

FOREIGN FISHERY TRADE

Imports and Exports

GROUND FISH IMPORTS: From January 1 through July 31 there were 29,809,350 pounds of fresh and frozen groundfish imported into the United States, an increase of 6,636,782 pounds compared with the corresponding period in 1945, according to a report received from the Bureau of Customs of the Treasury Department. The quota entitled to a reduced tariff of 1-7/8 cents per pound is 20,380,724 pounds, and all imports in excess of this figure have been subject to the full tariff rate of 2½ cents per pound.

Commodity	July 1-31 1946	June 2-29 1946	July 1945	Jan. 1- July 31, 1946	Jan. 1- July 31, 1945
Fish, fresh or frozen fillets, steaks, etc., of cod, haddock, hake, cusk, pollock, and rosefish	5,366,323	4,330,976	3,771,137	29,809,350	23,172,568



Australia

FISHERY TRAINING: In connection with the postwar fisheries expansion program planned by the Australian Government, there are to be a school and additional facilities for the training of ex-service personnel as fishery instructors, administrators, and fishermen in all aspects of modern fisheries technique and management, reports the Fisheries Newsletter (Australia) of April 1946. Based on recommendations of a Government tariff board as well as the Victorian State Development Committee, the training program will be centered at Cronulla, New South Wales. Facilities will comprise a camp with living quarters, lecture rooms, work shops, boats, fishing gear, and recreational equipment for students. The following description of the instruction program is reprinted from the Newsletter:

Arrangements have been made with the Sydney Technical College, the Division of Food Preservation and Transport, and the Division of Fisheries of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research to provide lecturers covering theoretical subjects. A small staff of teachers will be employed or co-opted to give practical tuition. The Department of Navy has indicated its willingness to cooperate wherever possible. The first school will be limited to 40 selected trainees. Courses available for students will be of two types:

- (a) A diploma course designed to equip men for executive posts with fishing companies and fishermen's associations, for posts with State Fisheries Departments and Commonwealth Fisheries research and administrative departments, and for posts with new fisheries requiring specially trained personnel.
- (b) A course for operatives in any type of fishery involving less detailed theoretical work and more practical experience with boats and gear.

The syllabus will require that trainees be of matriculation standard, but certain preparatory courses will be included for those trainees whose educational qualifications are not of that standard. The preparatory courses will cover English, Mathematics, Business Principles, and Elementary Science. The main school will take the following courses:

FISHERIES BIOLOGY

- (1) Detailed study of anatomy, physiology, etc. of fish.
- (2) Detailed study of the sea as a living place--composition of sea water, ocean currents, tidal movements, plankton and fish food.
- (3) Research methods.
- (4) Fresh water fisheries.
- (5) Oysters, lobsters, crayfish, prawns and crabs.

FISHERIES ECONOMICS

- (1) Fisheries of the world, methods.
- (2) Factors of production--manpower, gear, boats, fuel, finance.
- (3) Factors of distribution--markets, transport, port facilities.

FISHERIES ADMINISTRATION AND LEGISLATION

- (1) Fisheries management, depletion, overfishing.
- (2) Legislation in each state.
- (3) Overseas legislation and international agreements.

FISHERIES TECHNOLOGY

- (1) Detailed study of fishing grounds, oyster farming, fresh water fisheries.
- (2) Detailed study of types of gear--its design, construction, preservation and repair.
- (3) Detailed study of boats--design, construction, apparatus, repair; use of slip ways.
- (4) Engines, study of types, upkeep and repair.

SEAMANSHIP AND NAVIGATION

Courses to fit trainees to take full responsible charge of all types of fishing craft.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY

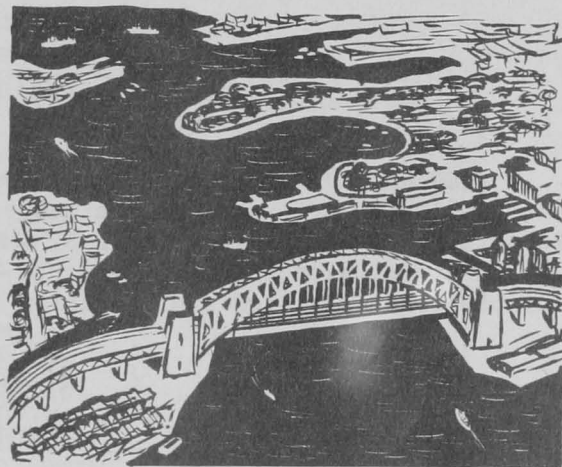
Detailed study of the handling of fish--transport, preserving, refrigeration and processing.

