fishing was inactive during the first quarter of 1960, but the fleet sailed from Matosinhos on April 1, according to the United States Consulate in Oporto, presaging a record catch with this early start. The sardine closed season began on January 20 and ended in mid-March on varying dates for different ports.

Landings of sardines in 1959 (123,283 metric tons) were good in spite of the pessimistic views which prevailed at one time. While the 1959 catch was less in volume than in 1958, its over-all value was about 8 percent greater.

Canned fish exports in the first two months of 1960 were about 33 percent higher in value and volume than in 1959. The increase reflects larger sardine exports, as shipments of both anchovies and canned tuna were less than in the corresponding period of 1959. Large shipments to West Germany accounted for much of the increase.

Developments in the trawl fishery included the launching of two new trawlers--one for coastal and the other for high seas operations. A new fishing dock at Vila Real de Santo Antonio in southern Portugal was completed early this year at an estimated cost of about US\$525,000.

With hopes for a better season (1959 was poor) than they have enjoyed for the past two years, most of the cod-fishing fleet left for the Newfoundland Banks after the blessing of the fleet on April 3. There appears to be no prospects for a long-term solution to the problem of dried cod supply. The government has continued to place limited supplies on the market at regular intervals and although supplies at retail are not abundant, no serious shortage has developed. Ceiling prices, with the exception of the rise permitted in December on the highest grades, have been maintained as promised by the Secretary of State for Commerce in October 1959. Imports of dried cod in January-February have been very limited--705 metric tons as compared with 4,031 metric tons in January-February 1959, illustrating the difficulty which Portugal has had in supplementing its domestic supply with imports from the world market.

Reflecting Portugal's concern over this year's Conference on the Law of the Sea and its cod-fishing industry, the Portuguese Ambassador in Ottawa, in a press conference on February 9, said that Portugal could never accept the Canadian proposal on the law of the sea which would increase territorial waters for fishing purposes to 12 miles.

Other events in government during the first quarter of 1960 were the appointment of two committees to study fishing subjects. The first, headed by the Director of the Portuguese Institute of Marine Biology, will study metropolitan Portugal's resources of agar-bearing seaweeds. (Studies on the supply of agar-bearing seaweeds in the Azores have been completed, but the results have not been announced). The second has the more comprehensive objective of re-viewing the situation in the Portuguese fishing trade and industry, particularly with respect to the effect of government regulations. At the end of two months the committee is to recommend measures to assure a more adequate supply and more regular flow of fish to the domestic market, the United States Embassy in Lisbon reported on April 19, 1960.



Sweden

LANDINGS OF MACKEREL
LIMITED BY POOR MARKET:

The Swedish and Danish markets as of early April were overstocked with mackerel with the result that Swedish fish export organizations have had difficulties in disposing of the landings. Accordingly, effective April 11, 1960, the quantity of mackerel that may be landed in Swedish ports was limited to 25 boxes containing 40 kilos or 88 pounds per man per trip.

Swedish fishermen have for some time caught unusually large quantities of mackerel in trawls in the northern part of the North Sea. This resulted in some fishermen preferring to land their catches in ports in England and Scotland. The mackerel now, however, are moving eastwards which means shorter trips for the fishing vessels from the fishing grounds to Swedish ports. Consequently, it is expected that fishermen will now prefer to land their catches in Swedish ports rather than English and Scottish ports.

A representative of the West Coast Fishermen's Central Society stated that it is difficult to explain the present situation. However, he said there is an evident buying resistance in the case of mackerel at this time of the year, because they do not have the same taste as during the summer months. (United States Consulate dispatch from Goteborg, April 7, 1960.)

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Sweden (Contd.):

RESEARCH VESSEL RESUMES STUDIES ON SPAWNING OF SPRING HERRING:

The Swedish fishery research vessel Eystrasalt left Lysekil on March 15, 1960, for a trip in the Skagerack to investigate the spawning of spring herring along the Swedish coast. Similar investigations have been performed yearly since 1951.

