

## International

### FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

INDO-PACIFIC FISHERIES COUNCIL AGREEMENT ACCEPTED BY JAPAN: The Government of Japan has accepted the Agreement for the Establishment of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council. Notification of this action (dated September 24, 1952) was received by the Food and Agriculture Organization on October 3, 1952.

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REPORT ON FIRST MEETING OF THE MEDITERRANEAN FISHERIES COUNCIL: The first meeting of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean was held at Rhodes in the Dodecanese Islands, July 21-24, 1952. In recent years, many Mediterranean countries have considerably developed their marine fisheries and fish culture, and increased their production. Discussed at the meeting was the further development of production with the use of new fishing methods and improved gear, the discovery of new fishing grounds, research experimentation, expert advice, and technical training through the provision of scholarships and the establishment of training centers.

The meeting was attended by delegates from France, Greece, Israel, Italy, United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia, and observers from Monaco, the United Nations, the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, and the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea.

It was agreed that the Council's program of work would include such topics as exploration of new fishing grounds, research on tuna and sardines (new gear and methods), factors hampering the fisheries (pollution of waters, maintenance of boats and gear), fisheries biology problems, establishment of statistics and collection of information, and vocational training.

Besides the election of a chairman and two vice-chairmen, three technical committees were established by the Council--exploration, production, and utilization. In addition to these Committees, working groups will be created in each country for the study of specific questions.

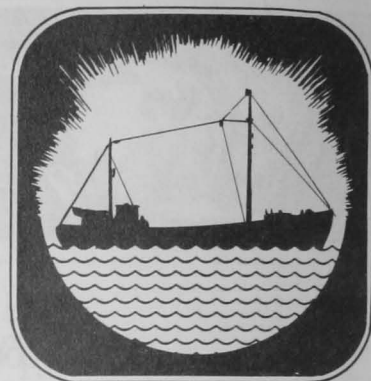
NOTE: SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, AUGUST 1952, PAGE 27.

### NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

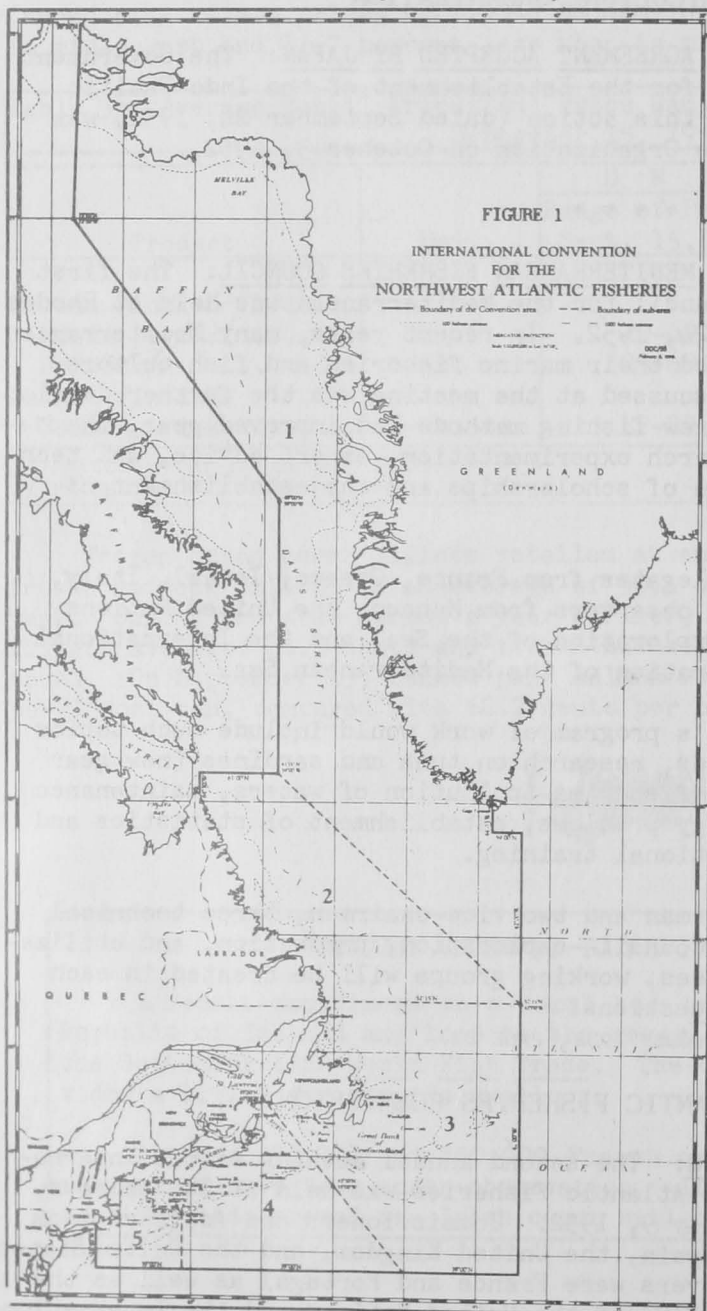
REPORT OF SECOND ANNUAL MEETING: The second annual meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries was held at St. Andrews, N. B., Canada, June 30, 1952, to July 9, 1952. Commissioners and Advisors from Canada, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States were present. Represented by observers were France and Portugal as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Internation-

al Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES). Italy was not represented. The first plenary session was preceded by meetings of the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics, the first of which was convened on June 30; and of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration, which met for the first time on July 2. In all, the Annual Meeting consisted of 6 plenary sessions, 6 sessions of the Committee on Research and Statistics, 3 sessions of the Committee on Finance and Administration, a meeting of each of the five panels, and several Biological Seminars.

The United States delegation consisted of the three United States Commissioners assisted by Thomas Rice of the United States Advisory Committee, and Dr. L. A. Wal-



ford, Chief, Branch of Fishery Biology, and Herbert W. Graham, Chief, North Atlantic Fisheries Investigation--the latter two are employed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



The Executive Secretary advised the meeting that Spain had deposited an instrument of ratification with the United States on January 17, 1952, and Norway on July 2, 1952. It was also indicated that France, Italy, and Portugal had completed the domestic action directed towards becoming voting members of the Commission, but had not yet deposited instruments of ratification with the United States.

The Executive Secretary reviewed present Panel membership which stands as follows:

Panel I - Denmark, Norway, Spain, United Kingdom.

Panel II - Canada only.

Panel III - Canada, Spain, United Kingdom.

Panel IV - Canada, Spain, United States.

Panel V - Canada, United States.

In accordance with Article 4 (2) of the Convention, the United States requested member-

ship on Panel I which includes the Grand Banks of Newfoundland; France indicated that it would, upon ratification of the Convention, wish to join Panels I, II, III, and IV; Portugal indicated that it would join Panels I, III, and IV when it had ratified the Convention. The eligibility of these Governments for membership in the Panels indicated will come under review.

Unable to reach general agreement on the two sites in Canada (St. Johns, Newfoundland, and Halifax, Nova Scotia) under consideration as permanent headquarters for the Commission, the Commission voted to postpone final decision on a permanent site until its third annual meeting. In the meantime, a committee composed of the Chairman, the Commissioner from Iceland, and the Commissioner from Spain, were to consider a possible permanent site. At Canada's invitation, the Commission will maintain its headquarters for the time being at St. Andrews, N. B. With this postponement of a decision, the entire question is reopened and consideration will be given to sites in the United States as well as in Canada.

Regarding the question that the Commission be brought within the framework of a specialized agency of the United Nations, the Commissioners were in general agreement with the position outlined by the United States Commissioners at the meeting with their Advisory Committee in Boston on May 15, 1952. Following some discussion, the Commission resolved "...that having regard to the terms of Article 10 (2) of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries remain an independent body at all events for the present, it being understood, however, that close cooperation be maintained by the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries with the ICES and the FAO."

The Commissioners decided that the Commission will publish an annual report similar in format to the Chairman's Report of the First Meeting of the Commission. This report will include the Secretary's Report of the year's activities, summaries of statistics for the Convention area, and, as an appendix, the Chairman's Report of the previous annual meeting. Publications of special scientific articles will be considered at a later date.

During the second annual meeting of the Commission, the Standing Committee on Research and Statistics held six sessions, the first convening on June 30, at which it discussed major technical matters concerning statistics and research. As a result of these discussions, the Committee made to the Commission a number of recommendations concerning (1) the standardization of statistical procedures and nomenclature; (2) collection of information on the number of fishing vessels of various types and sizes which operate in the Convention area; (3) the development of a standard for collection of information which might be used as a basis for development of a standard unit of fishing effort; (4) the adoption of statistical subareas in the Convention area; (5) the formation of a special subcommittee to consider an over-all research program for the Convention area. Of particular importance to the United States was the Committee's recommendation that the minimum mesh regulation adopted by Panel V for the haddock fishery in Subarea 5 be approved by the Commission with the minimum mesh size of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches instead of  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches. This last recommendation was accepted by the Commission at its sixth plenary session.

