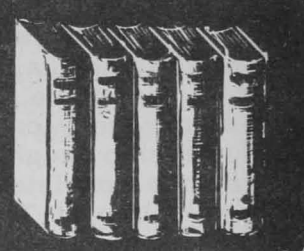




FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

USE OF SODIUM NITRITE IN SMOKED CURED TUNA AND SALMON PRODUCTS:

Sodium nitrite may be safely used in smoked cured tuna and salmon products in accordance with the prescribed conditions in the two orders issued by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration under section 409 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The two orders published in the September 23, 1961, Federal Register became effective on publication.

For smoked cured salmon, sodium nitrite is to be used or intended for use alone or in combination with sodium nitrate as a preservative and color fixative so that the level of sodium nitrate does not exceed 500 parts per million (0.05 percent) and the level of sodium nitrite does not exceed 200 parts per million (0.02 percent) in the finished product.

For smoked cured tuna and smoked cured tuna products, sodium nitrite is to be used or intended for use alone or in combination with sodium nitrate as a color fixative so that the level of sodium nitrite does not exceed 10 parts per million in the finished product.

The orders were incorporated in the regulations under "Part 121--Food Additives, subpart D, sections 121.1063 and 121.1064."

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USE OF SODIUM NITRITE IN CANNED PET FOOD CONTAINING FISH AND MEAT:

Sodium nitrite (as a color stabilizer and preservative) may be safely used in canned pet food containing meat and fish, according to an order issued by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration under section 409 of

the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The order was published in the September 23, 1961, Federal Register and became effective on publication. The additive is to be used or intended for use alone as a preservative and color fixative in canned pet food containing fish, meat, and fish and meat byproducts so that the level of sodium nitrite does not exceed 20 parts per million (0.002 percent).

The order was incorporated in the regulations under "Part 121--Food Additives, subpart C, section 121.223."

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FOOD ADDITIVES ORDERS ON USE OF RED SEAWEED EXTRACTS IN FOODS:

On the use of the food additives carrageenan and salts of carrageenan and furcelleran and salts of furcelleran in food for human consumption, the U. S. Food and Drug Administration has issued two orders under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act as amended. The substances mentioned may be used safely as thickeners, emulsifiers, or stabilizers in food in accordance with the prescribed conditions in the regulations. Carrageenan is the refined hydrocolloid prepared by aqueous extraction from the following members of the families Gigartiniaceae and Solieriaceae of the class Rhodophyceae (red seaweed): Chondrus crispus, C. ocellatus, Euclima cottonii, E. spinosum, Gigartina acicularis, G. pistillata, G. radula, G. stellata. Salts of carrageenan consist of one or a mixture of two or more of the ammonium, calcium, potassium, or sodium salts of carrageenan. Furcelleran is the refined hydrocolloid prepared by aqueous extraction of Furcellaria fastigiata of the class Rhodophyceae (red seaweed). The salts consist of one or a mixture of the ammonium, calcium, potassium, or sodium salts of furcelleran.

Both orders were published in the October 6, 1961, Federal Register, and became effective upon publication. The two sub-

stances were included under the regulations as "Part 121--Food Additives, Subpart D, sections 121.1066, 121.1067, 121.1068, and 121.1069."



Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

MINERAL LEASES IN NEW AREAS OF GULF OF MEXICO OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF:

The minerals industry is being asked to nominate new areas for oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off Louisiana and Texas, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall announced on October 2, 1961. Secretary Udall said the nominations (which could be made until November 3) will be used by the Department in determining what areas will be opened to leasing through competitive bidding.

This is the first call for nominations on the oil-rich Outer Continental Shelf this year, said the Secretary. The last competitive oil and gas lease bid opening for the Gulf of Mexico area was held in February 1960.

The Secretary explained that nominated areas must be identified by leasing block numbers as shown on official leasing maps prepared by the Bureau of Land Management. In Louisiana each regular block contains 5,000 acres; and in Texas, 5,760 acres. Whole blocks or subdivisions may be nominated.

It is estimated that about 20 percent of this Nation's oil and gas reserves are on the Outer Continental Shelf. Last year nearly 36 million barrels of oil were produced from the Outer Continental Shelf and about 207 billion cubic feet of gas. There were about 500 oil and gas leases covering over 2 million acres.

The Bureau of Land Management notice was published in the Federal Register of September 30, 1961. After nominations have been received a complete description of all areas to be leased through competitive bidding will be published in the Federal Register.



U. S. Tariff Commission

HEARING ON PROPOSED FIRST SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT RELATING TO TARIFF CLASSIFICATION STUDY:

On November 20, 1961, a public hearing was held for the purpose of receiving the views of interested parties with respect to a proposed first supplemental report to accompany the Tariff Classification Study, issued on October 31, 1961.

The Tariff Classification Study was prepared pursuant to Title I of the Customs Simplification Act of 1954, as amended (Public Law 768, 83rd Congress; Public Law 934, 84th Congress), which directed the Commission to make a comprehensive study of the laws of the United States prescribing the tariff status of imported articles and to submit to the President and to the Chairmen of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a revision and consolidation of these laws which, in the judgment of the Commission, would, to the extent practicable--

(1) Establish schedules of tariff classifications which will be logical in arrangement and terminology and adapted to the changes which have occurred since 1930 in the character and importance of articles produced in and imported into the United States and in the markets in which they are sold.

