

## OTHER FISHERY NOTES

## Additions to the Fleet of U.S. Fishing Vessels

A total of 132 vessels received their first documents as fishing craft during June 1947, compared with 110 in the same month the previous year, according to information released by the Bureau of Customs, Treasury Department. The State of Washington led with 33 vessels documented during the month, followed by Florida with 17 vessels, and Louisiana with 10 vessels.

Vessels Obtaining Their First Documents as Fishing Craft

Section	June		Six mos. ending with June		Twelve Months
	1947	1946	1947	1946	1946
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
New England .....	10	6	41	31	86
Middle Atlantic .....	3	4	37	26	74
Chesapeake Bay .....	15	6	45	31	71
South Atlantic and Gulf .....	45	30	207	130	351
Pacific Coast .....	45	51	242	182	375
Great Lakes .....	5	8	36	37	76
Alaska .....	7	3	17	11	19
Hawaii .....	-	1	9	3	17
Unknown .....	2	1	7	10	16
Total .....	132	110	641	461	1,085

Note: Vessels documents by the Bureau of the Customs are craft of 5 net tons and over.



## Alaska Hearings Announced

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug announced on July 21 a series of hearings to be held between September 19 and October 27 by the Fish and Wildlife Service to give Pacific Coast fishermen an opportunity to discuss proposed changes in the Alaska commercial fisheries regulations for 1948.

The hearings are scheduled as follows:

Juneau - Sept. 19	Petersburg - Sept. 26	Kodiak - Oct. 4
Sitka - Sept. 22	Ketchikan - Sept. 29	Cordova - Oct. 9
Craig - Sept. 24	Anchorage - Oct. 2	Seattle - Oct. 27

The hearings will be conducted by Seton H. Thompson, Chief, Division of Alaska Fisheries.



## Conservation Zones

Progress toward establishment of conservation zones in Pacific and other waters, to protect salmon and other fisheries, has been suspended for the time being, Sen. Warren G. Magnuson was told by the State Department, according to a release of August 17, 1947.

The Department advised Sen. Magnuson of its "firm intention to resume attention to this highly important matter at the earliest possible opportunity."

It said that everything possible under present circumstances is being done to solve promptly and effectively the international problems of concern to the fishing industry.

State Department officials said it is believed that the "fisheries work has been so scheduled that there will be proper coverage of current problems of major significance to the fishing industry and that the Department can press forward on several of the most important long-range projects."

Sen. Magnuson had asked early consideration of the establishment of conservation zones, implementing the President's proclamation, off the West Coast of the United States and Alaska. He urged action on behalf of the important fisheries industry and cited suggestions that steps should be taken in anticipation of the pending Japanese treaty.



## Food and Agriculture Organization

**DIRECTOR-GENERAL ISSUES SECOND ANNUAL REPORT:** The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on August 1 made public the second annual report of the Director-General to the FAO Conference covering the 12 months from June 30, 1946 to June 30, 1947. The report has been sent to the 48 Member Governments of FAO for their use in advance of the Conference, which will open in Geneva, Switzerland, on August 25.



The 42-page printed report outlines the growth of FAO from a newly-created body in the early stages of organization to a functioning agency that has begun basic work in a number of fields and has taken a hand in emergency and long-term international policy-making for food and agriculture.

In the publication, the Director-General reports as follows with respect to the Fisheries Division:

The Fisheries Division is being organized in three branches—Economics and Statistics, Technology, and Biology. Pending the appointment of heads of the last two, preliminary work on certain projects within their scope has been undertaken by the Director's office.

Work under way in the division includes the following:

### **Regional councils for the study of the sea.**

A proposal has been made to member governments for the establishment, by convention, of regional councils for the study of the sea in areas not now served by such bodies. The following regions have been suggested for consideration at Geneva: Northwest Atlantic, Southwest Pacific and Indian Ocean (Southeast Asia), Mediterranean Sea and contiguous waters, Northeast Pacific, Southeast Pacific, Western South Atlantic, and Eastern South

Atlantic and Indian Ocean (African area). The functions of the councils would be to bring together existing data and recommend investigations by governments on a wide range of questions basic to full development of marine resources, such as distribution of species, seasonal variations in abundance, effect of fishing operations on numbers, and effective methods of propagation, stocking, disease control, and control of pollution. A draft constitution for such councils has been drawn up for discussion at the Geneva Conference.