These courses will be covered by lectures and practical classes. Trainees will hear lectures on seamanship and navigation, the catching and the handling of fish, and they will then receive practical experience by going out in boats and by making, caring for, repairing, and using gear. The courses are so designed that trainees may secure a good working knowledge of the main fishing methods and boats. At the conclusion of the four months intensive study at the school trainees will be placed in turn with skilled crews in the various types of fisheries. In this way it is hoped to give trainees the widest experience to fit them for posts in any fishery. This section of the training will occupy eight months.

Extension of Scheme: It is possible that the scheme may be extended to include short course special schools for fishermen who may wish to know more about boat care, new types of gear, handling of fish, or navigation. It is also possible that eventually short course schools may be held in various centers in all states. If, for example, a branch of a fishermen's league should find that its members wished to have a two week's school in navigation, or the making, preservation, and repair of nets, or on the handling and packing of fish, the Division may consider sending to that branch at its home port a lecturer with equipment, including films.

POSTWAR DEVELOPMENT: The Commonwealth of Australia has entered into a post-war program of fishery development, the basis for which is outlined as follows in the April 1946 issue of Fisheries Newsletter, published by the Ministry of Postwar Reconstruction for Australia.

For some years the Commonwealth Government has been accepting new responsibilities in connection with the Australian fishing industry. In 1937, the Commonwealth Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established a Division of Fisheries to carry out certain scientific investigations in connection with the industry. In 1943, the Production Executive of the Federal Cabinet directed the establishment of an authority, to be known as the Controller of Fisheries, to be responsible for wartime control and management of the industry. In December 1945, the Cabinet approved of the establishment of a Commonwealth Fisheries Commission to be a permanent Commonwealth Fisheries authority. The Fisheries Commission is now in course of becoming established; it will discharge the Commonwealth's administrative and developmental responsibilities; and also will carry out economic research into the industry.



During the war it was necessary that expert opinion should be available to establish the place of the fishing industry in a wartime economy and to consider its requirements of manpower, fuel, boats, and equipment. While directing that the Controller of Fisheries should discharge these functions, the Production Executive also directed that attention should be given to various other measures whereby the industry might be assisted to take its part in the wartime economy.

The decision taken by the Cabinet in December 1945 will have the effect of transforming the wartime instrumentality of the Controller of Fisheries to a permanent peace-time organization with functions some of which will be a continuation of those already developed and others which were unnecessary or impossible during war. The administrative functions include the management of fisheries which lie beyond the three-mile limit and the representation of the Commonwealth at Conferences where problems concerning the fishing industry are concerned; this function also includes the formulation of policy in respect of the industry where problems of production, tariffs, international collaboration, etc., demand a special knowledge. The developmental function will cover activities which will lead to an increase in the Australian fisheries catch, and a general increase in the efficiency of the fishing operations.

Development of New Fisheries: It is clear that, if new methods and new equipment are to come into use, there must be available in the first place a sufficient body of adequately trained personnel to handle the equipment. Thus, the Commission will be responsible for a program of technical instruction. Again, there is no doubt that there are considerable prospects of expansion of the Australian fishing industry. Such expansion will require some measure of organization of the factors of production and distribution to ensure success. New fisheries will involve new boats, new gear, new facilities for handling the catch, and perhaps of processing it. It will be the responsibility of the Commission to do all in its power to assist the fishing industry to expand along efficient lines.

In all this work it is proposed to work as much as possible through existing State Departments of Fisheries; expansion of the staff may be necessary in some instances, but the intention is that the staff of the Commission should be kept at a minimum.



British West Indies

FISHERY DEVELOPMENT: A sum equivalent to \$335,000 has been made available for fishery work in the British West Indies, according to a report to the U. S. Department of State from the U. S. Consulate at Barbados. The money has been placed at the disposal of a Governor-in-Executive Committee. It will be used for the rehabilitation and extension of the fishing industry.