The survey includes water temperature, salinities, supply of plankton, etc. The research vessel will also contact Swedish fishing boats in the area, collecting samples of the herring. The expedition is headed by the Director of the Swedish Fish Laboratory at Lysekil. (United States Consulate dispatch from Goteborg, March 17, 1960.)



Union of South Africa

STEEL VESSEL OF NEW DESIGN FOR PILCHARD FISHERY:

An all-welded steel vessel (Jakob S.) of unusual design for the pilchard fishery was launched in January 1960 by a Union of South Africa Cape Town shipyard. The vessel was scheduled to be fully completed in a few months.

In basic design and appearance, the vessel differs considerably from the conventional wooden vessel. With her deckhouse and engineroom right aft, she has an extremely spacious hold and, in capacity and performance, may introduce a new high standard to the South African West Coast inshore fishing fleet.

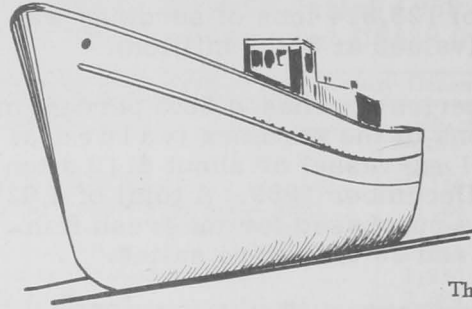
Designed by a South African naval architect, the vessel in size is slightly larger than the largest wooden vessel, measuring 64 ft. 8 in. between perpendiculars, 71 ft. over-all, 24 ft. molded breadth, and a draft of 10 ft. 3 in.

Her engineroom, situated right aft, is given ample space by the wide transom stern.

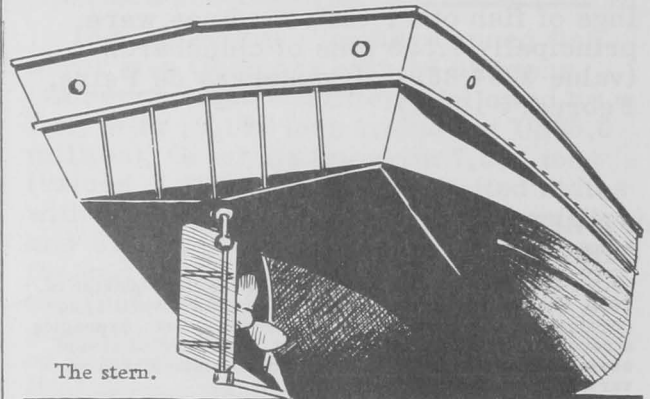
A marine Diesel engine, developing 210/230 b.h.p. at 375 r.p.m., has been

installed. The engine is equipped with a controllable pitch propeller.

In the Jakob S. the normal direct straight-line drive has been modified to meet the requirements for a fish hold of exceptionally large capacity.



The bow.



The stern.

The Jakob S., an all-welded steel vessel of unusual design to be used for pilchard fishing.

The controllable-pitch propeller will be hydraulically controlled direct from the wheelhouse, which is raised above the level of the deckhouse to give all-round vision.

Another feature of the Jakob S. is the provision of hydraulic steering and the first installation in a boat of this type of the hydraulic winch. (The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, February 1960.)



U. S. S. R.

FISHERIES IN EAST ASIATIC WATERS:

At the end of 1959 the fisheries in the Soviet Far East (including catching, processing, shipbuilding, and ship repairs) were placed under a central administrative organization, the newly-established

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

Directorate for the Fishing Industry in the Far East, usually abbreviated to Glavdalvostokrybprom.

In an interview in Vodnyj Transport for February 9, 1960, the Director of the new agency stated that although it had only been a short time since fishery and fishing industry responsibilities had been transferred from the jurisdiction of the Far East's five regional economic councils to a central administration, it appeared the change was well liked. The reorganization has made it possible for more rational utilization, not only of the fishing fleet, but also of transport vessels, storage warehouses, processing plants, and port installations.

