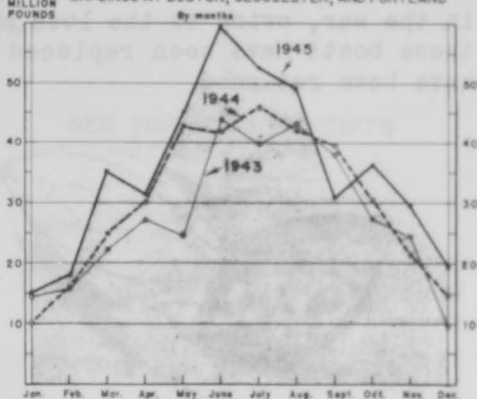


FRESH AND FROZEN FISH

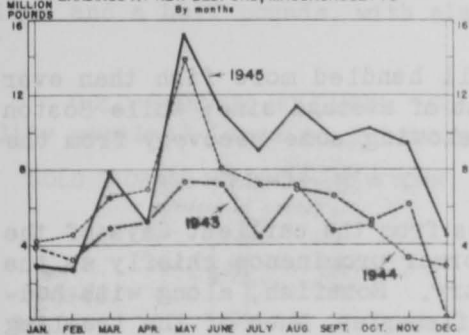
New England

LANDINGS AT THREE PORTS: Landings by fishing craft at Boston, Gloucester, and Portland during December totaled 19,357,000 pounds, valued at \$1,449,700 to the fishermen, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 248. This was an increase of 21 percent in quantity landed as compared with December 1944. Total landings during 1945 amounted to 423,615,000 pounds compared with 363,805,000 pounds landed during the corresponding period of 1944, an increase of 16 percent. Of the total, 188,161,000 pounds were landed at Boston; 213,498,000 pounds at Gloucester; and 21,956,000 pounds at Portland.

LANDINGS AT BOSTON, GLOUCESTER, AND PORTLAND



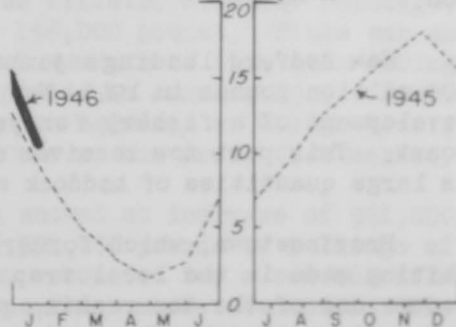
LANDINGS AT NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS



NEW BEDFORD LANDINGS: Fishery products landed at New Bedford, Massachusetts, during December totaled 4,354,000 pounds, valued at \$417,000 to the fishermen, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 247. This was an increase of 50 percent in quantity landed compared with December 1944. Total landings during 1945 amounted to 101,363,000 pounds as compared with 74,936,000 pounds landed during the corresponding period in 1944, an increase of 35 percent. Greater landings of haddock, red hake, and mackerel accounted for the major portion of the increase.

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of fishery products in Boston cold-storage plants declined from a total of 15,734,000 pounds on December 26, 1945, to 10,426,000 pounds on January 30, 1946, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city. This was a decline of 42 percent from the peak of 17,998,000 pounds reached on November 28, 1945.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS-BOSTON



Holdings of salt-water fish were 9,046,000 pounds; fresh-water fish, 76,000 pounds; and shellfish, 1,304,000 pounds as of January 30. In terms of percentage, these figures represent a decline of 35 percent for salt-water items, 48 percent for fresh-water items, and 23 percent for shellfish from the holdings on December 26. Reductions are normal for this period when fishing operations are curtailed due to bad weather. However, this year the decline was probably accelerated because a large proportion of the Boston fleet of trawlers was tied up for the entire month of January.

NEW ENGLAND FISHERIES, 1945: New England's fishing industry in 1945 landed 566,802,000 pounds of fishery products at the major ports of the area, thereby breaking all previous records for production, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 250.