**Proposed Southeast Asia fisheries institute.** In the Southeast Asiatic region most diets are lacking in protein, and in animal protein specifically. One of the most practical ways of correcting this deficiency lies in the development of sea and fresh water fisheries, which are generally recognized as capable of consid

erable expansion. However, if fish consumption is to be increased the methods of preservation must be much cheaper than those developed by western technology such as icing, freezing, and canning.

There seems a very good possibility of accomplishing this by paying more attention to the many methods of preservation now used by the native population, involving certain techniques of salting or drying and fermentation. In the Far East fish products of prolonged keepability and of special quality and flavor are obtained by these processes. Usually the methods are not fully understood by scientists, but there is reason to believe that some further research would make possible considerable development and innovation which could be closely related to the native customs and economies.

Such a project would need to be carried out in the region itself. Governments would no doubt regard the work as coming within their own responsibility, but it could be made much more effective if they were to pool their resources and facilities in a unified effort. This might be accomplished by organizing a Southeast Asia Fisheries Institute. Controlled and financed by co-operating governments, it would be charged with the developmental work in fishing methods and technology and might have attached to it a training school for native instructors who could serve governments in spreading the application of the new knowledge. FAO could assist in many ways in the setting up and functioning of such an institute.

**Commodity studies.** The division now has under way a comprehensive investigation and analysis of problems related to salted fish, the first of a series of such commodity studies to be used as a basis for possible recommendations to governments. An ad hoc Advisory Committee on Salted Fish, consisting of representatives from several of the more important producing and consuming countries, met in Washington in April. An interim report will be submitted to governments 15 July and a further report before the end of the year. Arrangements are being made for the co-operation of universities and national research institutions in basic studies connected with this and other commodity problems in fisheries.

**Minimum standards of quality.** Lack of uniform quality in fisheries products has been a serious impediment in international trade. Preliminary work looking toward the possible establishment of certain minimum standards

has been undertaken in preparation for the Geneva Conference, where this question will be on the agenda.

**1950 world census of fisheries.** Preparatory work is being done on a 1950 world census of fisheries paralleling that for agriculture.

**Development of common conversion factors and uniform methods of reporting.** Lack of uniformity in reporting methods and conversion factors is a serious handicap to the presentation and use of fisheries statistics. Information is being collected and recommendations are being prepared which it is hoped will help governments to remedy this situation.

**Statistics of landings, processing, and trade.** Steps have been taken to collect statistical material directly from governments to augment published information, which is incomplete.

**Yearbook of Fisheries Statistics.** The first yearbook, containing comprehensive trade statistics from about 1930 to date, and production and utilization statistics for 1946 and the first half of 1947, will be published before the end of the year.

**Quarterly Journal of Fisheries.** This technical journal, the first issue of which will appear before the end of 1947, will contain quarterly statistics, articles on ichthyology, fisheries technology, and fisheries economics, and digests and reviews of significant material appearing elsewhere.

**Monthly Bulletin of Fisheries.** The monthly bulletin will be a medium for presenting current statistics and for keeping governments informed of new developments in the fisheries industry throughout the world.

**Roster of technical workers and organizations.** The division is assembling material for a world directory of fisheries technologists, biologists, and economists; governmental and other organizations concerned with fisheries; educational institutions offering specialized courses; and government projects for the education of fishermen in fishery techniques.

The following work is planned and will be begun as soon as possible: a catalogue of commercial fisheries resources; recommended nomenclature and synonyms for commercial fishes; establishment of a clearinghouse for periodic reports on research in the handling of fisheries products; survey of methods of fishing, with special emphasis on recent innovations; furnishing technical advice to member governments on establishment of statistical services.

Besides the fisheries section, the report contains additional material of general interest on FAO's program as well as a number of appendices which include the roster of Member countries, the members on various committees, and a listing of all FAO printed and offset publications.