The Commission accepted the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Finance and Administration that the third annual meeting of the Commission should be held at New Haven, Connecticut, in the United States during the last two weeks of May 1953.

Dr. J. L. Kask, one of the United States Commissioners and Assistant Director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, was elected Chairman for the balance of the

the unexpired term of Dr. Hilary J. Deason, former United States Commissioner. This term ends at the close of the next annual meeting of the Commission.

BASIC STATISTICAL REQUIREMENTS: The basic requirements for statistics were considered at the second annual meeting by the Commission. Greater refinement in the submission of statistics to the Commission was recommended.

It was agreed that fishing effort statistics should include such information as the number of vessels of each type and size, and the number of days spent by vessels of each category on the fishing grounds. Statistics on landings could then be related to fishing effort data. It was further agreed that Governments be requested to provide a brief commentary on the economic or other factors that influenced the catch when submitting their statistics annually to the Commission.

In order to facilitate the compilation of the statistics for submission by Governments to the Commission, the use of a prescribed form was suggested as a framework for reporting statistics.

TYPE .....	PORT .....		
NAME OF VESSEL .....	PORT LETTERS + NO. ....		
OWNERS .....	AGENTS .....		
DATE BUILT .....	STEEL OR WOOD .....	BUILDERS .....	
LENGTH IN FT. ....	BREADTH IN FT. ....	DEPTH IN FT. ....	TONNAGE: GROSS .....
			NET .....
W/T R/T TYPE .....	D/F .....	ECHO SOUNDER TYPE .....	
DYNAMO K.W. ....	VOLTS .....	NORMAL NO. IN CREW .....	
FUEL: COAL ....	OIL ....	DIESEL ....	PETROL ....
			PETROL-PARAFFIN ..
PARTICULARS OF MOTOR-ENGINE .....			
			H.P. ....
NOTE: STRIKE OUT WHAT DOES NOT APPLY			

FIG. 2 - SAMPLE OF FORM USED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR EACH FIRST-CLASS FISHING VESSEL FOR KEEPING A REGISTER OF FISHING CRAFT. SUCH A REGISTER IS REQUIRED TO SUPPLEMENT STATISTICS OBTAINED FROM TRIP RECORDS.

The Commission has been directed to compile and publish its statistics in metric tons and round fresh weight (weight of entire fish as they come from the water). Statistics will record weight as landed and the Commission requires information concerning the relation of landing statistics to the weight of fish as they come from the water.

The Commission was directed to work toward the compilation of statistics on a monthly basis. If statistics are readily available by month or by season, a separate report is to be submitted providing statistics in such greater detail.

At its second annual meeting, the Commission adopted divisions of the Convention Subareas as a tentative framework for the compilation of statistics. If statistics can be compiled accurately according to this proposal, a separate report is to be submitted providing statistics in this greater detail.

The Commission requests information from each Government on the number of vessels of various types and sizes. In order that an annual summary of the vessels fishing in the Convention Area may be presented, the Commission suggested that a register of fishing craft should be kept at each Government fisheries office. The register might include one index card for each vessel, on which such details as name of vessel, gross tonnage, fishing gear, etc., would be recorded. A sample form for keeping such a register is shown in figure 2.

## WHALING

WHALE OIL PRICES, 1952/53: The British and South African Antarctic whaling companies have agreed to sell to the British Ministry of Food their entire output of whale oil in 1952/53, according to the Financial Times of October 15, 1952, reports the American Embassy at London.



The price is to be determined by a formula but will not be less than £70 (about US\$195) a long ton and not more than £78 (US\$217) for No. 1 whale oil.

Last year about this time the Ministry bought the output of two expeditions (those in which public investment interest is concentrated) at £110 (US\$307) per ton, and subsequently purchased oil from the other United Kingdom expeditions at considerably lower prices than had been offered to them in the first instance (as low as £90--US\$251--per ton).

The price range in the latest bulk sales by British whaling fleets is roughly in line with recent market levels. At the peak of the post-Korean boom whale oil sold as high as £172 (US\$480) per ton, though the quantity changing hands at this level was small.

FEWER WHALING EXPEDITIONS FOR 1952/53 SEASON: There will be three fewer whaling expeditions operating in the Antarctic this season, since three Norwegian factoryships have dropped out.

It is likely, however, that the maximum catch allowed by international regulation will again be achieved, and oil output may even be slightly higher owing to more whales being caught later on in the Antarctic summer, when they are fatter.

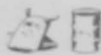
The floating factory Balaena, belonging to a British whaling company, was scheduled to leave Norway for the Antarctic towards the end of October. In common with those of the other British (and South African) expeditions, its entire 1952-53 season output has been sold forward to the Ministry of Food.



### Angola (Portuguese West Africa)

FISH MEAL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS, 1951: Production of fish meal in Angola in 1951 totaled 19,750 metric tons, an increase of 35 percent over the 14,665 tons produced in 1950, according to a recent American consular dispatch. The Fisheries Syndicate at Luanda estimates that exports of fish meal in 1951 were approximately equal to the total production. The United States was the largest purchaser, taking 17,590 tons.

In addition, 945 tons of guano were produced, compared to 1,035 tons in 1950.



### Argentine Republic

WHALE AND SEAL OIL, 1951/52 SEASON: One Argentine land-based operator produced about 110,000 metric tons of whale and seal oil during the 1951/52 season. Since there is no consumption of whale and seal oil in Argentina, negotiations are reported for sale of the entire quantity in Western Europe at a price equivalent to £62 per metric ton (US\$157 per short ton) for grade one, reports the Monday, October 27 issue of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Crops and Markets.



## Australia

CANNED FISH MARKETS SOUGHT IN UNITED KINGDOM: Canned Tuna: There is an unlimited market for Australian canned tuna in the United Kingdom, provided that quality is maintained at the high standard set in 1949 and the price is right. This was ascertained by the Commonwealth Director of Fisheries while in London in June, reports the September 1952 Australian Fisheries Newsletter. The Director discussed with an executive of one of the world's largest manufacturing and trading organizations the possibility of Australia supplying canned tuna to the United Kingdom. Samples of Australian canned tuna were provided by an Australian canner, and the quality was considered very good. An order for 10,000 cases (96 4-oz. cans per case) was placed by the large British firm. An additional order for 10,000 cases was placed by another British importer, but the Australian canner could supply only 1,000 cases since they had sold all of last season's pack. It was hoped that the fishermen would fish for tuna in the coming season. The price to be paid to fishermen was announced as 7d. per pound (about US\$130 per short ton) for all tuna except striped tuna which will be purchased at 6d. per pound (about US\$101 per short ton).

Canned Salmon: This same Australian canner shipped 500 cases (8-12- and 16-oz. cans) of Australian salmon to British East Africa and Mauritius. Although it was a small quantity, it was hoped it would be the opening of a worthwhile market. This firm also exported small quantities of canned mullet and barracuda.

Before World War II the people of the United Kingdom were the world's largest consumers of red salmon, accounting for 43,000 metric tons per year, but since the end of the War only about 3,700 metric tons per year have been consumed.



## Canada

UNDERWATER TELEVISION FOR FISHERIES INVESTIGATIONS BEING TESTED: Tests to determine the usefulness of television equipment for underwater fisheries investigations are now being carried out for the first time in North America by limnologists of the Canadian Wildlife Service, the Canadian Resources Minister announced on October 2. This electronic device is being used in Banff National Park to investigate some of the biological features of Lake Minnewanka.

Underwater television in Canada has been realized through the construction genius of W. T. Torrington of the National Research Council of Canada. Completed recently, this equipment represents three years of intensive research at the Radio and Electronics Laboratories near Ottawa. Canada is one of the few countries in the world to possess such a working unit that can "see" in depths of water without the risk attendant on using divers.

The new apparatus consists of an underwater television camera mounted in a large steel cylinder leading (by means of an electrical cable) to the viewing apparatus or "scope" situated in a boat on the surface. A 30-foot converted R.C.A.F. patrol boat, displacing about 7½ gross tons, is used for this work. Fully maneuverable, the large steel cylinder can move forward, backward, swing left or right, and tilt up or down. It is supplied with a bank of four spotlights for illuminating the area in front of the camera and is practically weightless when it is in the water. The camera is fitted with various lenses so that a wide field can be observed or a close-up view of a smaller part of the lake

bottom can be more closely studied. The movements, viewing, and lighting of the camera are all controlled by the operator who sits comfortably in the boat on the lake surface and is able to see the bottom of the lake as if he was actually standing on it.