The landings in 1945 represent a gain of 23 percent over those of the preceding year, and surpassed the previous peak production of 1941 by about 30 million pounds.

Although the New England fishing fleet operated under great difficulties early in the war, owing to the loss of many trawlers to the military services, most of these boats have been replaced by new ones and many of the requisitioned boats have been returned.



Fish caught by New England vessels--chiefly haddock, rosefish, cod, flounders, mackerel, and whiting--supply the bulk of the country's fresh fish markets. Most of the catch is made in the Gulf of Maine, on Georges and other banks south and east of Cape Cod, and on the more distant Nova Scotian banks.

For the third successive year, Gloucester took the lead among New England ports, handling 213,498,000 pounds. Boston, in second place, received 188,161,000 pounds. Third and fourth places were held by New Bedford and Provincetown, Mass., with 101,363,000 and 42,610,000 pounds, respectively. Portland landings amounted to 21,956,000 pounds.

Gloucester, New Bedford, and Provincetown all handled more fish than ever before in their history; Portland landings were about of average size; while Boston was still far below its pre-war level, although showing some recovery from the low level of the war period.

Gloucester, center of the New England fisheries from the earliest days of the industry until about 1907, has now regained its former prominence chiefly as the result of the recent growth in the rosefish industry. Rosefish, along with haddock, is at present the mainstay of the New England fisheries. Much of the trawling for rosefish is done on grounds widely scattered throughout the Gulf of Maine. Gloucester enjoys a slight geographic advantage in being nearer these grounds than Boston. Also, the small and medium sized boats employed in fishing for rosefish find somewhat better docking facilities at Gloucester.

Phenomenal growth as fishing ports has been made in recent years by both New Bedford, on the southern Massachusetts Coast, and Provincetown, at the tip of Cape Cod.

New Bedford landings jumped from about 50 million pounds in 1941 to over 100 million pounds in 1945. New Bedford's growth as a port came chiefly through the development of a fishery for yellowtail flounders off the southern New England Coast. This port now receives about half the New England flounder catch, as well as large quantities of haddock and sea scallops, plus miscellaneous other species.

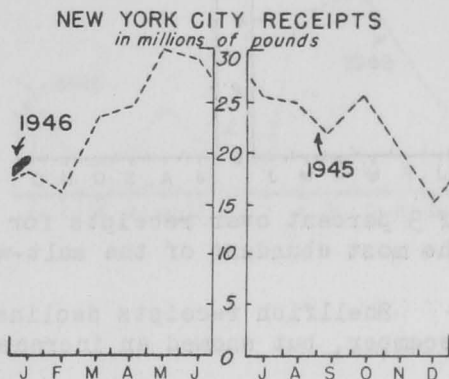
Provincetown, which formerly handled little but the catches of mackerel and whiting made in the local trap fisheries, through war-time boom in landings has become one of the top ranking ports of the area, with a fleet of about 45 small and medium sized trawlers or druggers. The chief species landed at Provincetown are whiting, flounders, cod, and mackerel. Located on the extreme tip of Cape Cod, this port has the advantage of a situation near good fishing grounds, so that

catches can be brought to port promptly. Provincetown draggers fish in the adjacent Cape Cod Bay in winter, and in summer, work the exposed ocean coast or "backside" of the Cape, an area noted for its dangerous shoals and lack of shelter for mariners.



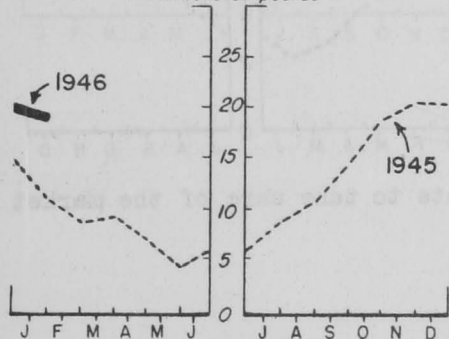
Middle Atlantic

RECEIPTS: Landings and receipts for January 1946 increased about 2 million pounds over those for January 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office in New York City. Fresh fish showed a slight rise, both in landings and receipts. Leading fresh items were fluke, cod, haddock, yellowtail, and whiting, fluke excelling all other species in arrivals during the month and increasing to double its size of January 1945. This increase was mainly due to the greater number of vessels participating in this fishery off the Atlantic Coast, from New Jersey to the Virginia Capes. Shellfish landings and receipts reached over a million and a half pounds, with clams, shell oysters, and shrimp the principal items.



COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Cold-storage holdings of fishery products in New York City remained large on February 1, although there was a net reduction of about 2,000,000 pounds in January. Stocks on February 1 were 7,000,000 pounds larger than on February 1, 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office in New York. Total reduction of stocks during January was about 600,000 pounds less than the drop in stocks in January 1945. This indicated that the meat packers' strike did little to stimulate withdrawals of frozen fishery products.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - NEW YORK
in millions of pounds



The major items held in New York cold-storage plants were steak and market cod, Boston mackerel, salmon, whiting, yellowtail, sablefish and cod fillets. Flounder holdings,

including fluke, increased in January this year by 156,000 pounds. Fluke was an important factor in this increase as the landings and receipts of this item during January were 952,000 pounds compared with 438,000 pounds in January 1945. Fluke receipts thus had a considerable influence in keeping the holdings at a high level, even though dealers made record sales of this species on the fresh fish market.

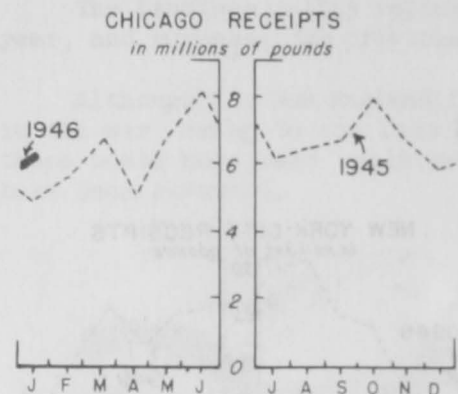
On February 1, inventories of fresh-water fish showed an increase of 961,000 pounds over those of February 1, 1945. A gain of 1,354,000 pounds in holdings of shellfish was also recorded. Large stocks of shrimp accounted for a considerable portion of the latter increase. There was a vigorous fresh market demand for the larger sizes of this favorite item, but the smaller sizes were slow to move and, consequently, were conveyed to freezers.



Great Lakes

RECEIPTS: Receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products in the Chicago wholesale fish market during January totaled 6,231,000 pounds, an increase of 6 percent over the previous month and 28 percent above January 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city.

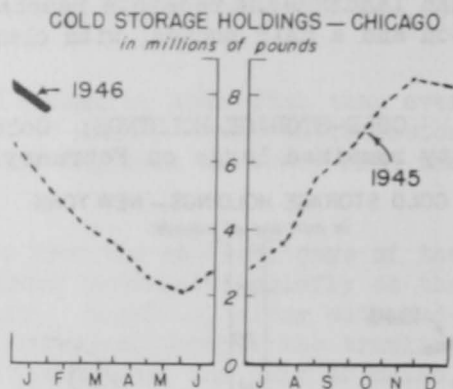
The receipt of more than a million pounds of whitefish during the month was responsible for a large increase in fresh-water receipts, which showed a gain of 51 percent over December, and 45 percent over January 1945. The New England vessel tie-up was reflected in a decline in receipts of haddock and rosefish.



Salt-water receipts dropped 11 percent below those of December, but showed an increase of 3 percent over receipts for January 1945. Halibut from British Columbia was the most abundant of the salt-water items in January.

Shellfish receipts declined during the month, dropping to 48 percent below December, but showed an increase of 29 percent over January 1945.

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Total holdings of fishery products in Chicago cold-storage warehouses on February 1 amounted to 7,528,000 pounds, according to the Service's Chicago Market News Office. Although this total was a decline of 11 percent from that on January 3, which represented holdings at the end of December, it was an increase of 47 percent over the holdings on February 1, 1945.