The Director-General's Second Annual Report--C47/19--has been published in English and French and the Spanish edition is in preparation. The price in each language is 50 cents a copy. Pending arrangements with agents in various parts of the world, copies are obtainable from the Documents Office, Food and Agriculture Organization, 2000 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

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FATS AND OILS REVIEW: Total world supplies of visible fats in 1947 are estimated at 10.2 million tons as compared with 12.8 million tons prewar,<sup>1/</sup> according to Fats and Oils Review--C47/11-- July 21, 1947, prepared by the FAO staff as one of a series of documents designed to present background material in connection

Table 1 - Export Supplies of Fats and Oils (1,000 metric tons, fat equivalent)

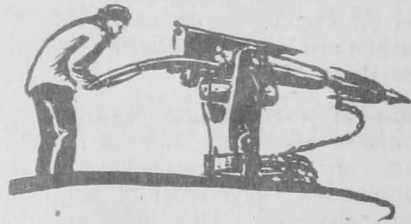
Types of Oil	Prewar	1945	1946	1947 Estimate
Marine Oils .....	645	95	181	339
Total Fats and Oils .....	2,109	645	820	720-1119

with the Third Session of the FAO Conference at Geneva, August 25. Indigenous production in continental Europe has declined by 1.5 million tons, while exports from the primary producing regions of Africa, Asia, and Oceania have declined by 2.1 million tons. These declines have been partially offset by an increase of over a million tons in United States production.

Prior to the last war, the whaling industry, primarily in the Antarctic, produced over 500,000 tons of whale oil. During the war, whaling virtually ceased.

Most of the factory ships and catcher boats were converted to wartime purposes and many were destroyed. The few expeditions which it was possible to equip in time for the 1945-46 season encountered exceptionally unfavorable weather and oil production was disappointingly small at 145,000 tons. In the immediate prewar years, six or seven countries participated in this industry, the U. K., Norway, Germany, and Japan being the main producers. In 1946-47, it was possible to send out more expeditions,

which this time made record catches per boat. Oil production reached 347,000 tons. As Germany and Japan are out of the picture with the exception of two controlled Japanese expeditions in 1946-47 producing 12,000 tons, the great bulk of the postwar production is controlled by Norway and Great Britain. As regards the final recipients, most European countries are obtaining less than before the war, while Germany is obtaining practically none (as compared with 200,000 tons annual prewar). The U.K. seems likely to receive two-thirds of this year's supply.



Despite the smaller fleet operating than in prewar years, the total number of whales caught approximates the maximum blue whale limit now prescribed under

<sup>1/</sup>Because of the short-comings of available statistics, this figure and subsequent estimates for the world as a whole relate to total production in North America, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand, plus export supplies from the rest of the world; similarly, as regards consumption, the tables cover total consumption in the first group of countries mentioned plus the "consumption of imports" in the rest of the world.

the International Whaling Convention. It is planned to increase the number of expeditions this coming season which will pose the question of adjusting the limits of the catch to those allowed under the convention which was modified last year in view of the acute world shortage of fats and oils.

Table 2 - Visible Fats and Oils

Area	Prewar (old national boundaries)		1947 Estimate (new national boundaries)	
	Marine Oils (Excl. whale)	Total visible	Marine Oils (Excl. whale)	Total visible
	1000 Tons	1000 Tons	1000 Tons	1000 Tons
United States .....	103	3,072	84	4,460
Canada .....	14	226	5	266
United Kingdom .....	6	159	-	42
Australia .....	0	244	0	197
New Zealand .....	0	166	1	165
Continental Europe (excl. USSR):				
Northern & Western:				
Ireland .....	-	63	-	35
France .....	-	351	-	258
Belgium .....	1	94	-	48
Switzerland .....	-	33	-	25
Netherlands .....	-	134	-	66
Denmark .....	-	184	-	144
Norway .....	20	42	14	25
Sweden .....	-	91	-	105
Finland .....	-	48	-	22
Total .....	21	1,040	14	728
Central & Eastern:				
Germany - All Zones .....	14	889	-	400
Czechoslovakia .....	-	146	-	79
Austria .....	-	63	-	31
Poland .....	-	265	-	80
Total .....	14	1,363	-	590
Danubian Countries .....	-	422	-	264
Southern Europe:				
Italy .....	1	451	-	276
Spain .....	-	450	-	470
Portugal .....	-	86	-	80
Greece .....	-	127	-	99
Total .....	1	1,114	-	925
Total Continental Europe ....	36	3,939	14	2,507
Grand Total .....	159	7,806	104	7,534

Note: Total production in Europe (excl. USSR), North America, Australia, and New Zealand in metric tons, fat equivalent.

