

ing in the spring" are to be harvested in certain Statistical Regions of the Barents Sea, Norwegian Sea, and waters in the vicinity of the Faroe Islands as designated by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea. The full text of the 1972 agreement is available on request from the NMFS International Activities staff.

The Norwegian suspicion, that  
*Fishery Notes*

## **Boats Before Wives for Pt. Judith Fishermen**

Ask a Point Judith fisherman what's the worst thing that could happen to him and he will probably mention the loss of his boat before the loss of his wife.

At least that is what two University of Rhode Island social scientists found when they conducted a comparison study of a group of fishermen and a group of mill workers. The conclusions of Dr. Carl Gersuny, a sociologist, and Dr. John J. Poggie, Jr., an anthropologist, are reported in the most recent issue of *Maritimes*, quarterly magazine of the Graduate School of Oceanography at URI, Kingston.

"When we asked the fishermen and mill workers, 'What is the worst thing that could happen to you?' the most frequent response for both groups was the individual's own death or serious illness, while the second most frequent response was 'loss of boat' among fishermen and 'loss of wife' among mill workers." The social scientists said, however, that fishermen's wives need not be unduly alarmed by this because their loss was the third most frequent response of their husbands.

The research conducted by Dr. Gersuny and Dr. Poggie involves much more than pinning down fishermen's priorities. By understanding the subculture of fishermen, they say, it will become more feasible to design workable programs for dealing with social problems facing fishermen and fishing communities. Their research was supported by the URI Sea Grant Program, which is funded by the

what the Soviets defend as research may in fact be a fishing operation, seems to be strengthened by Norwegian fishermen's observations of herring being salted on the Soviet trawlers. Soviet research vessels normally do not process large quantities of landed fish.

While it is true that many Soviet research vessels are medium side

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

They have found that kinship plays a more important role in the occupational life of fishermen than in most land-bound occupations, including mill workers. "Family relations," they said, "help determine who fishes and with whom." The social scientists have reasoned that if access to commercial fishing is ever limited to prevent excessive exploitation of stocks, the role of kinship in fishing communities must be taken into consideration.

*Publications*

## **University of Rhode Island Publications**

Socioeconomic research issues in the development of world fisheries is the subject of a 12-page technical report from the International Center for Marine Resource Development at the University of Rhode Island. Research issues dealing with commercial fisheries, artisan coastal and inland fisheries, and the interrelations of agriculture and fisheries are covered in the pamphlet, "**Socio-Economic Research Issues in Fisheries Development**," based on a workshop involving university and governmental personnel held at URI in 1972.

The publication, listed as Marine Technical Report No. 13, notes that information on fishing and fishermen in the developing countries is scarce; what is available is often less reliable than data for other non-urban sectors. Some issues that now seem critical, the report states, are market development and modernization, a systems

trawlers (the same type that the Norwegian fishermen reported off the Lofoten Islands), it is considered unlikely that 6 such vessels would have been conducting research in the same location. Normally, Soviet fishery research vessels are assigned large marine areas in which to conduct their research, and they usually operate singly.

Fishermen may find a greater measure of happiness than people in other occupations, Dr. Gersuny and Dr. Poggie said. Fishermen are among the least alienated of workers—meaning they do not feel they are in the rat race of a meaningless job and do not have a sense of powerlessness over their conditions of work. The reason, Drs. Gersuny and Poggie say, is because of "their close ties to the finished product, their high level of control over work and product, and the fact that a fisherman has a far better chance of becoming a boat owner than has a textile worker of becoming a mill owner."

management approach to river and coastal lagoon development, and the integration of fisheries with agricultural enterprises.

"Fisheries development can help solve employment and income equity problems in many nations of the world, but not unless more attention is concentrated and more research is done on economic aspects of fisheries development," it states. Free copies are available from the Marine Advisory Service, University of Rhode Island, Narragansett Bay Campus, Narragansett, RI 02882.

**Rhode Island's Ocean Sands**, Marine Technical Report No. 10, published by the University of Rhode Island Sea Grant Program, predicts that an offshore sand and gravel mining industry may soon develop in Rhode Island waters and says the state should be ready to cope with it.