

International

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

FIRST MEETING OF GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN ANNOUNCED: Invitations to the first meeting of the General Fisheries Council for the Medi-



terranean were issued recently by the Food and Agriculture Organization's Director-General. The meeting isto be held at Rhodes in the Dodecanese Islands, July 21-24, 1952. This invitation has been extended not only to the Council Members (Egypt, Greece, Israel, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Yugoslavia) but also to the following Governments which are not yet members of the Council: France, Lebanon, Libya, Monaco, Spain, Syria, and Turkey. Also invited are the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean, and UNESCO, states a July 1 FAO news release.

In addition to the questions that normally concern the first meeting of any mew organization, the Council will consider a program of work aimed at developing fisheries in the Mediterranean region. It is expected that this Council will function in much the same way as the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council, also established through the initiative of FAO. This Council will take a large share of the responsibility in coordinating programs and projects in its region, and will be especially valuable in stimulating a series of Training Centers, through which government officials acquire the knowledge and experience with which they can return to their respective governments and further local application of the most modern developments in the various aspects of the industry.

INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION

<u>REFORT ON FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING</u>: Conservation of whale stocks played a large part in the deliberations of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission which convened in London on June 3. Considerable attention was given to scientific research on whales, particularly whale marking, in favor of which a number of decisions were taken with a view to its organization on as extensive a scale as possible, reports the June 14 issue of <u>The Fishing News</u>, a British fishery periodical. The Commission had before it a number of reports from different countries on the research carried out during the preceding year, motably in Australia, Canada, Japan, Netherlands, and Norway.

The Commission made no alteration in the present limit as regards pelagic whaling in the Antarctic, namely 16,000 blue-whale units, and no alteration in the opening and closing dates of the Antarctic season.

As reported at the meeting, the total production of whale oil in the Antarctic in the 1951-52 pelagic season amounted to 2,328,869 barrels. Production of

the Antarctic land stations during the 1951-52 season added 144,812 barrels, bringing the total to 2,473,681 barrels, or 169,991 barrels more than the previous season. Outside the Antarctic in 1951, the total production amounted to 656,426 barrels, as against 382,699 in the previous year. Pelagic whaling in the Antarctic was stopped at midnight March 5, 1952--over a month before the normal end of the season (April 7)--by which time 16,006 (barely over the authorized limit of 16,000) blue-whale units had been taken. Catching of humpback whales (permitted only from February 1, 1952) was also stopped at midnight on February 5, 1952, by which time 1,545 humpbacks had been taken, 295 more than the permitted figure of 1,250.

A large number of amendments to the Schedule to the 1946 Convention werebefore the Commission at this meeting. The amendments which were decided upon will have to be referred to the contracting governments and cannot come into force until a period of 90 days has elapsed and only then if there are no objections. Regarding the remainder of the proposed amendments, the Commission decided to set up a subcommittee to examine the whole Schedule and to produce a revised Schedule version for submission at the next annual meeting, which was fixed for June 22, 1953, in London.

The retiring chairman, Birger Bergersen of Norway, having completed his three years of office, was succeeded by Dr. Remington Kellogg of the United States who has been vice-chairman for the past three years. Dr. Kellogg was succeeded as vice-chairman by Dr. G. J. Lienesch of the Netherlands.

The Commission resolved that the contribution to be asked of each Contracting Government be raised from £125 to £150 (as in 1950/51); that the next (Fifth) Meeting of the Commission be held in London towards the latter part of June 1953.

