

FOREIGN FISHERY TRADE

Imports and Exports

GROUND FISH IMPORTS: Imports of groundfish, including rosefish fillets, during August amounted to 2,052,918 pounds, according to preliminary figures released by the Bureau of Customs, U. S. Treasury Department. This was less than two-thirds of the total for the corresponding month last year. Iceland, with a total of 119,250 pounds, was the only source country to show an increase over August 1946. The total of 16,032,127 pounds for the year to the end of August is less than one-half that for the first eight months of 1946. This is the eighth straight month that the cumulative total for 1947 has been less than half that of the corresponding period in 1946.

Country	1947		1946	
	August Pounds	8-month Total Pounds	August Pounds	8-month Total Pounds
Canada	1,624,608	12,305,025	2,116,742	26,168,808
Newfoundland	309,060	2,663,380	1,120,871	3,959,811
Iceland	119,250	1,063,722	10,000	3,018,184
Norway	-	-	-	1,756
Total	2,052,918	16,032,127	3,247,613	33,148,559



Africa

RESEARCH INSTITUTE REPORT: The Fishing Industry Research Institute, located at Cape Town, has recently issued its first quarterly bulletin for members. There follow excerpts from this bulletin:

The Institute was established as a result of negotiations between representatives of the fishing industry and the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. It is, in fact, the first official industrial research association to be established in South Africa by the C.S.I.R.--and probably the first official, Government sponsored and subsidized, fishing industry research association to be formed in the world.



The contributions of the industry are made on the basis of annual gross turnover, according to a scale agreed upon by the representatives. The member firms are stated to represent over 90 percent of the industry. The Council subscribes to the funds of the Institute on a £ for £ basis, and has one representative on the Board of Control. The policy and activities of the Institute however, are controlled by the representatives of the fishing industry.

The Government exercises no control over the precise way in which the funds of the Institute are used, nor does it need to approve of the programmes of research of the Institute. The general condition attaching to the Government grant is that it is used for the prosecution of research. The Association is being incorporated

as a non-profit company. The results of investigations are the property of the members of the Association.

The Board of Control comprises ten members representing the following activities: private enterprise, the Fisheries Development Corporation, the C.S.I.R., the Division of Fisheries, the University of Cape Town, and the University of Stellenbosch. The Director of Research is Dr. G. M. Dreosti, M.Sc. (S.A.), Ph.D. (Utrecht)—formerly Officer-in-Charge of Dehydration and Cold Storage, Union Department of Agriculture.

The main functions of the Institute are to undertake research into the practical problems met with by the industry as a whole, or which are of practical interest to a whole section of the industry. The Institute will be closely associated with the technical staffs of the industry, and the investigations will—at any rate initially—be, for the most part, of the practical type which are likely to furnish early answers to problems confronting the industry.

The work will also include analyses of the materials used in the canning, salting, and smoking of fish, and in the industry generally, and their effects on the final products. Scientific and technical enquiries will be welcomed, and will be answered as well as possible within the scope of the Institute. The Institute will also endeavor, by means of bulletins, to keep the industry informed of new ideas, methods, and findings contained in scientific and technical literature, (or secured by other means) which are considered to be of interest in South Africa. It will collaborate closely with related laboratories overseas and in the Union.

Generally speaking, the Institute will primarily concentrate upon problems in the wide fields of processing, preservation, and transport of fish and fish products, whilst the Division of Fisheries will conduct long-term biological investigations. The value of the industry does not only depend upon matters connected with the actual catching of fish, but also largely upon the effective use made of the whole catch. Initially the Institute will concern itself principally with the scientific fundamentals underlying present practices, and with attempts at the improvement of both practices and final products, and the avoidance of waste, rather than the development of entirely new techniques and products.



Norway

FISHERIES: Uruguay has invited a number of Norwegian fishermen to take part in the shark fishery, according to the Royal Norwegian Information Service. A motor cutter will leave Trondhjem for Uruguay with a 10-man crew in the near future. The cutter is equipped with radar and a depth finder and expects to take four months for the trip.

Norway has directed a request to the Allied Control Council in Berlin to the effect that the number of German trawlers not be increased before the extent of Germany's future participation in the ocean fisheries has been finally decided.