The further development of fishing in the Far East depends on a more intensive expansion of ocean fishing. The Pacific Ocean basin and the oceanic bays north of the Equator have the world's richest fishery resources, where Japan, China, the U. S. S. R., the United States, and Canada fish. The average catch is 7 million metric tons a year. The Soviet fleets have, until recently, conducted a limited fishery for flounders, cod, and fat herring in the waters off Kamchatka, Sakhalin, and the Russian Pacific Ocean coast. Now they are going farther at sea and taking bottomfish and deep-water fish. A large number of vessels are fishing in the southeasterly portion of the Bering Sea. But this is just a beginning. This year there have been set up 6 expeditions for catching various kinds of fish. They will operate in the South China Sea, the East China Sea, the Yellow Sea, the Gulf of Siam, the Bay of Tonkin, Bristol Bay, and the Gulf of Alaska.

In coming years the fisheries of the Far East will get a number of new large and medium trawlers, gill-netters, factoryships for processing herring, canning factoryships for crabs, freezer vessels, and refrigerator ships for transport of fishery products. (Norwegian fishery periodical Fiskets Gang, March 10, 1960.)

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FISHING FLEETS NEED OFFICERS AND CREWS:

The vice chairman of the Soviet Murmansk Regional Economic Council has recommended the Murmansk fishing fleet as place of work, according to a report in Karasnaja Zvezda (January 19, 1960), the Defense Ministry's organ for the Soviet Union's Navy. He urged officers and crewmen who were about to go into the reserve to seek employment in the Murmansk fishing fleets where they would find good use for their talents and experience. A second mate in the fishing fleet could earn up to 3,000 rubles (about US\$300) a month.

According to an article in Sovjetskaja Estania on January 17, 1960, a former trawler captain and officer appealed to soldiers and officers, who were about to be demobilized, to seek work in the Estonian fishing fleet which is growing rapidly. (Fiskets Gang, March 24, 1960.)

Note: Value converted at tourist rate of exchange of 10 rubles equal US\$1.

United KingdomBRITISH FIRM AGREES TO PURCHASE FROZEN FILLETS FROM FAROE ISLANDS:

An agreement for the purchase of all frozen cod and haddock fillets produced by the Faroese trawler owners has been signed by a British firm formed last year. It will be the first time Faroe frozen fillets have been available on the British market, and prices will remain steady even in times of fish shortage, according to a report in a London newspaper, The Guardian of March 7, 1960.

The fillets will be handled on behalf of the trawler owners by a freezing plant in Thorshavn. The freezing industry in the Faroes is still being developed, and refrigerated shipping is rather limited. Large supplies therefore will not be possible at first, but they will gradually increase. The first shipment is expected in August 1960.

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United Kingdom (Contd.):

**TRAWLERS TO SUPPLY FISH FOR
U. S. S. R. FROZEN FILLET CONTRACT:**

British distant-water trawler owners have entered into arrangements to supply a fish processing firm with ground-fish to execute contracts this company has concluded with Russia and Czechoslovakia. The contract calls for delivery of 2,500 tons of quick-frozen fillets during the summer. It is understood that the fish-processing firm hopes to complete the contract by the end of June.

Total contracts so far signed between the trawler owners and processors amount to 18,125 long tons. This quantity will be drawn from the fishing ports of Hull, Grimsby, and Fleetwood.

In addition to the above firm, two other processors have signed contracts with the trawler owners. (Fishing News, April 1, 1960.)

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**FISHERY LOANS INTEREST RATES
INCREASED AS OF MARCH 11:**

The British White Fish Authority (WFA), as a result of a recent increase in the rates of interest charged to them by H. M. Treasury, increased their own rates effective March 11, 1960.

The new rates are:

On loans for not more than five years, $5\frac{3}{8}$ percent; increase $\frac{3}{8}$ percent.

On loans for more than five years but not more than 10, $5\frac{1}{2}$ percent; increase $\frac{1}{4}$ percent.

On loans for more than 10 years but not more than 15, $6\frac{1}{8}$ percent; increase $\frac{1}{8}$ percent.

On loans for more than 15 years, 6 percent; increase $\frac{1}{8}$ percent.

The new rates do not apply, however, where the final installments in current cases were paid by the Authority before March 14, 1960. The other terms and conditions of the Authority's arrangements for loans are unchanged.