The Commission also resolved that the present limit on the catch of 1,250 humpbacks should be continued, but in a different form. The only amendments that were adopted by the Commission were in respect to Article 6 (a) and Article 8 of the Schedule. As regards 6 (a), the Commission resolved unanimously that the words "provided that in the pelagic whaling season for baleen whales 1952 a maximum of 1,250 humpback whales may be taken in those water commencing on Februery 1st" be deleted and the following words substituted therefor: "provided that in the pelagic whaling season for baleen whales 1953 the taking of humpback whales shall be permitted on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd February and if the number of humpback whales taken on those three days is less than 1,250, the International Bureau of Whaling Statistics shall in their discretion specify one or more days later in the season on which further humpback whales may be taken, so as to bring the tota up to a maximum of 1,250." Article 8 (c) of the Schedule was amended slightly and the underlined words were added to the part regarding reporting daily on the catch of humpback whales "and in addition notification of data on the number of humpback whales taken in pursuance of Paragraph 6 including nil returns on days when no humpback whales are taken shall be given at the end of each day on which the taking of humpback whales is permitted."

Commissioners were present from Australia, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Japan, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Sweden, Union of South Africa, U.S.S.R., United Kingdom, and the United States. Mexico was not represented. Representatives were also present, all as observers, from Argentina, Ital Peru, and Portugal, from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, from the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, and from the Association of Whaling Companies.

WHALING

<u>ANTARCTIC PELAGIC PRODUCTION OF WHALE AND SPERM OIL, 1950/51-1951/52</u>: The pelagic output of baleen whale oil during the 1951/52 Antarctic season (based on provisional data) amounted to 382,377 short tons--an increase of more than 7 percent from the 356,462 tons produced in 1950/51 (see table), reports the American Embassy at London. Although the catch limit of 16,000 blue-whale units remained the same as in the previous season, the average oil yield per unit was larger in 1951/52. More extensive use of apparatus for the extraction of oil from waste and glue

| Antarctic Pelagic Production of Whale and Sperm Oil, (Preliminary 1951/52, Final 1950/51) | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | Whale Oil | | Sperm Oil | | Total | |
| | No. of | 1951/52 | 1950/51 | 1951/52 | 1950/51 | 1951/52 | 1950/51 |
| Country | Expeditions | Season | Season | Season | Season | Season | Season |
| | | (short tons) | | | | | |
| Norway | 10 | 180,508 | 174,685 | 21,818 | 23,601 | 202,326 | 198,286 |
| United Kingdom | ,3 | 71,055 | 68,515 | 12,253 | 9,466 | 83,308 | 77,981 |
| Japan | 1/3 | 38,707 | 27,646 | 9,814 | 4,197 | 48,521 | 31,843 |
| Union of South | | | | | | | |
| Africa | 1 | 30,649 | 25,788 | 3,703 | 4,436 | 34,352 | 30,224 |
| The Netherlands | 1 | 17,360 | 17,055 | 3,229 | 2,276 | 20,589 | 19,331 |
| Panama | 1 | 17,910 | 23,160 | 560 | 457 | 18,470 | 23,617 |
| U.S.S.R | 1 | 26,188 | 19,613 | 1,373 . | 900 | 27,561 | 20,513 |
| Total 2/ | 20 | 382,377 | 356,462 | 52,750 | 45,333 | 435,127 | 401,795 |
| 1/ ONE EXPEDITION ENGAGED SOLELY IN SPERM WHALING. 2/ DOES NOT INCLUDE PRODUCTION OF SOUTH GEORGIA LAND STATIONS. | | | | | | | |

waters, the later opening date for hunting whales (resulting in generally fatter whales), and the raising of the minimum catch-size for fin whales from 55 to 60 feet were contributing factors towards the increase in production.

Sperm oil production of 52,750 tons for 1951/52 increased more than 16 percent from the 45,333-ton output in 1950/51. High demand and prices for sperm oil at the beginning of the 1951/52 season resulted in the greater output. Sperm oil prices in 1951, January through October, ranged from ±85 to ±120 per long ton (US\$213--\$300 per short ton) in drums, compared with only ±48-±80 (US\$120--\$200) in 1950. Current quotations, however, are as low as ±60 (US\$150), with some buyers looking for a further reduction to ±50 (US\$126). Unlike baleen whales, the catch of sperm whales is not limited by quota. Thus, sperm oil production fluctuates more nearly with demand.