So far tests have been conducted with this unique device down to depths of 100 feet of water. Two limnologists of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Department of Resources and Development, who are making the biological observations with this unit, have been able to see in great detail the structure of the lake bottom. They have examined the extent of natural shelters for fish and have observed and recorded the presence of various forms of natural food for game fish, seen swimming and moving in front of the camera. Actual specimens of the fish population have been seen as they appear in their natural habitat and as they swim in search of food or a place to spawn.

The tests in Banff National Park will continue for some time and the limnologists hope to be able to settle many other problems concerning the management of game fish by the time the first tests with underwater television are completed.

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NEWFOUNDLAND FIRM TO TRY LATEST EUROPEAN FISHING EQUIPMENT:

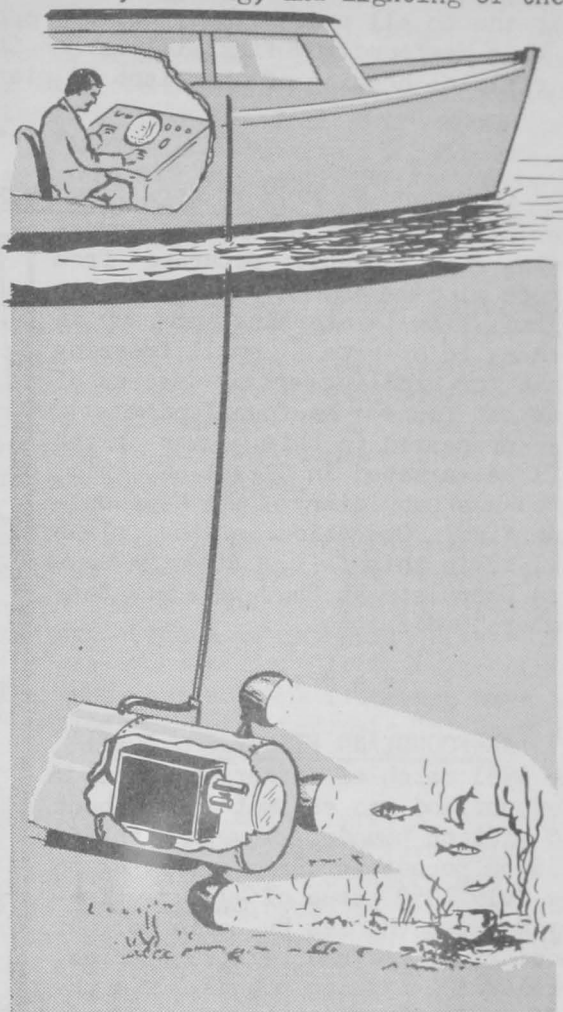
Fishing equipment, entirely new to Newfoundland, will soon be brought from Europe by a large St.

John's firm, according to a September 19 dispatch by the American Consulate at St. John's. This equipment will include herring trawls, mid-water trawls, a nylon trawl (completely new to this province), as well as some German electric and hydraulic equipment for Danish seines and long-lining. A Norwegian and a British skipper have been brought to Newfoundland to demonstrate the uses for this equipment.

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NEW NEWFOUNDLAND FILLETING PLANT HAS TRIAL "RUNS:" The newest of Newfoundland's fresh-fish processing plants at Gaultois has started trial "runs," taking fish from fishermen of that area, according to a September 19 report from the American Consulate at St. John's. These "runs" are being watched by the plant's manager and representatives from a Boston, Mass., firm to oversee the installation of the machinery. It is hoped the new plant eventually will have an annual capacity of 5,000,000 pounds of round fish.

The processing has started under favorable conditions, according to reports. One fishing dragger from St. John's is employed by the firm and another has been launched at Clarenville and should be in service soon. Machinery at this new fil-



ARTIST'S CONCEPTION OF EQUIPMENT FOR UNDERWATER TELEVISION

leting plant is entirely modern, with a special conveyor taking fish direct from shipside to all processing machinery arranged on one level. This new plant, owned by a Newfoundland firm will market its fillets through a Boston fishery firm. An official opening of the plant is planned for some time in October.

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NEWFOUNDLAND FIRM TO OPEN FISH-FREEZING PLANT IN GERMANY: The general manager of a large St. John's fish-processing firm recently returned from Europe with the announcement that his organization is starting a company in Germany to operate a small freezing plant for handling certain species of fish not found in Newfoundland waters. Fish processed in this German plant will be marketed in Cleveland, Ohio, through a subsidiary of the Newfoundland firm. Operation of the plant will begin this fall, states the American Consulate at St. John's in a September 19 dispatch.

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NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES, 1951:  
The 1951 catch of fishery products in Newfoundland was estimated at about 610 million pounds, compared with 550 million pounds in 1950, according to the July 1952 issue of Canadian Fishery Markets (Market Bulletin No. 6). Landings of cod and related species totaled 432 million pounds, about the same as in the previous year. There were large increases for herring and ocean perch. Salted cod production, estimated at 93 million pounds, was more than 2 million pounds under that of the preceding year. Greater catches by inshore fishermen and Labrador stationers were more than offset by a reduction in the deep-sea and Labrador floater fishery.



Product	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
..... (in millions of pounds) .....					
Cod and allied species .....	20.5	25.6	19.2	23.4	13.0
Ocean perch (rosefish) .....	9.5	6.6	4.5	2.1	1.6
Flatfish .....	3.8	2.7	1.7	0.6	0.1
Total .....	33.8	34.9	25.4	26.1	14.7

NOTE: THE EXPANSION OF FRESH AND FROZEN FILLET PRODUCTION BETWEEN 1947 AND 1951 WAS DUE TO THE DIVERSION FROM SALTED COD PRODUCTION AND, PARTICULARLY IN THE PAST TWO YEARS, WAS ENCOURAGED BY HEAVIER CATCHES OF OCEAN PERCH, PLAICE, AND OTHER FLATFISH WHICH ARE MARKETED AS FILLETS.

There was an increase of nearly 3 million pounds in the production of ocean perch (rosefish) fillets, but haddock fillet production fell from 7.2 million pounds in 1950 to 2.0 million pounds in 1951, due to lighter landings. Total freezings of fish in Newfoundland amounted to 41.1 million pounds, slightly lower than in 1950.

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NEWFOUNDLAND SALT-FISH PRICES ESTABLISHED: Salt-fish prices to fishermen (by grades) have been announced at St. John's, while exporters in other districts are still working on a temporary basis, states a September 19 dispatch from the American Consulate at St. John's. Earlier in September the Fishermen's Federation announced that some St. John's exporters had paid the following prices (per quintal--112 pounds): large merchantable C\$13.50; small madeira C\$12.00; small thirds C\$10.50; tomcod C\$11.00; West Indian large C\$7.50; small C\$6.50. According to recent reports, these prices are now being paid generally in St. John's for fish landed there.

Bonavista Peninsula exporters are now buying fish at 1951 prices (including the C\$1.50 bonuses) as the lowest prices they will offer. Final prices have yet to be decided, and may not be set until 1953. These minimum prices, generally paid when a fisherman wants a cash advance on his fish, are as follows (per quintal--112 pounds): large merchantable C\$13.25; small madeira C\$12.25; small thirds C\$10.25; and tomcod C\$10.00. Whether there will be any addition to these prices for the final ones depends on market conditions in the future.

In July the Newfoundland Federation of Fishermen had announced that there would be no set prices for salt cod during 1952. The agreement was reached as a result of consultations between the Federation and the Fish Trades Association who recognized the impossibility of predicting market prices in advance. However, sales since then have established prices. It was evident in July that production this year would be at a low level due to the fact that so many fishermen have abandoned the industry to take up other occupations or to participate in the big-scale swing to fresh and salt-bulk sales.

