

FRESH AND FROZEN FISH

New England

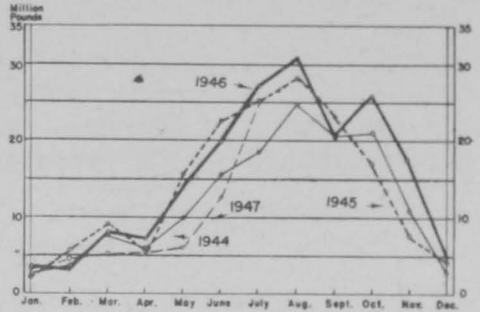
MAINE LANDINGS: Maine fishermen landed 25,001,000 pounds of fishery products, valued at \$1,171,205, during July bringing the total for the first seven months of the year to 63,802,000 pounds, valued at \$4,704,269, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 365. This represents a decrease of 23 percent in volume and 28 percent in value as compared with the landings during the first seven months of 1946, which totaled 83,254,000 pounds, valued at \$6,521,029.

The decreases were due largely to the reduced landings of herring, cod, rosefish, clams, lobsters, and sea mussels.

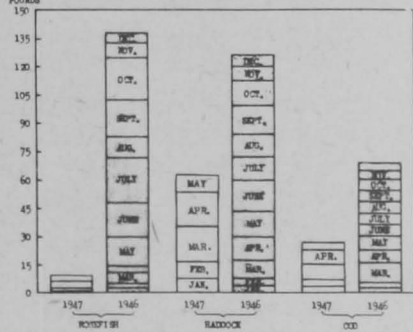
During July, landings at Portland amounted to 4,963,000 pounds, valued at \$139,437 to the fishermen, and represent the largest landings of any month during the year.

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LANDINGS AT MAINE PORTS, 1944-47
By months



Landings of Rosefish, Haddock, and Cod at Massachusetts Ports, 1946 and 1947



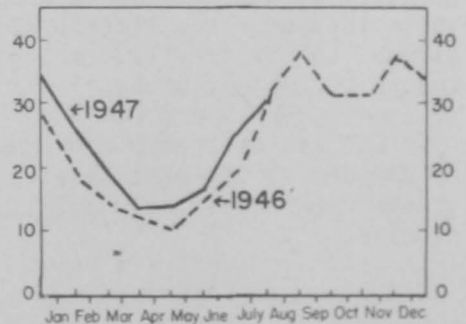
MASSACHUSETTS LANDINGS: Landings of fish and shellfish at the ports of Boston, Gloucester, New Bedford, Provincetown, and other Cape Cod ports during May amounted to 40,530,000 pounds, valued at \$2,711,088 to the fishermen, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 363. These landings brought the total for the first five months of 1947 to 139,777,000 pounds, valued at \$11,357,848.

Comparisons of the 1947 and 1946 landings are inconclusive due to various economic and labor conditions, which, last year, so seriously affected the Boston landings, and, this year, have contributed to the curtailment of the Gloucester landings.

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COLD STORAGE: Frozen fish and shellfish holdings in New England warehouses on August 1 amounted to 29,705,000 pounds, according to reports received by the Boston Fishery Market News Office. This was a 19 percent increase over the holdings on July 1, but 3 percent less than the holdings on August 1, 1946. This is interesting in view of the fact that on August 1, this year, the New England holdings comprised 27 percent of the national holdings, while on August 1, last year, they constituted but 24 percent of the total.

GOLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NEW ENG.
in millions of pounds



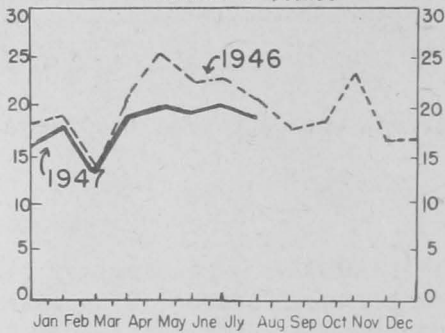
Of the three sections from which this information is derived, Boston, Gloucester, and the rest of New England, only Boston shows holdings in excess of those of August 1, 1946. Despite this fact, Boston's holdings are 3 percent less, as compared with the New England total, than they were on July 1, while Gloucester's are 3 percent more. Holdings in the other New England warehouses are 26 percent of the total, the same as they were last month.