World production of fish oil, other than whale oil, is relatively small but not at all negligible. The United States' production of herring oil (includes oil produced from sea herring, menhaden, pilchard and related species) in 1946 amounted to about 63,000 tons compared with about 80,000 tons in the previous year and more than 100,000 tons in 1939. Norway produced about 15,000 tons of herring oil in 1946 compared with 19,000 tons in 1939 and 25,000 tons in 1940. Iceland produced about 17,000 tons of herring oil in 1946 compared with about 20,000 tons<sup>2/</sup> annually in the late '30's and some 25,000 tons<sup>2/</sup> during the war years. Canada's production of herring oil in 1946 amounted to about 4,000 tons. Newfoundland's production was very small. Japan is no longer operating her fishing industry concessions of Siberia and her catch from coastal waters is now required primarily for direct food consumption. The Japanese herring oil production in 1946 slightly exceeded 3,000 tons.

<sup>2/</sup>Export figures.

The total production of herring oil by these countries amounted to about 100,000 tons in 1946, still below the prewar level. As only a small proportion is refined for human consumption, it has been proposed that more attention should be devoted to refining.<sup>2/</sup>

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NILS JANGAARD ON STAFF IN ROME: The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations announced on July 22 the appointment of Nils Jangaard, fisheries attaché of the Norwegian Embassy at Washington, to the staff of the FAO Fisheries Division. Mr. Jangaard left by plane on July 22 for Europe where he will represent the Fisheries Division at the FAO Temporary European Office at Rome. The Government of Norway granted Mr. Jangaard a leave of absence for a year to serve on the FAO staff in response to a request by Sir John Boyd Orr, Director-General of FAO.

Fisheries in Europe present some difficult problems of distribution and marketing. These were the subject of discussion of a committee of fisheries experts from the main producing and consuming countries of Europe meeting recently in Rome. Mr. Jangaard will pay particular attention to the recommendations of this committee, and will work closely with the FAO National Committees through the Temporary European Office.

Mr. Jangaard, who is one of Norway's leading fisheries experts, has represented his government in North America since 1941. He was Norwegian Vice Consul at Halifax, Nova Scotia, from 1941 to 1944. For the last three years, he has been fisheries attaché of the Norwegian Embassy at Washington. Mr. Jangaard has 20 years' experience in the fishing business including 5 years in the fisheries and shipping business in Portugal, and a year as Secretary of the Norwegian Legation at Rio de Janeiro. He speaks several European languages.

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QUALITY STANDARDS: In the following Memorandum to Member Governments dated July 14, FAO presents further considerations with respect to an international code of quality standards.

In the report of the First Session of the Conference (Quebec, 1945) it is stated that lack of standardization of quality, packaging, weight, and designation of fish commodities constitutes a restriction to trade. The object of this memorandum is to supplement the Memorandum to Member Governments, G/P3 of 6th May 1947, which has already been circulated, and in which Member Governments were informed that it is proposed to initiate preliminary discussions on the desirability of an international agreement upon minimum standards of quality for certain fisheries commodities.<sup>1/</sup>

<sup>2/</sup>In addition, the medicinal liver oils occupy an important place in human diet. In 1946, the United States produced about 2,000 tons of medicinal oils; Iceland, 6,000 tons; Canada, 1,000 tons; Newfoundland, 2,000 tons; Norway, 12,000 tons. The total for these countries for which records are available amounted to 23,000 tons. Some technical oil may be included but the bulk is presumably medicinal oil. The vitamin A content of the United States production is computed as 56 trillion international vitamin units. For the other countries, conversion of vitamin units is not available. The preponderant part of the United States' vitamin A production from fish oils came from shark liver which is a recent development. Other countries; e.g., South America, South Africa, India, etc., are conducting shark liver fisheries but no statistics are yet available.

<sup>1/</sup>See "Minimum Standards of Quality," Commercial Fisheries Review, May 1947, pp. 41-42.