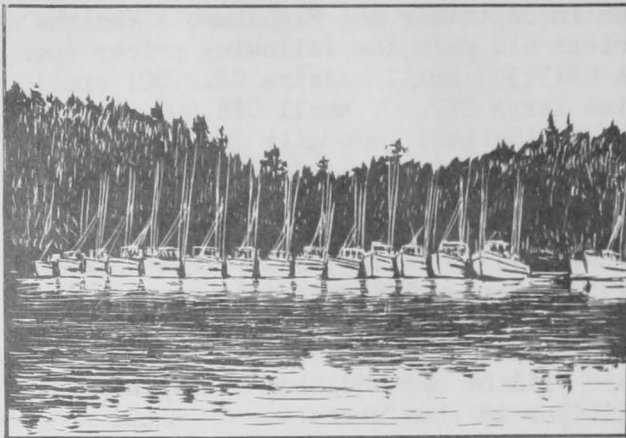
In view of the uncertainty of world conditions, including foreign exchange fluctuations, fish buyers did not care to run the risk of naming a firm price for fish in July when the commodity generally cannot be marketed until some months after purchase. One adverse factor is stated in the local press to be "the deterioration of the American dollar." Despite the fall of the United States dollar from a premium level of 7 cents last year to a discount of 3 cents, with the admitted possibility of a further decline between now and the date when Newfoundland salt cod reaches the markets, it is still held here to be the standard of international exchange and the currency in which Newfoundland fish exporters must accept payment for sales to Europe. On the other hand, it is declared at St. John's that with small stocks to be expected during 1952, and the 1951 carry-over already disposed of, sellers will be in a better position to name their own price, declares an American consular dispatch from St. John's dated July 23.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON PACK, 1952: The 1952 pack of canned salmon in British Columbia up to October 25 amounted to 1,267,226 cases (48 1-pound cans each) as compared with packs of 1,910,603 cases, 1,426,388 cases, and 1,421,293 cases for the corresponding periods of 1951, 1950, and 1949, respectively. These are the most recent figures released by the Chief Supervisor of Fisheries in Vancouver, B. C., reports an October American Consular dispatch from Vancouver.

Packers opened the season with an unsold pack of 698,000 cases from the previous year and the knowledge that the British Ministry of Food would not order any canned salmon from British Columbia in 1952. In view of this and in order to compete in world markets, the canners were unwilling to pay last year's prices to the fishermen and cut the price on chum salmon by two cents and the price on pink salmon by four cents a pound. In protest, the union of fishermen and shore workers issued a "no fish" order on July 20, 1952, which remained in effect for four

days. On September 7, the union ordered a stoppage of seiners and gill-netters because prices for chum salmon were considered inadequate. While some 1,200 native Indians resumed fishing some 16 days later, union members were still idle.



PART OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON TROLLING FLEET.

Packers, in view of the loss of Commonwealth markets, have been shipping substantial quantities of chum and pink salmon to the United States. Prices, f.o.b. Vancouver, for these species were C\$12.50 and C\$15.00 a case (48 1-lb. tall cans), respectively—a decrease of C\$4.00 per case as compared with last year. Despite this reduction in price, Great Britain, which formerly purchased from C\$6,000,000 to C\$9,000,000 worth of salmon from this Province annually, has been unable to place a single order this year.

In view of the loss of export markets, it was estimated in mid-September that by the end of this season the packers will have a carry-over of some 750,000 cases (31,230,000 pounds). To alleviate this condition, political pressure is being exerted to obtain a Federal subsidy similar to that accorded farmers on pork.

BRITISH COLUMBIA HERRING FISHERY OUTLOOK: A drop of nearly 50 percent in the price of herring oil has British Columbia fishing operators wondering whether it would be worthwhile sending the fishing fleet out in October when the season usually opens. Herring oil is the mainstay of this fishery and the current price of  $7\frac{1}{4}$  cents (Canadian funds) per pound does not compare with the price of 12 cents last year when the industry processed approximately 3,749,200 Imperial gallons (4,499,040 U.S. gallons). A big carry-over, the world-wide decline in fish-oil prices, and the loss on sales in the United States because of the premium on the Canadian dollar, puts the herring industry in the marginal class. While fish-meal prices have remained fairly stable—a ton of herring yields half meal and half oil—a profitable outlet for oil is essential to make the whole operation practical. Because of rising costs (nets that formerly cost C\$5,000 now cost C\$25,000), fishermen will probably resist any attempt to lower the price for their catch. It is therefore to be expected that unless there is a significant improvement in oil prices and a substantial reduction in the carry-over, production this season will be much lower than the 195,000 tons of herring processed last year.



## Chile

FISH MEAL AND OIL PROJECT PLANNED: Government authorities are considering the proposal of a German corporation to establish a factory in Chile which would produce 3,000 metric tons of fish meal and 800 to 900 tons of fish oil annually, states the October 4 issue of Foreign Trade of the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce.

The new industry would have a capital equivalent of Ch.\$16 million (US\$826,000) in cash and the value of imported machinery. A number of Chilean factories are

already producing fish meal and oil, but their total production of about 5,000 tons is not sufficient for domestic consumption.



## Denmark

DENMARK PLANS TO SEND FISHERIES ATTACHE TO U.S.: The Danish Minister of Fisheries and the Permanent Undersecretary of the Fisheries Ministry plan to leave for the United States on October 10 for a 10-day visit, during which time they will discuss with Danish Ambassador de Kauffmann the assignment of a Fisheries Attache to the Danish Embassy in Washington. The Danes are not yet certain where they will station the new attache, who will be accredited not only to the United States but also to Canada and the Central American republics. It is felt now that his office will be either in New York or Chicago, states a September 24 American Embassy dispatch from Copenhagen.

These plans have resulted from recent increases in fish exports to the United States. Their value during January-July 1952 were more than double that of the similar 1951 period (US\$1,289,000 as compared with US\$503,000). These exports are expected to increase further under a new dollar premium plan. Not only are Danish fisheries interested in the establishment of the new post but also the Greenlandic fishing industries. Press stories, appearing on September 21, about the Government's plans stated that the Minister of Fisheries would talk to American food editors and would take the opportunity to draw attention to Danish and Greenlandic fishery products.



## Ecuador

FISHING REGULATIONS FOR FOREIGN FLAG VESSELS: Executive Decree No. 00160 dated January 29, 1952, prohibited foreign flag fishing vessels from fishing in Ecuadoran continental territorial waters. Executive Decree No. 1376 dated July 15, 1952, amended the earlier Decree to exempt foreign flag fishing vessels working for companies which have valid contracts with the Ecuadoran Government. The Decree of July 15 refers only to companies which have contracts with the Government, so presumably they could be either national or foreign, reports an October 7 dispatch from the American Embassy at Quito. However, this Decree was put through at the request of a national company which is owned by United States interests. It is on the basis of Decree No. 1376 and also Article 9 of the company's contract of February 6 (published in the Registro Oficial of the same date) with the Ecuadoran Government that foreign flag vessels are permitted to fish for this company in Ecuadoran continental waters. However, according to Article 9 of the company's contract with the Government, this privilege expires February 6, 1953.

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FISHING PERMITS FOR GALAPAGOS ISLANDS AREA: United States fishing vessels operating off the west coast of Central or South America may obtain fishing permits for the Galapagos Islands area without returning to California, according to the Ecuadoran Undersecretary of Economy's interpretation of the Ecuadoran fishing decree (Executive Order No. 00160) of January 29, 1952. This interpretation was contained in a September 19, 1952, memorandum to the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Economy recommended that fishing boats be permitted to radio their



agent or the Ecuadoran Consul in San Diego to request a written fishing permit which would then be air mailed by their agent to any port requested by the captain of the vessel. This procedure is permissible only for boats which have previously been registered with the Ecuadoran Consulate and paid the registry fee for the current year, state October 7 dispatches from the American Embassy in Ecuador.

This recommendation has been accepted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ecuadoran Consulate in San Diego has been so advised. However, there appears to be some misunderstanding between the two Ministers as to the interpretation of this new regulation. The chief of the Consular and Commercial Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs advised an officer of the Embassy that the boat's agent in San Diego must mail the written permit to the Ecuadoran Consulate in Panama, where the boat can pick it up. Whereas, the acting chief of the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Economy states that the permit can be mailed to any address, private or public, in any port. This point has not been clarified. Until it is, the interpretation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs should be considered to be controlling; i.e., that the boat's agent in San Diego must mail the written permit to the Ecuadoran Consulate in Panama, where the boat can pick it up.

The Ministry of Economy is drawing up amendments to Ecuador's fishing laws which will incorporate in the laws the above interpretation, and will also permit bait fishing in the Gulf of Guayaquil or probably anywhere south of 2 degrees latitude. However, it is not planned to take any final action on these amendments until after Congress adjourns early in November. It has been reported that the President may then call a special session to consider specific measures.



## German Federal Republic

### FURTHER TESTS ON ELECTRICAL FISHING: Electrical fishing tests carried out

in Kielerfjord last April under the direction of Dr. F. F. Meyer, biologist, are now being followed by new tests at the same place, according to the German correspondent of Fiskaren, a Norwegian trade paper. This time a model of an electric trawl, constructed by an engineer (Mr. Saverkrub), is involved. The trials are being carried out by the Federal German Government Institute for Coastal and Inland Waters in Hamburg. Results of the tests are not yet available.