Middle Atlantic

NEW YORK CITY ARRIVALS: Receipts of fish and shellfish at New York's Fulton Market during July 1947 totaled 18,208,000 pounds, according to the Service's Market News Office. This represents a decrease of a little more than $1\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds under total receipts for June. During July 1946, total receipts amounted to slightly over 20,300,000 pounds. Approximately 63 percent of the July 1947 receipts was fresh and frozen fish.

NEW YORK CITY RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds

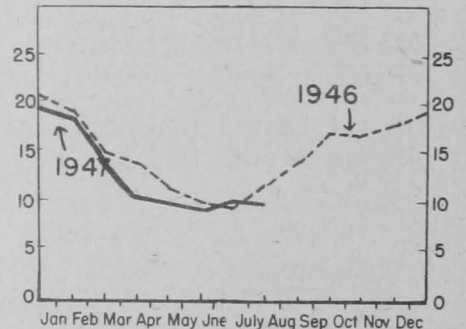


Outstanding items were scup, mackerel, flounder, cod, haddock, whiting, yellowtails, and halibut. Leading items in the shellfish group were hard clams, shrimp, sea scallops, lobsters, hard crabs, soft crabs, and squid.

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NEW YORK CITY COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of frozen fish and shellfish in the New York City metropolitan area on August 1 totaled 8,088,000 pounds, a decrease of 7 percent compared with the previous month, and a decrease of 29 percent compared with the same period in 1946, according to the local Fishery Market News Office. Holdings of salt-water fish on August 1 were 6,410,000 pounds, compared with 8,579,000 pounds on August 1, 1946. Fresh-water and shellfish items on similar dates were 700,000 pounds and 1,414,000 pounds, and 978,000 pounds and 1,345,000 pounds, respectively.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NEW YORK
in millions of pounds



The decline in the holdings for August 1, 1947, when compared with the holdings for August 1, 1946, is due largely to a sharp reduction in the holdings of cod fillets for the salt-water stocks; in ciscoes for the fresh-water species; and scallops, shrimp, and squid for shellfish varieties.

Cod and haddock fillets, mackerel, halibut, and salmon account for approximately 65 percent of the salt-water items; carp, sturgeon, and whitefish for 67 percent of the fresh-water holdings; and shrimp and squid, 74 percent of the shellfish stocks.

Holdings of all fish and shellfish, as of August 1, 1947, show a sharp reduction from the abnormally high holdings of 1946. Holdings on August 1, 1941 (1941

being the last full prewar year) were only 6,079,000 pounds, which would indicate that the 1947 holdings are well above what was once considered normal.



Gulf

PRODUCTION: Because funds for operating the New Orleans Fishery Market News Office were not made available until late in the month, no data on fish and shellfish landings were obtained by the New Orleans office for the period July 1 to July 26.

Landings of shrimp caught in outside waters during July were confined to Alabama and Texas, as a closed season was in effect in Mississippi and Louisiana until August 11 for both inside and outside waters. Inside or inland waters were closed to commercial shrimping during July in Alabama and Texas.

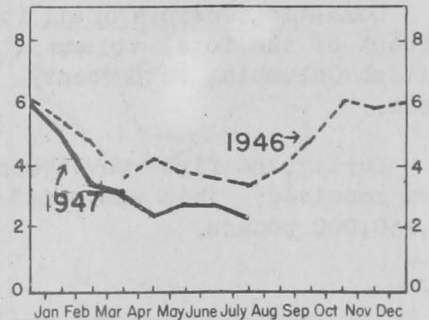
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COLD STORAGE: Eleven cold-storage warehouses in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas reported holdings of frozen fish and shellfish amounting to 2,101,000 pounds on July 31, 11 percent less than four weeks previous, and 38 percent less than one year ago, according to the New Orleans Fishery Market News Office.