Canada

COLD-STORAGE: A gain of over 7 million pounds during July in Canadian cold-storage holdings of fishery products was indicated in preliminary reports issued early in August by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Fresh frozen items on hand on August 1 totaled 39,300,000 pounds, compared to 32,048,000 pounds on July 1 and 31,454,000 pounds on August 1, 1945.



Japan

FISHERY EDUCATION: Report No. 37 of the Natural Resources Section of the Headquarters of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Tokyo, recently issued, describes in considerable detail the facilities in Japan for fishery education and research. The summary of this 32-page report is as follows:

1. In keeping with the importance of fish and marine products in the general economy of Japan, the Japanese Government has placed much emphasis on fishery education and fisheries research, both biological and technological.
2. Japan has 32 prefectural fisheries schools in 24 prefectures. These schools give special training in the biology of fishes and chemistry of marine products as well as technical and practical training in fishing, fish processing, navigation, boat building, and allied subjects. The schools are designed to train men to be expert fishermen, and cannery managers. Graduates from the prefectural fisheries schools are eligible to enter the two fisheries colleges, one of which is at Hakodate, Hokkaido, and the other at Tokyo. The colleges offer three- and five-year courses in fisheries. Three of the seven Imperial universities in Japan have fisheries departments in their faculties of agriculture. The departments offer a three-year course leading to a college degree. This is the highest level of fisheries education in Japan. Japan has 118 government-supported fisheries and marine products research stations and branches. Six are operated by the government and 112 by prefectures. These stations conduct research in fisheries biology, fishing methods, and fisheries products.
3. Twenty-one marine and fresh-water biological stations are associated with universities and fisheries colleges. These stations are designed for instruction, but much valuable research is done in fisheries biology by the university professors. Two of the large fishing companies operate three laboratories for research in the biology of fishes. One privately endowed marine research station is in Japan. In addition to the marine stations in Japan Proper, the Japanese operated 14 fisheries research stations in Korea, five in Formosa, one in Karafuto, one in the South Seas, one in Kwantung, and three in Manchuria.



Nova Scotia

FISHERIES PRODUCTION: The latest fisheries statistics for the Canadian Maritime Provinces, reported to the U. S. Department of State by the American Consulate General at Halifax, Nova Scotia, indicated a considerable decrease in total landings during the second quarter of 1946, probably as a result of unusually bad sea weather. According to the Consulate's report, dated June 26, 1946, fish prices remain very high, with haddock and cod averaging $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound on the pier. Herring prices along the New Brunswick coast fluctuated from \$1.50 to \$3 a barrel (200 pounds to the barrel) in April, and the demand was high due to the construction of new plants and smokehouses. In general, through May and June fish prices remained high and steady with demand greater than supply.



In April, total fish landings for the three Maritime Provinces were 28,173,000 pounds with an approximate landed value of \$1,885,400, representing a decrease of 9,807,000 pounds and a decrease in landed value of approximately \$184,200 as compared with April 1946. Bad weather has hampered operations.

The report states that the concensus among local fish processors is that the present high prices for fish will obtain through 1946. They believe, however, that by 1947 strong outside competition may be met in the United States markets, forcing a fall in price. With the anticipated decline in price, it is also expected that producers will take greater care in the quality processed for export as fresh or frozen fillets, and turn a larger share of the catch into the dried and salt fish markets. Recently, the supplies of salt fish, including alewives and herring, for export have been very limited.



Peru

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHING INDUSTRY: In a Supreme Resolution of June 12, 1946, the Peruvian Minister of Agriculture is authorized to administer the fishing industry either directly or through agents, for the purpose of stimulating production, according to a report to the U. S. Department of State from the American Embassy at Lima, Peru. The resolution has only budgetary significance; however, the language is sufficiently broad to enable the Minister to do about what he wishes within limits of available funds in the fishing industry.



ALASKA, whose principal industry is fisheries, is the chief production center of salmon, the most valuable fishery resource of the United States. It is also an important source of herring, halibut, sablefish, and clams. The breeding grounds of the fur seal are in Alaska. The continental shelf of the Northwest is a vast area rich in untapped resources, and it offers great opportunity for development and expansion of bottom fisheries.

The Alaska catch in 1943 was 577 million pounds.

--Senate Document No. 51