## Germany (Russian Zone)

EAST GERMAN PORTS CLOSED TO WEST GERMAN FISHING VESSELS: On May 1, 1952, East German authorities closed all their ports to West German fishing vessels, according to a September 15 American Consular dispatch from Bremerhaven. This ended the unofficial interzonal trade that had previously existed



when West German fishing vessels from Schleswig-Holstein landed their catch in East German ports (principally Sassnitz) and used the proceeds to buy nets and fuel there. It is reported that as many as 100 West German cutters, representing one-third of the entire Schleswig-Holstein cutter fleet, have been seen lying in the port of Sassnitz at one time. Difficulties began earlier this year when several West German cutters were seized off Sassnitz for fishing within the East German three-mile zone. At the end of June a cutter was seized by the Volkspolizei in the Luebeck Bay for sailing--without fishing--inside the three-mile zone. West German fishermen assume, therefore, that the entire East German three-mile zone is to be closed to West German fishing vessels, although no official announcement to that effect has been made by East Zone officials. It is assumed that the closing of East German ports to West German vessels is in retaliation for the refusal of West German ports to let East German vessels land their catches.

**FISHERY EXPANSION PLANNED:** East German authorities announced that 48,700,000 East Marks<sup>1/</sup> are to be spent in 1952 for the expansion of the fishery "Kombinat" at Rostock-Marienehe (on the site of the former Heinkel-Werke) as compared with 22,000,000 East Marks<sup>2/</sup> spent for that purpose in 1951. By 1954/55, a total of 138,000,000 East Marks<sup>3/</sup> is to have been spent and 9,000 men are expected to be employed at the Kombinat. The fishing fleet of from 110 to 115 vessels of various types which is planned for Rostock should make East Germany the greatest fish producer in the Baltic region. The fishing, however, is to be conducted mainly outside the Baltic Sea. It was also announced that plans for whaling are being made and that "certain preparations" are already under way.

A ship repair yard, serving both the Rostock trawler and lugger fleet and the Sassnitz cutter fleet, is to receive two new repair slips in 1952 thus expanding its capacity to enable it to repair 10 to 12 vessels at the same time.

The East German shipbuilding program announced for 1953 contains the following vessels for the fishing industry: 90 luggers, 20 refrigerator luggers (Kuehllogger), 10 lugger-tankers, 20 freezing vessels, 20 tuna-fishing vessels, and 50 seiners. The luggers are to be equipped also for trawling. On the basis of past experience, it is expected that some of these vessels may be taken by the Russians for "reparations." During 1952, the shipyard at Stralsund is to build 31 refrigerator luggers (Kuehllogger) of 1,000 gross tons each for "reparations."

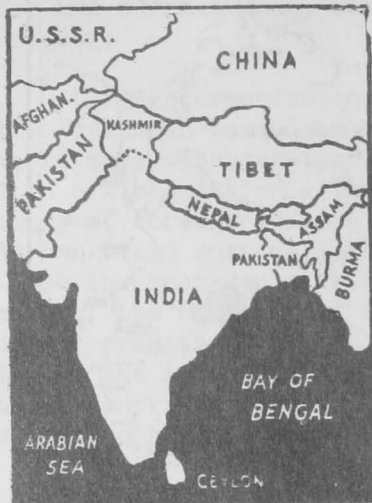
The Soviet Zone of Germany was reported to have been Norway's best customer for salted winter herring, purchasing 150,000 barrels (12,000 metric tons).

<sup>1/</sup> APPROXIMATELY US\$2,545,000. <sup>2/</sup> APPROXIMATELY US\$1,150,000. <sup>3/</sup> APPROXIMATELY US\$7,213,000.



## India

DEEP-SEA FISHING OPERATIONS OFF THE TRAVANCORE-COCHIN COAST: Deep-sea fishing operations off the Travancore-Cochin Coast of India will commence in about



six weeks, according to press reports, states an October 3 dispatch from the American Consulate in Madras. These operations will be conducted by a government-sponsored concern. One of the largest Japanese fishing concerns will assign three of its officers to give technical advice on the outfitting of the Indian firm's four vessels, and also to train Indian fishermen in catching, freezing, storing, and other operations.

The Japanese firm has been making a complete survey of the potentialities of the waters in the Travancore-Cochin area, including the Maldives and Laccadives. The Indian firm hopes to find shrimp and tuna, particularly in the waters around the Maldives and Laccadives, for export to the United States.

\* \* \* \* \*

JAPANESE TRAWLER REPORTS GOOD CATCHES IN ARABIAN SEA: The results of the half-year's work ending March 26, 1952, of the Japanese trawler Taiyo Maru No. 17--a 270-gross-ton vessel fishing in the Arabian Sea under the permission of the Government of India--have been quite encouraging. During this period, the vessel made 12 fishing trips in waters off Saurashtra and 1 off Travancore-Cochin Coasts. It landed 651.3 metric tons of fish, out of which 31 tons of skates, rays, and other inedible varieties were discarded. The vessel was out of port for 142 days and the average catch per day's absence from port was 4.6 metric tons, and average catch per day of actual fishing, 6.2 metric tons. This high average catch indicates the richness of trawling grounds off Saurashtra Coast where most of the fishing was done, and shows promise for good commercial possibilities or trawling operations in these waters, reports the July 1952 Current Affairs Bulletin of the Food and Agriculture Organization.



## Indonesia

DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES: The Minister of Agriculture in a recent press interview on the fisheries of Indonesia stated that the past 2½ years has been a period of rehabilitation in order to increase the level of production, an October 3 dispatch from the American Embassy in Indonesia reports. The Minister said that the industry had suffered much damage during World War II and the Revolution, and even before this time its methods were very primitive. There has been no survey made of the disposition of fish in Indonesian waters. No training or assistance was available for fishermen, and their social and economic conditions were worse than those of the peasants. At the time of the transfer of sovereignty, the state of equipment available for the industry was very poor.

Fishing Vessels: During the last two and one-half years the Department of Fishing Industries has been able to fulfill a considerable part of the needs of the industry. More boat sails are now available and, shortly, a fishing net company will be established. This will be a mixed enterprise between the fishing cooperative and the Apeldoornsche Nettenfabriek. A process of replacing sailing

boats by motor boats is now taking place; the latter are able to fish six times as quickly.

ECA had made available 60 fishing trawlers which had been bought in Japan. Another 29 are now under construction in this country. The Department will construct at least 200 new motor boats for use in fishing by the end of the year.

Consumption and Fishing Potential: Indonesia's annual fish consumption was 1.4 million metric tons--of which 300,000 tons were imported. Indonesian waters were not less abundant in fish than other waters, but the average catch of fish off the coast of Java was 0.8 tons a square kilometer per year. In some parts, where fishing was intensive, output was as high as 50 tons per square kilometer. Even at a rate of 0.8 tons per square kilometer per year, Indonesia could achieve a yearly catch of 4 million tons of fish, if the average was maintained throughout the 5 million square kilometers of Indonesian waters.

Personnel Training: A training course in modern fishing methods given in Tegal was attended by 100 pupils. A Fisheries Academy was to be opened in September with 40 pupils, and it was hoped that a "Faculty of Fishing" would be established in one of the universities. In this way the industry would be able to advance to modern standards with capable personnel.

New Harbor To Be Opened: The conditions in the fishing harbors were very out-of-date and were not, in general, being dealt with by the local governments. Modernization is now being undertaken by the Department in Semarang harbor and a new harbor would soon be opened in Tandjung Perak, Surabaya, which would revolutionize fish supplies for this region. The construction of this harbor was being carried out in close cooperation with the Ministry of Communications.

Cooperatives: Primary fishing cooperatives were being established in the centers of the industry, and these were branches of the Indonesian Fisheries Cooperative Association. These cooperatives were being used to assist fishermen, particularly through the granting of credit. The cooperative already has its own credit body and credit has now been issued to a sum of Rps.2.5 million (about US\$656,000). The Government provides assistance in the form of equipment and other things.



## Iran

IRAN-RUSSIAN FISHERY DISPUTE: The 25-year contract for the Iran-Soviet Joint Fishery Company in Iran (Persia) signed in 1927, expired on September 30, according to an article in the London Times of October 2, 1952. Although the contract provides that at the end of the 25-year period the operations of the company will cease and the assets will be divided equally between the two countries, the Iranian chairman of the company's board of directors advised that no approach had been made by the Russians to the Iranian Government by October 1. It was believed the Russians might have assumed that the contract began with the commencement of the company's operations rather than the date of signature of the contract. Under this assumption the contract would expire April 1953, reports an October 7 dispatch from the American Embassy at London.