Frozen shrimp holdings on July 31 amounted to 375,000 pounds. During the previous four weeks, withdrawals exceeded the "in" movement by 244,000 pounds. On August 1, 1946, shrimp holdings were 1,005,000 pounds.

Salt-water fish holdings on July 31 were 1,309,000 pounds--104,000 pounds less than four weeks earlier, and 827,000 pounds less than one year ago. During the four weeks prior to July 31, withdrawals exceeded the "in" movement for rosefish fillets; flounder, sole, etc.; Spanish mackerel; cod fillets; red snapper; and several other species. In comparison to holdings last year, most varieties show a reduction. Those accounting for the largest decline were cod fillets, rosefish fillets, whiting and king whiting, blue runner, Spanish mackerel, and sea trout.

GULF COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS
in millions of pounds



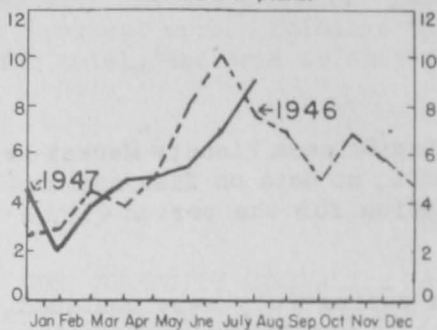
Pacific

ARRIVALS: Seattle's receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products during the month of July totaled 9,111,000 pounds, according to the Service's local Market News Office. These receipts were about a third more than June but over 2½ million pounds less than July 1946.

Fishing for salmon continued excellent in practically all areas and receipts of these fish led all others. Deliveries from local sources, alone, accounted for well over 2,155,000 pounds, followed by British Columbia imports of 1,087,000 pounds, and Alaska shipments of 290,000 pounds, making a total of 3,532,000 pounds

which accounted for 39 percent of the port's total volume. This was nearly a million pounds more than the June deliveries. Of the total, king salmon accounted for 2,823,000 pounds, and silvers, 697,000 pounds. Incidentally, almost all these fish were taken by troll gear.

SEATTLE RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



Second in importance was halibut. The Seattle fleet landed 1,275,000 pounds of fresh halibut during the month, making 24 trips to Area III and 2 trips to Area II. The latter trips also delivered 23,000 pounds of sablefish and 500 pounds of rockfishes. Additional deliveries from Alaska and British Columbia raised the halibut total to 2,844,000 pounds. The late start of the local fleet was largely responsible for the fact that receipts to date were nearly one-third less than for the same period in 1946.

In third and fourth places, respectively, were flounders and soles, totaling 909,000 pounds, and livers, 406,000 pounds.

The local otter trawl fleet landed 1,668,000 pounds during July, making 68 trips to the offshore grounds. This was an increase of more than half a million pounds over June. Petrale sole, lingcod, and rockfishes made up the greater portion of the trawl receipts.

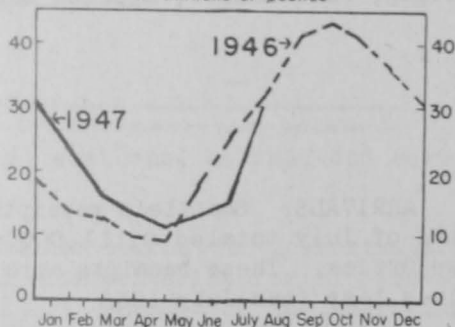
Domestic receipts of all items amounted to 5,687,000 pounds, accounting for 62 percent of the total volume. Alaskan sources contributed about 20 percent and British Columbia, 18 percent. Seventy-eight percent of all receipts was received fresh.

