

OTHER NOTES ON FISHERY MARKETING

Alaska Fishery Rights

Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, on January 17, brought to a conclusion the long standing controversy (Fishery Market News, May 1945, p. 9 and August 1945, p. 5) over rights of the native villages of Hydaburg, Klawack, and Kake in Southeastern Alaska by modifying his previous order recognizing native possessory rights to 273,000 acres. The modifications exclude areas used for canneries and include some 800 additional acres.

On a re-hearing of the case, cannery owners showed that the natives had acquiesced in the construction of canneries which provided the natives with a ready market for their fish.

The order recognizes native rights to various traditional cemeteries, home sites, gardens, and smokehouses which the natives claimed had been improperly omitted in the original order. The Secretary's order of July 27, 1945, had recognized continued native rights in 273,000 acres of land. The natives of the three villages had claimed a total of 3,329,000 acres.

The Secretary's decision in the case was based upon findings rendered by Richard H. Hanna, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Mexico. Extensive hearings were held in Alaska and Seattle from September to November, 1944, in which more than 2,700 pages of testimony were taken.



Alaska Fishery Hearings

Notice of a hearing on February 21, on proposed amendments to the Alaska Commercial Fishing Regulation for 1946, was issued January 31 by the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes.

The proposed amendments would limit the number of traps to be operated by any one individual or organization and would establish priority rules for determining rights to hold War Department trap permits.



Unemployment Insurance Laws

The Fish and Wildlife Service is presenting, in a series of fishery leaflets compiled by the Economics and Cooperative Marketing Section, Division of Commercial Fisheries, a digest of "Unemployment Insurance Laws" with specific application to fishermen and allied workers throughout the United States. This digest is an interpretation by the Service of the existing laws and is subject to correction by courts or administrative agencies. Each leaflet applies to fishermen and allied workers in a different area of the United States, as follows:

FL-149 - Chesapeake Bay States
 FL-150 - Middle Atlantic States
 FL-151 - New England States
 FL-152 - South Atlantic States

FL-153 - Pacific Coast States
 FL-154 - Gulf States
 FL-171 - Great Lakes States



United States Salt Production

A record of 15,717,171 short tons of common salt of three types, valued at \$45,989,264, were produced in the United States in 1944, according to the Minerals Yearbook--1944, published by the U. S. Bureau of Mines. This was an increase of 3 percent in quantity and 5 percent in value compared with the totals for 1943.

Salt Sold or Used by Producers in the United States, 1942-44

	1942	1943	1944
	Sh. tons	Sh. tons	Sh. tons
Total for all uses and purposes:			
Evaporated salt	3,517,832	3,993,899	3,942,621
Rock salt	2,802,287	3,259,138	3,448,238
Used in fish curing:			
Evaporated salt	28,908	32,724	35,998
Rock salt	32,007	53,463	67,844
Total	60,915	86,187	103,842

Among the many uses of the three categories of salt--evaporated, rock salt, salt content of brine--is chemical manufacture, which requires the largest part of total salt. It consumes all the salt of brine and about 35 percent of the dry salt produced.

Imports of Salt for Use in Curing Fish

1935-39 Av.	1941	1942	1943	1944
Sh. tons	Sh. tons	Sh. tons	Sh. tons	Sh. tons
21,250	7,426	6,434	-	-

Compared with 1943, considerably increased quantities of both evaporated and rock salt were consumed in 1944 for chlorine, soap precipitant, fish curing, refrigeration, canning and preserving, other food processing, and "other" uses, and decreased quantities for hides and leather, meat packing, dairy products, livestock, highways, table and other household, water treatment, and metallurgy.

Tables showing the amount of salt sold or used by producers in the United States from 1942 to 1944 and imports of salt for use in curing fish are shown above.



Purchases of Fish by Department of Agriculture

November 1945 purchases of fishery products by the United States Department of Agriculture showed a gain of \$281,494 as compared with October. The greatest increases in purchases were reflected in canned pilchards and canned salmon.

Purchases of Fishery Products by USDA

Commodity	Unit	November 1945		January-November 1945	
		Quantity	F.O.B. Cost Dollars	Quantity	F.O.B. Cost Dollars
FISH AND SHELLFISH					
Herring, canned	Cases	5,741	27,415	80,802	429,379
Mackerel, "	"	56,296	274,160	272,278	1,437,715
Pilchards, "	"	394,465	1,483,468	1,635,846	6,413,741
Salmon, "	"	236,440	1,982,250	1,617,228	15,908,790
Sardines, "	"	71,482	320,984	1,435,120	5,775,986
Squid, "	"	-	-	307,500	1,491,375
Tuna and tuna-like fish, "	"	-	-	53,828	569,932
Fish, flaked, "	"	-	-	20,267	205,986
Fish, ground, "	"	-	-	125,887	365,506
Total	"	764,424	4,088,277	5,548,756	32,598,410
Fish, brine-cured	Pounds	-	-	40,000	8,000
" , dry-salted	"	-	-	20,309,570	3,259,100
" , smoked	"	-	-	1,531,600	162,123
Total	"	-	-	21,881,170	3,429,223
BYPRODUCTS					
Feeding oil	"	-	-	41,000	15,990
Fish meal	"	-	-	2,880,000	115,125
Oyster shell	"	-	-	160,000	640
Oyster shell flour	"	-	-	320,000	1,120
Oyster shell grits	"	-	-	440,000	1,504
Total	"	-	-	3,841,000	134,479
VITAMINS					
Vitamin A fish-liver oil M Units	"	-	-	14,502,262	3,902,447
Grand Total	"	-	4,088,277	-	40,064,559



Wholesale and Retail Prices

Wholesale and retail prices for all foods advanced 1.0 and 0.9 percent, respectively, from mid-November to mid-December, according to reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor. These gains were accompanied by small rises in the average retail prices for fresh and canned and fresh and frozen fish, also canned pink and red salmon. Both wholesale and retail prices showed considerable increases over those at mid-December 1944.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

Item	Unit	Percentage change from-		
		Dec. 15, 1945	Nov. 17, 1945	Dec. 16, 1944
Wholesale: (1926 = 100)				
All commodities	Index No.	106.7	+0.4	+2.2
Foods	do	108.3	+1.0	+2.5
Fish:				
Canned salmon, Seattle:		Dec. 1945	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1944
Pink, No. 1, Tall	\$ per dozen cans	1.970	0	0
Red, No. 1, Tall	do	3.694	0	0
Cod, cured, large shore, Gloucester, Mass.	\$ per 100 pounds	13.50	0	0
Herring, pickled, N. Y.	¢ per pound	12.0	0	0
Salmon, Alaska, smoked, N. Y.	do	35.0	0	0
Retail: (1935-39 = 100)				
All foods	Index No.	Dec. 11, 1945	Nov. 13, 1945	Dec. 12, 1944
Fish:		141.4	+0.9	+2.9
Fresh and canned	do	221.7	+0.4	+5.1
Fresh and frozen	¢ per pound	34.4	+0.5	+5.8
Canned salmon:				
Pink	¢ per pound can	23.2	+0.9	+3.1
Red	do	40.9	+1.2	+1.2