The question before the Conference at this time is as to whether they approve in principle of such an international agreement upon minimum standards of quality.

If the Conference agrees to this principle, it should give consideration to the preparatory steps towards the accomplishment of such a purpose. It would seem that these would involve:

1. The selection of commodities to be affected, which is a question that might best be dealt with by those versed in trade;
2. The choice of the standards of quality to be defined by the code, which is of concern to the scientific experts and technologists.

The Conference may wish to refer consideration of these complicated questions to Ad Hoc Committees nominated by governments, who could work with the Fisheries Division, and would present reports to the next Conference.

In the meantime, the following considerations are offered:

#### Commodities Chiefly Concerned

The commodities chiefly concerned are those entering into international trade. Statistics reveal that these are canned fish, salted cod and codlike fish, salted and pickled pelagic fish, bloaters and red herring, and fish meal and oil. It is not possible to accurately determine the position of frozen and fresh fish in international trade, since these products are not separated in the statistical reports.

#### The Nature of the Code

The nature of an international code of standards of quality for fisheries products would be such as to define those attributes of quality which are regarded as a minimum requisite for the product concerned. Some of these attributes can be objectively measured. Others cannot. It is possible to detect the presence of putrefactive bacteria, or those harmful to the human organism by objective means. Similarly color, texture and mixture of solids and liquids and their analysis, weights and form of package also lend themselves to objective measurement. But quality includes taste, smell and visual appeal, the measurement of which presents a much more difficult problem, and one which is usually dealt with by subjective means. Considering the great variety of products, each of which would require a separate description, it is suggested that it may be difficult to arrive at a code which can adequately deal with all the attributes of quality. Chances of success would be greater if attention were focussed upon the relatively few attributes of quality that can be objectively measured, and of these to choose only those, the absence of which constitutes a barrier to consumption or are actually harmful to the consumer.

It is recognized, as has been pointed out in the former memorandum that the existence of an international code of standards of quality brings no compulsion to either producing or consuming countries to adopt it or to enforce adherence to its provisions. Such enforcement would pose an administrative problem of some difficulty to certain exporting countries. On the other hand, importing countries might, by insistence that imported commodities conform to the provisions of the code, bring about its application.

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REGIONAL COUNCILS: On July 17, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations sent an additional memorandum to Member Governments on Regional Councils entitled "Further to the Proposal to Establish Regional Councils for the Study of the Sea." The memorandum--C47/30--is reproduced herewith.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION  
OF THE UNITED NATIONS

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Memorandum to Member Governments

Further to the Proposal to Establish Regional  
Councils for the Study of the Sea

A memorandum to Member Governments entitled "Proposal for the Establishment by Convention of Regional Councils for the Study of the Sea", G/P4, 7th May 1947, has been circulated. In this it was indicated that further to the proposal, a draft Convention, which might be suitable for the establishment of such Councils for the Study of the Sea, would be circulated to Governments for consideration at the forthcoming conference.

This is now done in the form of a proposed draft Constitution for Regional Councils for the Study of the Sea, attached hereto, which may be suitable as a starting point in the derivation of an instrument of establishment when such matters are considered by interested Member Nations in the various regions. It is intended to present certain ideas which, if they are approved, can be put into proper form by legal draftsmen.

If the Conference approves of the principle of establishing such Regional Councils under the auspices of FAO, the Conference may wish to recommend that action be taken to initiate discussion amongst Regional Groups of Member Nations after the Conference has ended.

No Existing Rights Abridged

The memorandum G/P4, referred to above, considered various regions from the global point of view in order to achieve provisional delimitation. It cannot be emphasized too strongly that the limits suggested for the several regions are for the purpose of indicating possible zones of maximum interest and that they do not in the least abridge the rights of nations, individually or collectively, to conduct investigations anywhere on the high seas in any part of the world which in any case they are entitled to do under International Law.

On the other hand, it is to be expected that there will be, on occasion, a desire on the part of one Regional Council to conduct, or see conducted, scientific investigations in the home waters of another, and this desire should not be repugnant to anything explicitly or implicitly expressed in the proposed Constitution.