The Iran-Soviet Joint Fishery Company is run by a joint board of directors consisting of 3 Iranians and 3 Russians. The chairman has been appointed by the Iranian Cabinet but control of operations is in the hands of a Russian general

manager. There are 20 Russians and many Iranians (trained in Russia) employed in the company. Production last year totaled more than 110 metric tons of caviar and more than 5,000 metric tons of fish. The Iranian share of the company's income in the best year has been only 5 million rials (US\$153,850), from which 800,000 rials (US\$24,608) was paid as a royalty at the beginning of the year and the remainder counted as 50 percent general income and 15 percent net profit to the company. In addition, Iran is entitled to 10 percent of the total production of caviar and fish. This was usually consumed internally, but the company sold France 2 metric tons of caviar last year for 10 million francs (US\$28,575) and intends to sell France 10 metric tons of caviar this year, in spite of opposition by Russia who presumed that Iran's 10 percent share of the caviar was not for export.



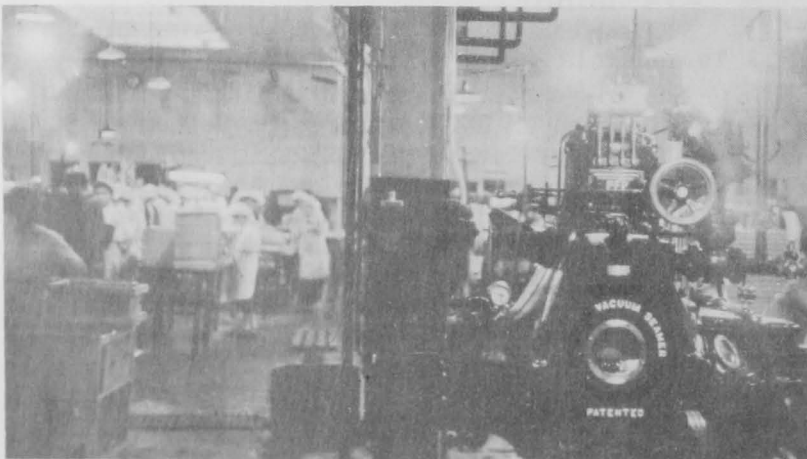
## Japan

UNITED STATES GIVES VIEWS ON TUNA EXPORT QUOTA: The Japanese Government on April 7, 1952, established a quota for the export of tuna to the United States for the period April 1952 to March 1953. Recently the Japanese Government informally advised the United States Government that they now wished to reconsider the quota in view of the marked decrease in the catch of tuna by American and South American fishing boats and also in view of the desire of American packers and canneries for additional supplies of frozen tuna from Japan, and inquired as to the views of the United States Government.

In reply the Japanese were informed that the United States Government has never advocated or endorsed quantitative limitations on tuna exports from Japan to the United States and its Territories. While the Japanese were advised that the responsibility in this matter continued to rest with them, it was indicated that the elimination of these restrictions would be in accordance with the long-established and well-known policy of the United States to seek elimination of quantitative restrictions and reduction of other trade barriers.

\* \* \* \* \*

FROZEN TUNA EXPORT QUOTA TO UNITED STATES INCREASED: The export of an additional 6,000 metric tons of frozen tuna to the United States for the period April 1952 to March 1953 has been authorized by the Japanese Ministry of International Trade, reports an October 1 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.



INTERIOR OF A TUNA CANNERY IN HIROSHIMA, JAPAN. IN THE RIGHT FOREGROUND CAN BE SEEN A VACUUM SEAMER.

To help demonstrate justification for increased exports of frozen tuna to the United States, buyers (packers) will be required to submit a statement on need and purchase price. This statement or "Assurance" (the term used by the Japanese Government) is as follows:



" TO: MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE & INDUSTRY, JAPANESE GOVERNMENT.  
 FROM: NAME OF PACKER.  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ .

ASSURANCE

WE ASSURE THAT THE FOUR ITEMS SPECIFIED HEREUNDER ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.

A. QUANTITY SPECIFIED IN APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO EXPORT (APPLIED FOR IN LICENSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_) IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO SUPPLEMENT THE LIMITED DOMESTIC RAW-TUNA PRODUCTION WHICH IS WHOLELY INADEQUATE TO SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ CANNING COMPANY.

B. THE DELIVERED COST TO THE \_\_\_\_\_ CANNING COMPANY OF THE QUANTITY OF FISH SPECIFIED IN APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO EXPORT (APPLIED FOR IN EXPORT LICENSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_) IS NOT LESS THAN THE PREVAILING PRICES PAID TO AMERICAN FISHERMEN FOR SIMILAR TYPE FISH OF EQUIVALENT QUANTITY.

C. IN THE CONSIDERED OPINION OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ CANNING COMPANY, THE IMPORTATION INTO THE UNITED STATES OF THE QUANTITY OF FROZEN TUNA SPECIFIED IN APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO EXPORT (APPLIED FOR IN EXPORT LICENSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_) WILL NOT BE INJURIOUS TO THE AMERICAN TUNA INDUSTRY.

D. THE \_\_\_\_\_ CANNING COMPANY IS FULLY COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT THE QUANTITY SPECIFIED IN APPLICATION FOR LICENSE TO EXPORT (APPLIED FOR IN EXPORT LICENSE NO. \_\_\_\_\_) IS NEEDED TO MAINTAIN A STEADY FLOW OF CANNED TUNA INTO THE COMPANY'S MARKETING SYSTEM.

BY \_\_\_\_\_ . "

It was reported that applications for the additional quota of 6,000 tons will be accepted from September 29 through October 3 and if any balance of this quota remains, applications for such will be accepted on October 10. Stocks of frozen tuna and skipjack on hand in Japan as of October 1 were reported as follows:

Albacore .....	1,750	metric tons
Yellowfin .....	2,570	" "
Skipjack .....	500	" "

The Government will continue the policy of check prices on exports of tuna.

The Japanese Government on April 7, 1952, established a quota for the export of frozen and canned tuna to the United States for the period April 1952 to March 1953. The quota for frozen tuna was 12,000 metric tons and this additional authorization for the export of 6,000 tons increases this quota to 18,000 tons.

\* \* \* \* \*

FROZEN TUNA EXPORT APPLICATIONS FOR U. S. EXCEED ALLOTMENT: The 6,000-ton increase in the frozen tuna export quota for the United States was to be allotted as follows: 4,000 tons for current shipment, and 2,000 tons reserved for allocation from landings by the winter albacore fishery which usually begins in December. Also available for current shipment were 600 tons from the original 12,000-ton quota. As of October 3, 1952, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry had received applications for the export of 5,191 tons of frozen tuna, and had allocated the export of 4,600 tons as follows: albacore 2,088 tons, yellowfin 2,198 tons, and skipjack 314 tons. This information was contained in a dispatch from the American Embassy at Tokyo, dated October 7, 1952.

\* \* \* \* \*

EXPORT TRADING BILL PASSED: The Japanese Diet has passed an Export Trading Bill to enable Japanese Exporters to combine in associations which would organize trade and prices in the general interests of export business and industry, states a release in the August 2 issue of the London Financial Times. The Japanese Ministry of International Trade and Industry stated the law would probably come into force about August 20, 1952.

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MOTHERSHIP-TYPE TUNA FLEETS END OPERATIONS IN EQUATORIAL WATERS: Two Japanese mothership-type tuna fleets ended their operations in equatorial waters, reports a September 11 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.

One fleet operated off Solomon Islands and exceeded its goal of 4,074 metric tons (8,981,540 pounds). This fleet consisted of one mothership (11,224 gross tons) and 29 catcher boats (mostly 135-gross-ton class). Fishing operations were conducted from June 22 to August 25.

The second fleet operated off the Celebes and failed to reach its goal of 2,963 metric tons (6,532,230 pounds). This fleet was made up of one mothership (2,940 gross tons) and 10 catcher boats (mostly 95-gross-ton class). Operations were conducted from June 17 to September 2.

Species	Fleet No. 1 (Off Solomon Islands)		Fleet No. 2 (Off Celebes)		Total for 2 Fleets	
	No. of Fish	Pounds	No. of Fish	Pounds	No. of Fish	Pounds
Yellowfin tuna .....	97,994	6,521,970	26,924	2,196,057	124,918	8,718,027
Other tuna .....	19,692	863,818	4,890	549,707	24,582	1,413,525
Swordfish .....	14,867	1,504,396	5,356	711,733	20,223	2,216,129
Shark .....	14,209	1,228,889	11,787	967,466	25,996	2,196,355
Unclassified .....	5,853	80,715	2,818	50,422	8,671	131,137
Total ...	152,615	10,199,788	51,775	4,475,385	204,390	14,675,173

\* \* \* \* \*

NORTH PACIFIC SALMON FISHING PLANS FOR 1953 DISCUSSED: The success of Japan's first postwar salmon expedition in the North Pacific from May through July 1952 has resulted in renewed interest in this fishery for 1953, states an October 8 dispatch from the American Embassy in Tokyo.