The nation-wide meat strike, which developed during the month, occasioned no abnormal cold-storage withdrawals. Holdings diminished very gradually, as current receipts were fairly adequate to take care of the market demands.



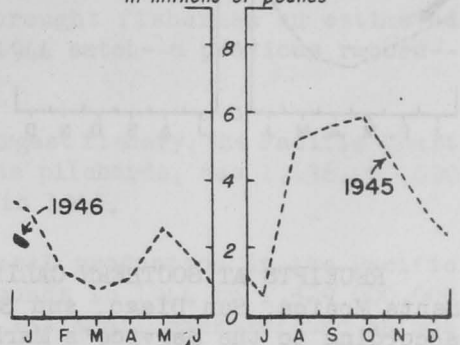
Gulf

PRODUCTION: Shrimp production in the Gulf area amounted to 17,500 barrels during January, a decline of 5,000 barrels as compared with the December total, and a decrease of 8,000 barrels below the January 1945 figure, according to the Service's Market News Office in New Orleans.

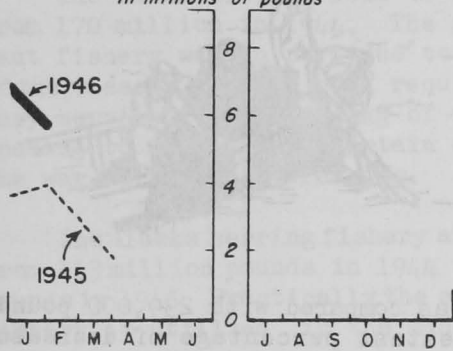
The catch of fresh-water and salt-water fish for January showed an increase of 29,000 pounds over December, but was 11,000 pounds under the January 1945 production.

Bad weather has been blamed generally for the decline in shrimp landings in 1945. Records disclose that few boats reached the "thousand barrel" class, while in other years many vessels claimed this distinction.

GULF SHRIMP RECEIPTS—
in millions of pounds



GULF COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS
in millions of pounds



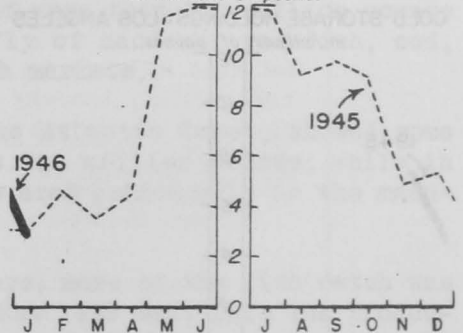
COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Cold-storage holdings of shrimp in the Gulf area on February 1 totaled about 3 million pounds. Even though the seasonal decline in stocks continued, the holdings remained about 80 percent higher than those of 1945, according to the Service's Market News Office at New Orleans.



Pacific

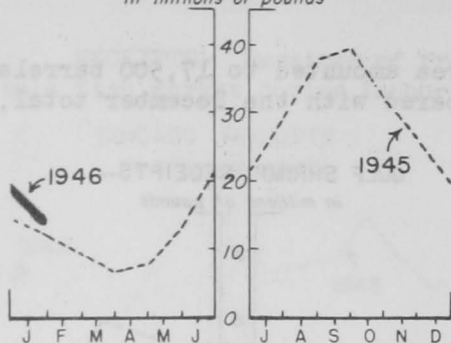
SEATTLE RECEIPTS: Fresh and frozen fish and shellfish arriving in Seattle during January, totaled 2,939,000 pounds, according to the Service's Market News Office in that city. This was a decline of 45 percent compared with the previous month and 4 percent lower than January 1945. Much of the decrease may be attributed to the usual mid-winter slack-production period, and the influence of adverse weather conditions off the Coast. Most salmon and halibut fishermen lay up their craft for winter overhaul in preparation for increased fishing operations in the spring.