During the first seven months of 1947, a little more than 37,501,000 pounds were received. This was about 16 percent below the 1946 seven-month's total of 44,850,000 pounds.

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NORTHWEST COLD STORAGE: Cold-storage holdings of fishery products in the Northwest region on August 1 increased over $1\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds, or nearly 66 percent, according to the Service's Seattle Market News Office. Stocks of frozen fish and shellfish in 33 warehouses in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Prince Rupert, British Columbia, totaled 29,181,000 pounds, about 4 percent under the August 1, 1946 holdings of 30,502,000 pounds.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - NORTH PACIFIC
in millions of pounds



Heavy freezings of halibut and salmon in Washington and Alaska, and tuna in Oregon accounted for the sharp increase. There were nearly $6\frac{1}{2}$ million pounds of halibut frozen, with Alaska plants accounting for about five-sixths of this amount. Salmon freezings amounted to well over 3 million pounds with the bulk again credited to Alaska. Indicative of the good tuna catches reported off the Oregon coast were the freezings of 4,578,000 pounds of this species. All but about 135,000 pounds were frozen in the Astoria area. Since about 95 percent of the tuna catch in the

Northwest is usually canned, most operators endeavor to freeze as much of the tuna as possible to keep cannery operations busy during the fall slack period. Receipts of fresh king and silver salmon were heavy in most areas and heavy quantities of these species, well over a million pounds each, were frozen to satisfy the expected winter demand.

The region's warehouses reported heaviest holdings for halibut, 14,608,000 pounds; salmon, all species, 4,630,000 pounds; tuna, 4,332,000 pounds; sablefish, 1,864,000 pounds; and bait and animal food, 1,237,000 pounds.

Cured fish stocks rose from 2,680,000 pounds on July 1 to 4,033,000 pounds. Mild-cured salmon, amounting to 3,217,000 pounds, accounted for 80 percent of the cured total. There were also more than half a million pounds of miscellaneous salted fish in storage. Practically all of the cured fish was held in Washington warehouses.

Great Lakes

COLD STORAGE: Holdings of fishery products in Chicago cold-storage warehouses on July 31 amounted to 5,660,000 pounds, an increase of 4 percent over holdings on July 2, but represent a decline of 12 percent from holdings on August 1, 1946, according to the Service's Chicago Market News Office.

Holdings of fresh-water items increased 12 percent during July but were 31 percent below fresh-water holdings on August 1, 1946. Salt-water holdings on July 31 were 11 percent above those of July 2 and 1 percent above holdings of salt-water items a year ago. Shellfish holdings declined 28 percent during July and were 18 percent below shellfish holdings on August 1, 1946.

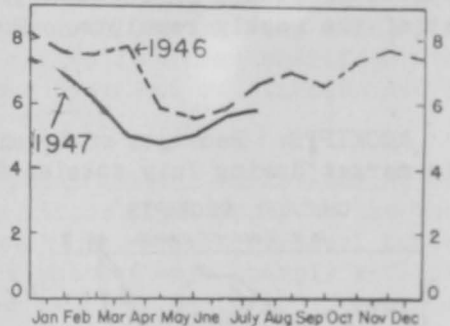
Withdrawals of fresh-water items were consistently light throughout July as arrivals, except for a few species, kept pace with the demand which was mostly light to moderate for the greater part of the month. Greatest gains among fresh-water holdings were made by chubs, 165 percent; lake trout, 22 percent; and yellow pike and yellow pike fillets, 57 percent. During the month, large quantities of whitefish were frozen by dealers, in their own freezing facilities, and shipped. These fish were shipped chiefly to southern States.

Withdrawals of salt-water items just about kept pace with receipts as few items showed much of a fluctuation. Holdings of fillets, all species, gained 3 percent during the month; halibut gained 45 percent; and salmon, 3 percent.

Holdings of shrimp declined 32 percent during July. Compared with shrimp holdings on August 1, 1946, the current holdings represent a decline of 30 percent.