The Authority's loans are connected with the building of new fishing vessels of not more than 140 feet, the purchase, in certain circumstances, of new engines and nets and gear for inshore vessels, the construction and equipment of processing plants, and the formation and development of cooperative organizations. (The Fishing News, March 18, 1960.)

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NEW STERN TRAWLER PRAISED:

During a trip to the United Kingdom's west coast fishing grounds, which ended in March 1960, Aberdeen's new stern trawler Universal Star fished in very stormy weather when many of the standard trawlers had to give up.

The skipper stated that during a 12 days' trip in very bad weather they made 43 drags, and he had no complaints as the vessel was concerned. He believed that for comfort the Universal Star is far ahead of the standard type of trawler. As to seagoing qualities she is said to be steadier than the standard type, and ships no water, for even in the worst of weather it is only spray that comes over her stern.

The real trouble, however, since the vessel started operating late in 1959, has been with her fishing gear. It was found that the ordinary trawling gear as used by the standard trawler was not giving satisfactory results. Considerable adjustments had to be made, but now the skipper believes that they have gear which, given favorable weather conditions, will enable them to get good catches.

Apart from adjustments to the head rope, etc., smaller doors or trawl boards than with the standard gear are being used. The doors are approximately 7 ft. x 3 ft. 6 in., as compared with the standard 10 ft. x 4 ft. The boards used are also only about three-quarters of the weight of the standard type.

A representative of a Canadian firm, one of the largest concerns of its kind with a fleet of some 28 trawlers, visited Aberdeen especially to see the Universal Star. He appeared to be impressed with the vessel and with the idea of trawling

United Kingdom (Contd.):

over the stern instead of over the side.
(The Fishing News, March 18, 1960.)

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PERUVIAN FISH MEAL IMPORTS THREATEN INDUSTRY:

The President of the British Board of Trade has agreed to give consideration to the threat to the British fishing industry by the increasing imports of Peruvian fish meal.

Late in March, the President of the Association of Fish Meal Manufacturers, with other officers and members of the executive committee, met members of the all-party Parliamentary Fisheries' Committee at the House of Commons. The situation was explained to the Committee and the point of view of the British producers of fish meal was stated.

Later, the deputation, accompanied by members of the all-party committee, met with the President of the Board of Trade. It was explained that the amount paid for fish waste had fallen in a few months from £11 (US\$30.80) a ton to £6 (US\$16.80) and the reason was the great increase in Peruvian imports. (Fishing News, April 1, 1960.)



Venezuela

JAPANESE-VENEZUELAN TUNA FISHING COMPANY PLANS ADDITION TO FLEET:

The Japanese-Venezuelan fishing venture (organized early in 1959) plans to purchase a 300-ton vessel in Japan to add to the present fleet of two 150-ton Japanese tuna vessels. Landings by the firm's two tuna vessels during the last

half of 1959 were valued at US\$130,556, according to a March 25, 1960, item in a Japanese newspaper.



Viet-Nam

FISHING FLEET INCREASED BY TWO NEW TRAWLERS:

The Viet-Nam fishing company located in Saigon received two new 74-ton fishing trawlers during February 1960. Both were purchased from Japan under the commercial import program at a cost of two million piasters (about US\$51,143 at exchange rate of 35 piasters to US\$1) each.

Both vessels are equipped with cold-storage facilities, radar, and two-way radio to facilitate deep-sea operations out of the Port of Saigon. They were due to begin operations off the coast of Viet-Nam late in February with 14-man crews aboard each vessel. The owner and manager of the fishing company states that he expects each vessel should bring in 25-40 metric tons of fish each trip.

The Saigon fishing company operating the trawlers is the third large fishing company to be formed in Saigon. The other two are companies which have two vessels each and are averaging monthly catches of about 100-120 tons.

In a statement to the press, the fishing company's representative said that his firm, in cooperation with a Japanese engineer, is studying plans towards the establishment in 1961 of a dried fish and fish meal plant. (The United States Embassy, dispatch from Saigon, February 19, 1960.)