(2) Eliminate anomalies and illogical results in the classification of articles.

(3) Simplify the determination and application of tariff classifications.

The results of this study, embodied in the Tariff Classification Study, were submitted on November 15, 1960, to the President and to the Chairmen of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

Since that date, legislative modifications, court decisions, and administrative actions have occurred which affect a number of the provisions in the Tariff Classification Study. The Commission has also received suggestions from interested parties for changes in certain of the headnotes and tariff schedules contained in the Study, both in the form of direct submissions to the Commission and in the form of submissions to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives in response to a press release of that Committee on August 15, 1961, calling for written comments from interested parties on the Tariff Classification Study.

The proposed supplemental report contains an explanation of the changes in the headnotes and tariff schedules of the Tariff Classification Study which, in the judgment of the Commission, are necessary to bring them up to date, to correct error, or to further the objectives of the Study, as well as a statement of the reasons for not accepting certain of the suggestions received from interested parties.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, November 1960 p. 93.



Department of the Treasury

COAST GUARD

AMENDED VESSEL INSPECTION REGULATIONS ISSUED:

Amended vessel inspection regulations have been issued by the U. S. Coast Guard. Part II of the September 30, 1961, issue of the Federal Register is devoted to miscellaneous amendments of the regulations. The amendments to the regulations are covered under "Title 46--Shipping."

While fishing vessels are not specifically mentioned, some of the amendments may apply to larger fishing vessels.



Eighty-Seventh Congress

(First Session)

Public bills and resolutions which may directly or indirectly affect fisheries and allied industries are reported. Introduction,

referral to committees, pertinent legislative actions, hearings, and other actions by



the House and Senate, as well as signature into law or other final disposition are covered.

EXPORT POLICY ACT OF 1961: Promotion of United States Exports (August 30, 1961, Hearing before Subcommittee No. 3, of the Committee on Banking and Currency, House of Representatives, 87th Congress, 1st Session on H. R. 8381, Amend Export-Import Bank Act, 1945; H. R. 7102 and H. R. 7103, Create American Export Credits Guaranty Corporation; and H. R. 7266 and H. R. 8249, National Export Policy Act, 1961), 160 pp., printed. Contains text of each bill, statements by officials of the Export-Import Bank, Bank of America, Bank of America International, and a Senator. To correct problem of the imbalance of international payments and outflow of gold to other countries, credit would be extended to purchasers abroad by Export-Import Bank, among others, and would be guaranteed by the Federal Government.

FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY: A New Look at Foreign Economic Policy in Light of the Cold War and the Extension of the Common Market in Europe (October 23, 1961, Report of Christian A. Herter and William L. Clayton, prepared at request of the Subcommittee on Foreign Economic Policy of the Joint Economic Committee of the Congress), 16 pp., printed.

The authors point out that 27 years ago, with the enactment of the Trade Agreements Act, the United States committed itself to a liberal foreign economic policy. In 1962 it must be renewed again. Further, they state: "We believe that the United States must form a trade partnership with the European Common Market and take the leadership in further expanding a free world economic community. As a minimum step

in that direction, the Trade Agreements Act must give the President authority to negotiate tariff reduction across the board in place of his present authority to negotiate item by item. Our allies in Europe are no longer dealing in item-by-item terms, and we must adapt our negotiating authority accordingly."

IMPORT COMPETITION ADJUSTMENT: Congress man John H. Dent, Chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Impact of Imports and Exports on American Employment, held hearings in Washington, D. C., November 27-28-29-30 and December 1, 4-5, 1961. The hearings covered a number of industries, including the fishing industry. Many industries were given an opportunity to express their views before that date. These hearings covered all aspects of the foreign trade movement insofar as it is related to employment in any area of the country or any segment of the economy.

POLLUTION OF THE SEA TREATY IMPLEMENTATION: Wetlands Acquisition and Oil Pollution of the Sea (July 31, 1961, Hearing before the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Subcommittee of the Committee on Commerce, United States Senate, 87th Congress, 1st Session on S. 2187, a bill to implement the provisions of the International Convention for the Prevention of the Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954; and S. 2175 and H. R. 7391, bills to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl by the acquisition of wetlands and other essential waterfowl habitat, and for other purposes), 40 pp., printed. Contains text of each bill; statements of various government officials, Senators, wildlife conservation institutes and leagues; letters from various State wildlife and fish commissions, Senators, and government officials; and reports from the Bureau of the Budget, Comptroller General of the United States, Departments of Agriculture, Interior and Justice.

PACKAGING AND LABELING PRACTICES: On October 25, 26, and 27, Senator Hart (Mich.), of the Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee, of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, conducted public hearings on packaging and labeling practices affecting consumers. Witnesses included trade association representatives, container manufacturers, retailers both large and small, designers, researchers, and wholesalers. Senator Hart stated: "The efforts taken by industry. . . to meet some of the practices developed at the first hearings (June 28, 29, and 30), are very encouraging. It demonstrates that segments of the food industry at least are aware of the problems facing the consumer in shopping wisely and are interested in making progress in meeting consumer complaints."