An over-all review of cold-storage holdings shows few changes for the past 4 months, as the July 31 total is only 600,000 pounds above the April 1 total.

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—CHICAGO
in millions of pounds



Species have fluctuated weekly from high to low according to the demand for individual items, but the general total changed very slowly. There has been some reluctance upon the part of public warehouses to freeze fresh fish for storage. No report has been received that there was unwillingness to hold fishery products already frozen, but dealers exhaust every possible means to store or sell surplus arrivals of fresh fish before resorting to public warehouses. This is also reflected by the unusual amounts of frozen fillets, halibut, salmon, and shrimp stored on the dealers' premises.

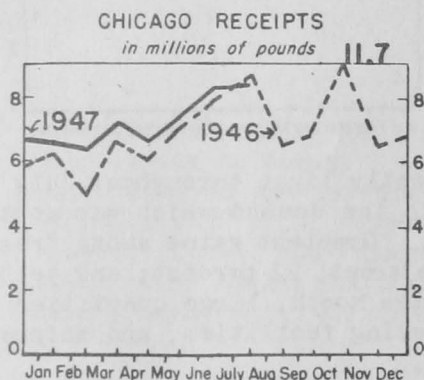
It has been noted of late that many carloads of frozen fish from the West Coast have been stopped in Chicago for part unloading, the rest of the load being re-dispatched to some other point, usually eastern. This is probably due to price differentials.

While not borne out by any definite information, it appears that most local dealers are united in an effort to prevent choice fisheries items such as lake trout, whitefish, and yellow pike from soaring to former high levels. It is observed that while lake trout have not been too abundant during the past month, the price remained stable at 46-48 cents. Not long ago a scarcity of lake trout would send the price up to 65 cents. Whitefish sold consistently under 30 cents and reached a low of 12 cents during June. With a gradually falling production, whitefish sold between 22 and 26 cents; while yellow pike have been fairly stable at 26 to 32 cents, regardless of receipts.

The summer months have been marked, so far, by almost no deliveries of frozen fresh-water fish. During past years, receipts of frozen items formed an important part of the weekly receipts. These days a frozen shipment is the exception.

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RECEIPTS: Receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products in the Chicago wholesale market during July totaled 8,302,000 pounds. This was an increase of 2 percent compared with June and a decline of 2 percent compared with July 1946, according to the local Fishery Market News Office.



Compared with June, fresh-water receipts showed a decline of less than one-half of 1 percent but were 11 percent greater than the fresh-water receipts during July 1946. Salt-water receipts exceeded those of June by 26 percent but were 14 percent below those of July 1946. Shellfish deliveries were 38 percent below those of June but were 2 percent greater than July 1946.

Chief reasons for the small change in fresh-water fish deliveries was the continued large arrivals of lake trout, whitefish, and yellow pike. While these species fluctuated somewhat in daily importance, they again formed the three leading items for the month. Although some of the less desired items such as carp, lake herring, sheepshead, and suckers fell off in poundage, heavier arrivals of chubs and yellow pike, aided somewhat by increased arrivals of whitefish and pickerel, offset this decline.

Arrivals of lake trout, while still important, fell off 20 percent from the June total. They were also 16 percent below arrivals in July 1946. Yellow pike,

chiefly from Minnesota and Manitoba, arrived in quantities 26 percent greater than in June and exceeded the yellow pike receipts of July 1946 by 141 percent. Whitefish receipts exceeded those of June by 8 percent and were 59 percent greater than the total during July 1946.

The rise in salt-water fish receipts was due chiefly to the resumption of fishing by the Pacific Coast halibut fleet and the resultant increase in arrivals of halibut, both fresh and frozen, from West Coast ports, chiefly Prince Rupert. The July arrivals of halibut were 21 percent below those of July 1946. This was due to the lack of halibut fishing operations by Seattle fishermen until shortly after July 1 when differences between vessel owners and the fishing crews were settled and the fleet put to sea. Due to these conditions, arrivals of halibut from the West Coast did not attain importance until the latter part of July.