SEATTLE RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NORTH PACIFIC

in millions of pounds



NORTHWEST COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Fish and shellfish holdings in the cold-storage plants of Washington, Oregon, and Alaska totaled 13,250,000 pounds on February 1, according to the Service's Market News Office at Seattle. This represented a decline of 32 percent from holdings on January 1, but an increase of 10 percent over stocks held on February 1, 1945. Salmon, halibut, sablefish, and tuna were the varieties held in greatest abundance. About half of the area's total holdings were contained in the plants of Washington, while the remainder of the holdings were nearly evenly divided between Oregon and Alaska.

RECEIPTS AT SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PORTS: Fresh fish landings at the ports of Santa Monica, San Diego, and San Pedro showed a general decline during January, according to the Service's Market News Office at San Pedro.

The Santa Monica-San Pedro area showed a decrease in landings of 2,969,000 pounds in January compared with those for December. Mackerel was largely responsible for this sharp decline, as the season for this species closed early in January. The closure of the season was reflected in mackerel landings of only 555,000 pounds for the month compared with a total of 3,558,000 pounds for December.



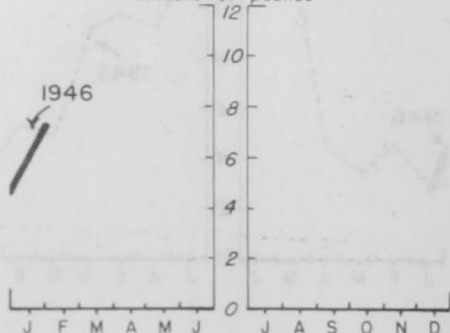
San Diego landings also showed a marked decrease during the month with only 80,000 pounds as compared with 239,000 pounds for December. Barracuda landings showed the greatest percentage of decrease.

The pilchard (sardine) fishery for the area of San Francisco and Monterey made little showing during January and raised the season's total landings for these ports to only 227,412 tons. San Pedro's landings totaled about 26,812 tons during the month, bringing its season's total to 160,031 tons. Storms in the vicinity of these three ports were largely responsible for the decreased tonnage.

LOS ANGELES COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of fish and fishery products in Los Angeles cold-storage warehouses amounted to 4,352,000 pounds on February 1

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—LOS ANGELES

in millions of pounds



as compared with 4,553,000 pounds on January 1, a net reduction of 201,000 pounds during January, according to the Service's Market News Office at San Pedro. January's freezings showed a decrease of 12.7 percent as compared with those for December.

Since the nation-wide meat-packers' strike did not have the anticipated effect of greatly stimulating the demand for fresh and frozen fishery products, stocks of these items remained higher on February 1 than is normal at this season.

United States

1945 FISH PRODUCTION: United States production of fish and shellfish during 1945 amounted to approximately 4.4 billion pounds, a decline of over two percent from the 4.5 billion pounds caught the previous year, according to a preliminary estimate of production compiled by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The total 1945 catch of fish and shellfish brought fishermen an estimated 230,000,000 dollars, which exceeded the value of the 1944 catch--a previous record--by 23,000,000 dollars.

The sharpest decline occurred in the nation's largest fishery, the Pacific Coast sardine industry. The catch of sardines, known also as pilchards, was 1,136,000,000 pounds in 1944, but dropped to 832,000,000 pounds in 1945.

Largely due to the smaller pilchard catch, total production in the Pacific Coast States and Alaska fell from 2,171,000,000 pounds in 1944 to 1,829,000,000 pounds last year. Among other major fisheries of the area, mackerel and salmon showed declines which, however, were largely offset by gains in tuna and Alaska herring.

The catch of tuna rose to 183 million pounds, from 170 million in 1944. The gain in this important fishery was in part due to the return of some of the vessels that had been requisitioned for military service, the building of new boats, and the opening to fishing of certain areas closed during the war for security reasons.

The Alaska herring fishery also showed a gain--from 113 million pounds in 1944 to over 120 million pounds in 1945. Practically the entire catch of this fishery is utilized in the manufacture of oil and meal.