The three Japanese fishing companies which had jointly engaged in the 1952 expedition are discussing preliminary plans for next season's operations. The 1952 expedition consisted of 3 motherships (1 of 3,600 gross tons, and 2 of 500 gross tons each), 50 catcher boats, 2 inspection vessels for patrol duty, and 2 research vessels. The total catch in 1952 was approximately 2,100,000 fish.

Although no definite plans have been made for salmon fishing in 1953, the current discussions include the following points:

1. Desire for an independent rather than a joint operation.
2. A shorter season (end of May to end of July).
3. Larger motherships and more catcher boats.
4. Improvements in gear, including greater use of synthetic fibre gill nets which proved superior to natural fibre nets in the 1952 season.

5. More careful selection of first-rate catcher boats.
6. Operations in the western waters of the North Pacific, which in 1952 proved more productive than the eastern waters (off the Aleutian Islands).

\* \* \* \* \*

1953 FISHING PLANS IN NORTHERN PACIFIC AND BERING SEA: The Japanese fishing industry is expected to engage in several major operations in the North Pacific and Bering Sea in 1953. Since the Peace Treaty, the Japanese have conducted successful fishing for salmon, especially in the western waters of the North Pacific, and are presently engaged in whaling in northern waters. Plans for crab fishing in the Bering Sea during the 1952 season were abandoned, reports an August 12 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.

The Japanese Fisheries Agency has received no formal applications from the fishing firms for authorizations to operate in northern Pacific waters in 1953. It is known, however, that the industry is looking forward to expanding and resuming prewar fishing in these waters. According to the Japanese press (Nippon Suisan Shimbun, August 7), the following projects are under consideration.

1. Five or six salmon expeditions with 200 catchers.
2. Whaling expedition.
3. Crab expedition.
4. Trawling expedition (especially for cod) consisting of 5 boats (50-to 60-gross-ton class) and one carrier.
5. Fish-meal factoryship (8,000 to 10,000 gross tons) with 25 catchers. This operation may be subsidized by the Government through assistance of the Japanese Fisheries Agency.

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INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES: Japan's interest in the development of marine resources will be stressed at the UNESCO meeting to be held at Paris, France, in November, reports an October 13 dispatch from the American Embassy at Tokyo. Japan's UNESCO committee headed by a professor of the Kyoto University will emphasize the Japanese need to develop and utilize the products of the ocean to help meet the nation's requirements for food and employment for her people.

Japan has been the leading fish-producing nation of the world. A report on fisheries commodities recently issued by the Fisheries Division, FAO, and based on a 1949 survey, lists Japan's fish catch at 2.9 million metric tons, the highest of 10 important fish-producing nations which produce a total catch of 15 million tons or 60 percent of the world's total.

Japan's interest in the development of marine resources is illustrated by the action of the Japanese Fisheries Agency in sponsoring programs and policies to relieve the pressure on Japan's coastal fisheries. These include studies to determine and apply appropriate conservation measures that will insure the fullest utilization of the inshore stocks of fish and shellfish on a sustained yield basis. In this connection, the Japanese Government is transferring a number of boats and fishermen in the coastal fisheries to more offshore and less crowded fisheries.

Since the signing of the Peace Treaty the Japanese fishing industry has been very active in resuming operations in prewar overseas and high-seas fishing grounds. They are also interested in exploring and participating in the development of fisheries in areas throughout the world in which little or no commercial fishing is now being conducted.

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WHALING EXPEDITION TO OPERATE IN ANTARCTIC FOR 1952/53 SEASON: A Japanese whaling expedition is being prepared to operate in the Antarctic during the coming season, states an October 3 dispatch from the American Embassy in Tokyo. Two of Japan's large fishing companies have recently requested permission from the Japanese Fisheries Agency to send their fleets to the Antarctic. Both companies have considerable experience in Antarctic whaling, having operated expeditions in the prewar and postwar periods. The 1952/53 expedition will be the seventh since the end of World War II.

The total catch target of the expedition has been set at 1,748 blue-whale units. The expedition is expected to depart in November and return in April, and operations will be conducted in conformity with International Whaling Regulations.

Tentative plans provide for one 24-ship fleet--to consist of the factoryship Nisshin Maru (16,777 gross tons), 10 catcher boats, 4 transports, 3 refrigeration ships, 1 tanker, and 5 miscellaneous craft. Production goal is 900 blue-whale units which should yield 19,800 metric tons of oil, and 15,725 metric tons of meat and other products.

The other fleet will consist of 21 ships--the factoryship Tonan Maru (19,320 gross tons), 11 catcher boats, 4 refrigeration ships, 1 tanker, and 4 miscellaneous craft. Production goal is 848 blue-whale units and 40 sperm whales, which should yield 19,059 metric tons of oil, and 12,000 metric tons of meat and other products.

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ACCESSION TO GATT TO BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION: On July 18 the Government of Japan expressed its desire to enter into negotiations with GATT contracting parties with a view to accession to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, according to a report in the August 1952 issue of the International Trade News Bulletin. The contracting parties were informed of the application and it has been decided that the matter will be considered at the Seventh Session of the Contracting Parties, which opened October 2 at Geneva, Switzerland.

JAPANESE GOVERNMENT



Mexico

MEXICO-CUBAN FISHING AGREEMENT UNDER DISCUSSION: The Mexican press reports that a fishing agreement between Mexico and Cuba is being discussed by the Ministry of Economy. This Agreement will allow Cuban fishing vessels to operate along the Caribbean coast of Mexico up to the 15-kilometer limit, reports an October 17 American Embassy dispatch from Mexico.



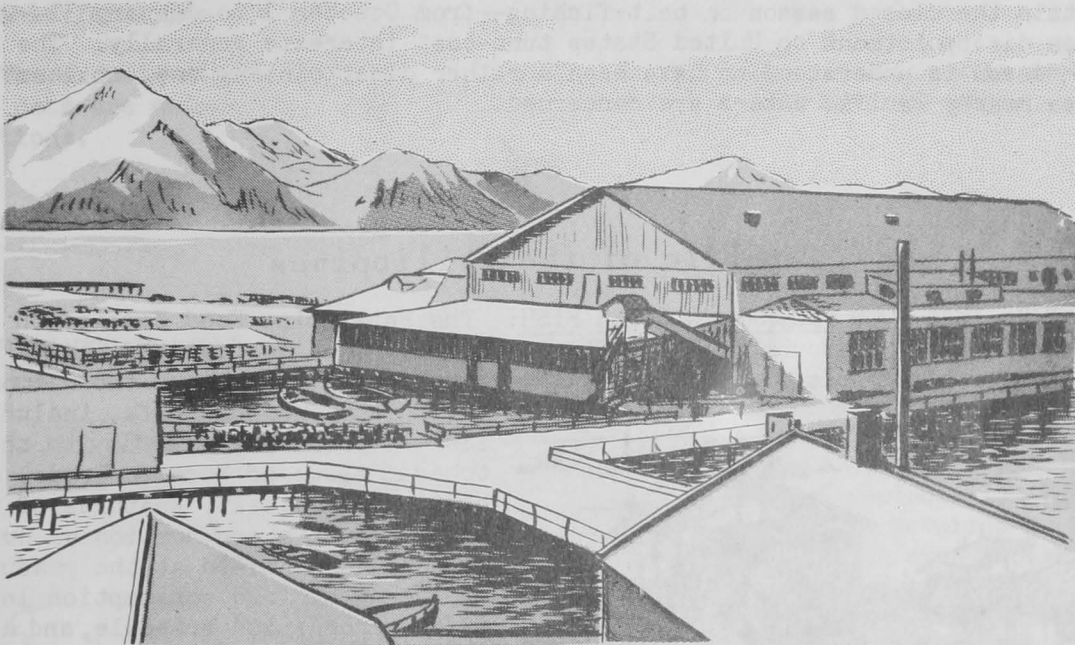


## Norway

TUNA EXPORTED TO ITALY: Since the beginning of the 1952 season, 500 rail-road cars of bluefin tuna (5,000 metric tons) have been loaded in Bergen, Norway, and sent directly to Italy, according to Fiskaren, a Norwegian trade paper. Italy uses the tuna (which is believed to be frozen) for canning.

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FROZEN GROUND FISH EXPORTS: Norwegian exporters of frozen groundfish fillets are finding an ever-increasing market in the United States, states an October 2 news item from the Norwegian Information Service. One cooperative sales organization reports that from January 1 to September 22, 1952, it exported to the United States groundfish fillets (cod, haddock, ocean perch, and ocean catfish) valued at 15.5 million kroner (US\$2,168,000).



FREEZING AND FILLETING PLANT AT MELBU, NORWAY.