Relation of Similar International Institutions

It was also pointed out in memorandum G/P4 that the proposal aims at the establishment of Regional Councils for the Study of the Sea in parts of the world not now actively served by such bodies. Notable amongst existing bodies of this nature is the Permanent International Council for the Exploration of the Sea with its Headquarters at Copenhagen, Denmark. This Institution was founded in 1899 under a renewable five-year agreement between the Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Ireland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Ruesia, Spain and Sweden. Its purpose is to secure international cooperation in scientific inquiry on the high seas. Its field of action has been largely in the North-eastern parts of the Atlantic, the North Sea and the Baltic Sea, in which waters it has been responsible for much of the pioneer work in the promotion of fisheries research. It collects, collates and publishes statistics of the landed sea fish in Europe, maintains certain physical and chemical standards for reference at Copenhagen, and conducts certain work in hydrography.

No proposal is made for the establishment of a Regional Council for the European waters thus served by the ICES.

Institutions that are inactive so far as is known at the moment are:

1. The International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean - which was founded at Madrid in 1919, and included Delegates from Egypt, Spain, France, Greece, Italy, Monaco, Tunisia and Turkey. According to present information the Commission is now inactive.
2. The North American Council on Fisheries Investigations - which was organized in 1920 under an informal agreement between the United States of America, Canada, Newfoundland and France. The Council met infrequently and held its last meeting in 1936.
3. International Committee on Oceanography of the Pacific - which was suggested in 1923 at Sydney, and included Australia, Canada, China, France, French Indo China, Great Britain, Japan, Netherlands, Netherland East Indies, New Zealand, Philippine Islands, USSR and the United States of America. So far as is known this Committee was never convened.
4. Consejo Oceanografico Ibero-Americano - which was organized in 1929 under an agreement signed by Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Dominican Republic and Uruguay. The period of agreement was for eight years and it is not known whether it has been renewed.

The regional Councils now proposed cover the waters formerly served by these now inactive Councils on the grounds that there is evident need for the services proposed and that most of the countries who were members of the above institutions are now members of FAO, who, through its Fisheries Committee, particularly at the Quebec and Copenhagen Conferences, requested that action be taken towards the establishment of such Regional Bodies.

Fisheries Institutions founded by Treaty

Agreements exist in the form of treaties between the United States of America and Canada creating the International Fisheries Commission for the preservation of halibut in the North Pacific and Bering Seas; the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission for the development and conservation of Pacific salmon; and the Great Lakes Fisheries Board for the conservation of fisheries in the Great Lakes of North America.

These bodies are charged with the duty of making investigations and recommendations, based upon the findings, on the control of fishing.

They differ from the proposed Regional Councils in that they are bilateral, they maintain staffs of scientists to investigate specific problems defined by treaty; they, in effect, formulate regulations governing fishing.

Regional Councils which are more general in their scope of interest could exist collaterally with such bodies. There would probably be close cooperation between them, and they would no doubt be represented upon the Councils as observers.

Technical, Administrative and Financial Implications

A report on the technical, administrative and financial implications of the proposal may be of interest.

Technical - Regional Councils are intended to be deliberative co-ordinating bodies which will formulate problems concerning the maximum utilization of fisheries resources of the sea, assemble and correlate existing information and to point to gaps in knowledge. Actual research conducted in any region will be controlled, financed and performed by Member Governments, but it is hoped that the deliberations of a Council may lead to suggestions on the most useful orientation of such work.

The technical implications of the Councils *per se* will therefore be limited to making reports, and the publication of such data as the Council may decide upon. It is expected that FAO, through its Headquarters or Regional Offices, when they are established, will be able to provide the necessary technical services in this connection.

If a Council decides to undertake research, or the supply of services under its own supervision and direction, the Council would be expected to reach an agreement between its Members to make such an arrangement possible, and the technical implications of this action would be the responsibility of the Council.

Administration - It is provided in the proposed Constitution that the Council shall elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and that it may elect an Honorary Secretary who, together with the Executive Secretary, appointed by FAO from its own staff, will constitute the administrative officers. The routine secretarial and office work will be conducted by the Executive Secretary, who will usually be attached to the FAO Regional Office and could therefore avail himself of the clerical assistance necessary.