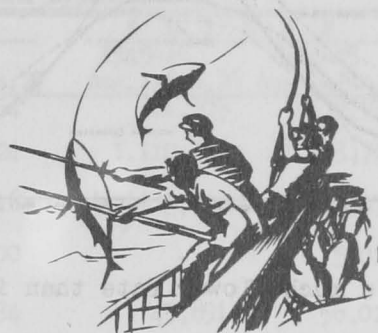
Production of salmon declined from 431 million to 420 million pounds, while Pacific mackerel, a highly variable fishery, fell from 93 million to 60 million pounds.

Production on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts and in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River increased slightly from the 1944 level, totaling 2,546,000,000 pounds in 1945, compared with 2,333,000,000 pounds the previous year.

The major ports in the New England area had the busiest year in their history, handling approximately 568 million pounds, a gain of more than 100 million pounds over 1944. Landings at these ports consist chiefly of haddock, rosefish, cod, flounders, and other species sold in the fresh fish markets.

The menhaden fishery, heaviest producer on the Atlantic Coast, showed some gain compared with 1944. The 1945 production was 740 million pounds; while in 1944, 685 million pounds were caught. Menhaden are used principally in the manufacture of meal and oil.

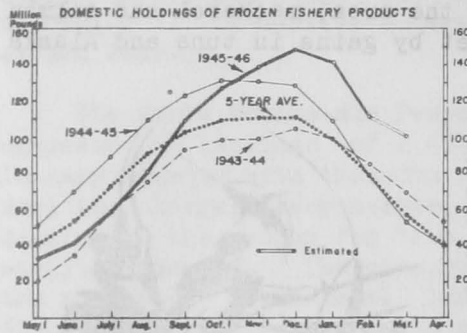
Compared with the average of the past four years, more of the fish catch was utilized in the fresh or frozen state, while somewhat less went into the production of canned fish and byproducts. About the same quantity--a relatively small amount--was cured. The 1945 catch was utilized as follows: 1.7 billion pounds



went to market as fresh and frozen fish; 1.2 billion pounds were canned; 1.4 were utilized as byproducts; and 0.1 billion pounds were cured.

The pack of canned fish and shellfish declined approximately four percent compared with 1944. Production in the major seafood canning industries in 1944 and 1945 was as follows:

	1 9 4 5	1 9 4 4		1 9 4 5	1 9 4 4
	<u>Standard Cases</u>	<u>Standard Cases</u>		<u>Standard Cases</u>	<u>Standard Cases</u>
Salmon:			Sardines:		
Alaska	4,302,895	4,893,059	Maine	2,600,000	2,919,500
United States	530,000	245,588	California	3,786,752	3,599,686
Total	4,832,895	5,138,647			
Mackerel:			Tuna	4,025,658	3,560,020
East Coast	50,085	232,780	Shrimp	142,000	401,178
West Coast	635,889	992,280			



COLD-STORAGE FREEZINGS AND HOLDINGS: Holdings of frozen fish and shellfish declined 25 million pounds during January, and on February 1 totaled 115,398,000 pounds. Stocks on that date were 36 million pounds greater than on February 1, 1945, according to the Service's Current Fishery Statistics No. 252.

Data on holdings of frozen fishery products furnished the Service's Fishery Market News Offices at Boston, Gloucester, New York City, and Chicago show that during the first two weeks in February, stocks were declining

at a much slower rate than in the same period in 1945.



SAUCES AND GARNISHES: The attractiveness of almost any dish consisting of fish will be increased greatly by the use of sauces that subtly enhance or complement the flavor. Any good cook book contains excellent suggestions as to the choice and preparation of such sauces.^{1/} Fresh and colorful garnishes also do much to create a dish as pleasing to the eye as to the palate, thereby whetting the appetite and helping to make the serving of fish a pleasurable and often repeated experience.

^{1/}Sauces for Seafoods. Fishery Leaflet 53. Mimeographed, 4 pages, may be obtained on request from the Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago 54, Ill.