Arrivals of rosefish fillets from the East Coast of the United States and the Maritime Provinces were 80 percent greater than the arrivals during June; cod and cod fillets exceeded the previous month by 48 percent; haddock and haddock fillets declined 35 percent; and whiting, all items, declined 52 percent during the same period.

Arrivals of Pacific Coast salmon, chiefly kings and silvers, while comparable in quantity to those of June, were 58 percent below total salmon receipts during July 1946.

Total shrimp receipts during July were 40 percent below those of June and 6 percent below July 1946. Fresh shrimp formed only 4 percent of the July shrimp receipts while during June, they approximated 26 percent. During July 1946, fresh shrimp formed 32 percent of all shrimp arrivals. While other shellfish items arrived in quantities below those of June, no one item was outstanding and the July 1947 arrivals compared favorably with those of July 1946.

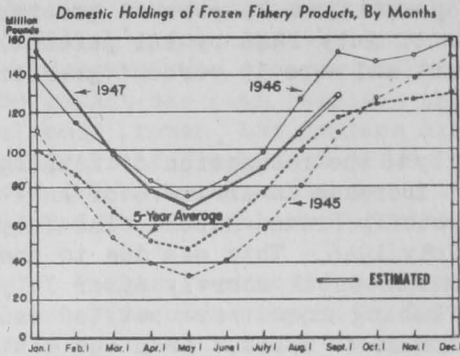
Very unstable price conditions affected the local halibut market during July and appeared to be so unsettled that the same conditions might apply to the whole season. Chicago Market News reports were watched very closely by local dealers throughout the month and mounting prices paid to fishermen were sharply reflected by increasing prices on halibut and salmon quoted by local dealers.

Shrimp maintained their usual high prices throughout the month with no indication they will be lowered. Fresh-water fish prices, especially whitefish, while fluctuating considerably, kept on a fairly low and even level throughout the month.



United States

COLD-STORAGE FREEZINGS AND HOLDINGS: Stocks of frozen fish and shellfish held on August 1st by firms reporting their activities to the Fish and Wildlife Service amounted to 110,611,000 pounds, compared with 126,837,000 pounds on the same date in 1946, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 361. Holdings increased 20,452,000 pounds during July, compared with an increase of 29,031,000 pounds in the same month the previous year. Increases in the holdings of four

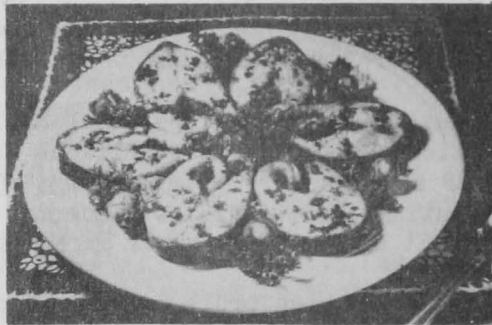


items accounted for the major portion of the gain in stocks during July. These were halibut, up 7.2 million pounds; all classifications of whiting, up 5.6 million pounds; tuna, 4.5 million pounds; and salmon, 2.5 million pounds.

Data contained in this bulletin on the domestic freezing and holdings of frozen fishery products are based on reports from 213 plants. These are principally public cold-storage warehouses.



BROILED SALMON STEAKS



2 lbs. salmon steaks
1 teaspoon salt

$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon pepper
4 tablespoons butter or other fat, melted

Sprinkle both sides with salt and pepper. Place fish on a preheated greased broiler pan about 2 inches from the heat. Brush fish with melted fat. Broil for 5 to 8 minutes or until slightly brown, baste with melted fat and turn carefully. Brush other side with melted fat and cook 5 to 8 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork. Remove carefully to a hot platter, garnish, and serve immediately plain or with a sauce. Serves 6.