WHALE MEAT EXPORTS: An official of a Norwegian export firm reports that his company exported 300 metric tons of frozen whale steaks to the United States in the summer of 1952. He believes that there are excellent prospects of increasing these exports, so long as the present high quality of the product is maintained. The latest item in this line to be offered on the American market is canned whale meat. Thinly sliced and smoked, it is suitable for hors d'oeuvres.



## Panama

BAIT FISHING SUSPENDED UNTIL FEBRUARY 1953: Live tuna-bait fishing in Panamanian waters is permitted only between February 1 and September 30 of each year by virtue of the provisions of Article 5 of Executive Decree No. 330 issued June 7, 1952. Therefore, the closed season began October 1 and will end January 31, 1953, according to an October 8 dispatch from the American Embassy in Panama. This announcement was issued by the newly-appointed Panamanian Minister of Finance and

Treasury on October 6. Consequently, the Minister will not issue the sailing permits required for bait fishing in Panamanian waters; and served notice to the effect that all vessels found bait fishing during the closed season will be rigorously dealt with as provided for by law.

Simultaneously, the new Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries publicly requested the Commandant of the National Police to take possession of and turn over to his Ministry any tuna boats that might be found bait fishing during the current prohibited season, whether they be fishing clandestinely or under the guise of so-called special licenses. Special permits issued prior to October 1 by the former Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries will not be recognized as valid.

Aside from the financial losses which may possibly result to some tuna-boat owners and/or captains from having purchased these special licenses that will not now be recognized, this apparently firm decision of the Panamanian Government to maintain the closed season on bait fishing--from October 1 to January 31--will be a keen disappointment to United States tuna-boat interests generally. The 1952 tuna season is understood to have been a rather disappointing one, at least so far as nearby Pacific waters are concerned.



## Republic of the Philippines

FIVE-YEAR FOOD PROGRAM INCLUDES FISH: The Philippine Food Commission (appointed in 1951) has submitted its first report to the President of the Philippines and recommends a five-year (1952-57) supply program to make the nation self-sufficient in foodstuffs, including fishery products, according to the October 18 issue of Foreign Trade, a Canadian periodical. Features of the plan include a consumption or nutritional program aimed at the gradual improvement of food consumption levels, a food production schedule, and a food import program.



PHILIPPINE DRIED FISH

Production goals for the fiscal year 1956-57 (the end of the five-year program) were set for the various food items with the goal for fishery products at 404,000 metric tons.

Considering the projected increase in the production of all food products, the Commission suggested that imports of all foods be reduced to 130 million pesos (US\$64,516,000). The value of imports of all foods for the current fiscal year amounted to 192 million pesos (US\$95,285,000). It recommended, however, that imports of foods which will help to meet the nutritional standards that have been set, and which cannot be produced in the Philippines, should be continued. The greatest bulk of the imports would consist of cereals (rice and wheat), milk, fishery products, meat products, citrus fruits, and other foods not produced in sufficient quantities.



## Sweden

EXPERIMENTS WITH NYLON FISHING NETS: Experiments with fishing nets made of spun nylon have been carried out since 1947 by the Swedish Institute of Fresh-Water Research at Drottningholm, reports an American Consulate dispatch from Gothenburg dated September 24. These experiments have evidently given satisfactory results and catches have generally been at least twice as large as when similar cotton nets were used.

For some months experiments with nets made of drawn nylon thread have been carried on in different lakes and streams in Sweden. The results of these tests have been excellent, but trials will continue up to the end of 1952. When comparing the results obtained from nets made of cotton, spun nylon, and drawn nylon, they were in the ratio of 1, 2, and 7, respectively.

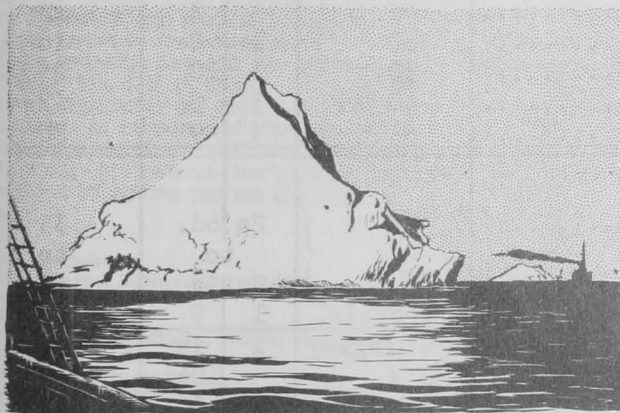
One difficulty found with the drawn nylon nets is that no machine is yet available for tying the net knots, and the nets must be made by hand.

The experiments to date show that the possibilities of fishing with drawn nylon nets are undoubtedly most promising and results have been far above expectations.



## United Kingdom

RESEARCH TRAWLER DISCOVERS NEW FISHING BANK OFF GREENLAND: The British fisheries research trawler Ernest Holt has recently returned to Grimsby from an experimental cruise off Greenland where a new fishing bank was discovered off Cape Dille, reports the October 4 Fish Trades Gazette, a British periodical. This newly-discovered bank promises to be a lucrative fishing area even though small in size. The Ernest Holt explored both the east and west coasts of Greenland on this trip and discovered that the sea bottom for the most part is very rough and unsuited for trawling. Unless fish were very plentiful, the cost of replacing damaged gear would be prohibitive. British vessels have been fishing off the coast of Greenland, and in one week recently six trips were



ARCTIC FISHING GROUNDS

landed at Grimsby. These trips averaged about 21 days each and yielded an average of a little more than 350,000 pounds of fish each.

The Ernest Holt was due to leave Grimsby on October 7 to continue the exploration for new fishing grounds off the coast of Greenland.

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RETAIL PRICES OF CANNED FISHERY PRODUCTS, JANUARY-JUNE 1952: For some years the Ministry of Food has been the sole importer of canned fish for sale in the United Kingdom market; however, some relaxation of this control has taken place lately, states a September 4 American Embassy dispatch from London. The maximum prices of the varieties of canned fish bought by government bulk purchase are

subject to rigid control, whether imported or home-produced, and show little or no variation throughout a six-month period.

MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICES OF CANNED FISHERY PRODUCTS, January-June 1952				
Products	Can Size	Price		
		British Currency		U.S. Currency
		s.	d.	cents
<u>Foreign</u>				
Brisling (other than Norwegian) .....	$\frac{1}{4}$ 's		7 $\frac{1}{2}$	09
Sild .....	$\frac{1}{4}$ 's		10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12
Crab .....	$\frac{3}{4}$ 's	3	9	52
<u>Salmon:</u>				
<u>Group or Grade 1:</u>				
Sockeye, Red Alaska, Siberian & Japanese Red	1's	5	6	77
do.	$\frac{1}{2}$ 's	3	0	42
do.	$\frac{3}{4}$ 's	1	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	26
<u>Group or Grade 2:</u>				
Fancy Chinook, Bluebacks, Red Spring, King and Steelhead, Medium Red, Cohoe, Silver & Chinook	1's	4	6	63
do.	$\frac{1}{2}$ 's	2	6	35
do.	$\frac{3}{4}$ 's	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	23
<u>Group or Grade 3:</u>				
Pink, Keta, Chum and any other description or variety (including Salmon Trout) not specified above .....	1's	3	6	49
do.	$\frac{1}{2}$ 's	2	0	28
do.	$\frac{3}{4}$ 's	1	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	19
<u>Sardines (other than American and Canadian):</u>				
$\frac{1}{4}$ club .....	m/m			
$\frac{1}{4}$ club .....	27	1	2	16
$\frac{1}{4}$ club .....	30	1	2	16
$\frac{1}{4}$ 's American (nom. 12 oz.) .....	30	1	10	25
Large $\frac{1}{2}$ 's (nom. 18 oz.) .....	40	3	0	42
$\frac{4}{4}$ (nom. 36 oz.) .....	80	5	9	80
<u>Domestic</u>				
Anchovies 2 oz. ....			2s.6d. to 3s.9d.	35 to 52
Pilchards (in Tomato) .....	1's ovals	1	9	23
Brisling .....	$\frac{1}{4}$ 's Dingley	1	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	16
	1/8's		10 $\frac{1}{2}$	12
	$\frac{1}{4}$ 's Dingley	1	0	14
	1/8's		9 $\frac{1}{2}$	11
Sild .....	1/16's		7	08
	$\frac{1}{2}$ 's Amer'n	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	22
	7 oz.	1	1	15
	14 oz.	1	7	22
Herrings in Tomato .....	16 oz.		1s.7d. to 1s.8d.	22 to 24
	8 oz.		1s.2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to	17 to
Roes { Cod .....			1s.4d.	19
Herring .....	4 oz.	1	3	17