Financial - The proposed Constitution provides in Article IV that -

- "1. The expenses of the representatives at the Council, and of its experts and advisers, occasioned by meetings of the Council, shall be determined and paid by their respective Governments.
- "2. FAO shall be responsible for the expenses involved in communications, secretarial work, and publications within the limits of an annual budget which shall be prepared in accordance with the established regulations of FAO and approved in conformity with existing procedure of FAO.
- "3. The annual budget may include provision for travelling and living expenses of the Chairman, and Vice-Chairman, when the work of the Council in the intervals between its meetings requires them to be away from their respective headquarters. Such expenses shall be determined and paid by FAO according to its established regulations."

The expenses involved will therefore be mainly those concerned with publication and travel.

Publication - The precise form and arrangements for publication will be subject to consultation between the Council and FAO who, as pointed out above, will supply the technical service needed. It is thought that a uniform method of reporting and publication will be worked out, but some time will elapse before the volume of printed material becomes significant. Once the Councils are well established it is estimated that from two to four thousand dollars per annum per Council may suffice.



## 1947 Fur-Seal Take Announced

A total of 61,447 fur-seal skins were taken in the Government-administered sealing operations on Alaska's Pribilof Islands during the 1947 season which closed July 31, Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug announced on August 17.

This represents a decrease of 3,276 skins from the 1946 take, due, according to officials of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, in part to the earlier termination of sealing operations. The take of seals is confined to the young males which early in the season are segregated from the rest of the herd. As soon as these young males begin to mingle with the family groups, it is customary to discontinue sealing to avoid injury to the females and young.

The seal herd numbered 3,613,653 animals when the annual census was taken early in August, Secretary Krug stated. This is an increase of 6.72 percent over the 1946 census of 3,386,008 animals.



ALASKA FUR-SEAL

Fur-seals, which have a soft and beautiful underpelage, are highly valued and the Pribilof Island herd is estimated to be worth in excess of \$100,000,000.

When the Federal Government assumed active management of the fur-seals in the Pribilofs in 1910, the herd contained only 132,279 animals. By careful conservation, the herd has been developed to its present size and, at the same time, has produced nearly a million and a half skins which have been sold for the account of the Government.

The North American fur-seal herd comprises about 80 percent of all the fur-seals in the world. Smaller herds are found in the western Pacific off the coast of Uruguay, and off the Cape of Good Hope.

The main breeding grounds of the North American fur-seals are St. Paul and St. George Islands, the largest of the Pribilof group. From wintering grounds extending as far south as southern California, the entire herd assembles each spring on these treeless, volcanic islands. Here they remain for several months, during which the young seals, or pups, are born.



## Halibut Areas Closed

Under authority of the Convention between the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada for the preservation of the Halibut Fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, and as provided by regulations effective March 17, 1947, the International Fisheries Commission announced on July 24, 1947, that the closed season in Area 1A, Area 3, and Area 4 would begin at 12, midnight, of the 17th day of August.

This terminated all halibut fishing on the Pacific coast of Canada and of the United States, including Alaska, until after the end of the closed season as defined in the said regulations.

Under the provisions of the aforesaid regulations, permits for the retention and landing of halibut caught incidentally to fishing for other species with set lines in any area will become invalid at 12, midnight, of November 15th.



## Salmon Waste

Research on the possibility of establishing a year-round industry for processing the waste products of Alaska salmon canneries will be undertaken by the Alaska Fisheries Experimental Commission under a contract with the Office of Technical Services, Department of Commerce, John C. Green, OTS Director, announced on August 4.



ALASKAN SALMON CANNERY

Funds amounting to \$47,000 have been allotted for the research by the Industrial Research and Development Division of OTS. The project will undertake to determine the specific constituents in salmon waste which have potential market value and the best method for storing the waste for year-round processing.

Approximately 30 percent of the annual salmon catch of 360,000,000 pounds is waste material. This waste contains many recoverable pharmaceuticals such as vitamins, hormones, and amino acids, and chemical raw materials used as drying oils and resin bases, Mr. Green explained. Recoverable material is estimated by experts to be worth from \$5,000,000 to \$10,000,000 annually. The waste, now being dumped into the sea or allowed to rot at the canneries, includes the head, collar, tail piece, liver, milt, roe, and other offal.

Fishing is Alaska's largest industry and its products are valued at more than twice the total for minerals, the Territory's next most important industry. Salmon accounts for 90 percent of the value of fish products. About 30,000 persons, of whom only 7,000 are residents, are employed during the fishing season.

Establishment of byproducts plants would not only aid Alaskan fish canneries, but would also provide additional year-round work in the Territory, Mr. Green said. Utilization of the waste would also provide greater conservation of fish resources.

The Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior is cooperating with the Alaska Fisheries Experimental Commission in the technical aspects of the

project and the Alaska Committee of the Department of Commerce is cooperating in the economic aspects.



## Import Requirements of the U.S. Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act

A booklet entitled Import Requirements of the United States Food, Drug, and Cosmetics Act was recently issued by the Food and Drug Administration. The purpose of the publication is to convey information on the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act that will be helpful to foreign manufacturers and exporters and to United States importers who may not be fully familiar with the requirements of this United States law.

In addition to a discussion of the principal requirements of food law, individual foods are treated under different categories. There is a section devoted to seafoods. Under this category, regulations pertaining to canned fish, fresh and frozen fish fillets, caviar and fish roe, and other seafood products are outlined.

Copies of the publication may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. The price is 15 cents.



## Wholesale and Retail Prices

The food bill for moderate income families in large cities was essentially stable between April 15 and May 15, as the regular monthly survey by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. Department of Labor showed a slight decline, averaging 0.2 percent. Lower prices for fats and oils and dairy products more than offset increases for fruits and vegetables, eggs, and meat.

Wholesale and Retail Prices

Item	Unit	Percentage change from--		
		May 17, 1947	Apr. 19, 1947	May 18, 1946
<b>Wholesale: (1926 = 100)</b>				
All commodities	Index No.	147.0	-0.1	+32.6
Foods	do	161.1	-0.7	+44.5
<b>Fish:</b>				
Canned salmon, Seattle:				
Pink, No. 1, Tall	\$ per doz. cans	3.066	0	+55.6
Red, No. 1, Tall	do	5.486	0	+48.5
Cod, cured, large shore,				
Gloucester, Mass.	\$ per 100 pounds	13.50	-6.0	0
Herring, pickled, N. Y.	¢ per pound	12.0	0	0
Salmon, Alaska, smoked, N. Y.	do	35.0	0	0
<b>Retail: (1935 = 100)</b>				
All foods	Index No.	187.6	-0.2	+31.6
<b>Fish:</b>				
Fresh and canned	do	255.1	-2.3	+16.9
Fresh and frozen	¢ per pound	37.4	-4.3	+ 3.0
Canned salmon:				
Pink	¢ per pound can	40.4	+2.4	+64.0
Red	do	61.8	+2.1	+42.1

Fresh and frozen fish prices declined 4.3 percent during the month to an average price of 37.4 cents per pound. The index for fresh and canned fish at 255.1 was 2.3 percent below the index for April 15 but up 16.9 percent from the index of a year ago.

Canned salmon reversed the general downward trend. Pink salmon at 40.4 cents, per pound can, was up 2.4 percent from a month ago and 64 percent higher than a year ago. Canned red salmon also showed increases compared with a month and a year ago.



## Estimated Value of Fish and Fishery Products at PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, and DISTRIBUTION Levels\*

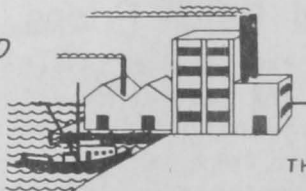
# 1946



THE *ORIGINAL* VALUE OF FISH AND  
SHELLFISH AS TAKEN FROM THE WATERS  
WAS

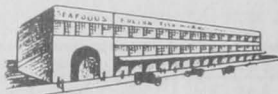
**\$253,000,000**

WHEN *PROCESSED*



THE VALUE WAS

**\$528,105,000**



AFTER *WHOLESALE* DISTRIBUTION  
THE VALUE WAS

**\$688,697,000**

AND WHEN *RETAILED*  
TO THE CONSUMER



THE VALUE WAS

**\$887,791,000**

\* Based on statistical data obtained by Fish and Wildlife Service and Federal Trade Commission