In addition to the above quantities of whale and sperm oil (combined 1951/52 output--435,127 tons), South Georgia shore-based operations produced some 26,000 tons of whale oil and around 1,600 tons of sperm oil, both slightly less than in 1950/51.

The 1951-52 Antarctic whaling season lasted only 64 days (January 2 to March 5, 1952) compared with 78 days in 1950/51 and 115 days in 1947/48. The steadily shorter hunting period is due to the greater number and modernization of factory-ships and catcher boats. According to reports from the 19 participating expeditions, the catch of baleen whales represented 15,971 blue-whale units or just short of the 16,000-unit quota established by international agreement.

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Final disposition of the 1950/51 whale oil production, according to the January 1952 issue of the <u>Norwegian Whaling Gazette</u>, was as follows: Norway (domestic consumption)--46,300 tons; Norway (for refining and subsequent export)--73,965 tons; Denmark--8,284 tons; Sweden--8,315 tons; United Kingdom--138,153 tons; Netherlands--29,426 tons; Germany--25,044 tons; Belgium--6,720 tons; Japan--27,756 tons; Russia--19,691 tons; and Italy--560 tons.

It is unlikely that production of whale oil in 1952/53 will differ greatly from the past season unless the catch quota is reduced. If present low prices for whale and sperm oils persist, however, some reduction may take place in the size of the 1952/53 whaling fleet. Whaling tankers and factoryships are employed profitably as petroleum tankers between seasons by many of the whaling companies, and unless sufficient inducement exists, some may continue in that service. Present stocks of sperm oil and low prices may result in a curtailment of sperm oil output for the remainder of 1952 and possibly next season, unless conditions became more favorable for profitable operation.



Bolivia

POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERY RESOURCES: A firm in Bolivia has obtained approval of the government to exploit fishery resources in the Pilcomayo River, states an April 7 American consular dispatch from La Paz.

To carry out this program will involve the construction of small cold-storage and packing plants to be located at Villamontes in the Department of Tarija, La Paz, Cochabamba, Oruro, Potosi, Sucre and Tarija; purchase of a transport plane; importation of machinery for canning fish, meat, and other byproducts of the industry; purchase of two electric power plants (one each for the plant and airport) construction of an airport; organization of fishing villages at Choro, Villamontes and other points on the Pilcomayo River; preparation of feeding grounds for use of cattle to be utilized for meat-packing purposes during periods when fish will not be available and, finally, the development of the hide industry.

This corporation expects to employ 1,000 persons; save foreign exchange through supplying the market with domestic canned fish and meat; curtail contraband sale of Bolivian cattle to Argentina; and provide much-needed fish supplies to the general public.

It is estimated that necessary imports of material will require US\$154,000 in exchange, and this amount has been requested at the official rate of 60 bolivianos to the dollar.



Canada

<u>CANNED SALMON STOCKS</u>: Warehouse inventories on the west coast of Canada, as of May 31 this year, showed almost 700,000 cases of all varieties of canned salmon. This does not include stocks held by wholesalers and retailers. Since there are few foreign outlets for this canned salmon (Great Britain does not plan to purchase any this year), this inventory did not change very much during June, according to reports. This inventory represents the surplus from the 1951 pack. There is considerable concern as to the disposition of this salmon. The 1952 salmon pack is under way and it is estimated that the total Canadian west coast pack will be about 1,400,000 cases. Although the Canadian Government has indicated that it will purchase between 6,000 and 10,000 cases of canned salmon for troops in Europe and Korea and the Canadian domestic consumption has increased to a certain extent, the sale of a good portion of the production depends on export markets.

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<u>NEWFOUNDLAND'S</u> <u>PRODUCTION</u> OF <u>FILLETS</u> <u>AND</u> <u>DRESSED</u> <u>GROUNDFISH</u>, <u>1951</u>: Newfoundland's production of fillets and dressed groundfish during 1951 amounted to 32,746,345 pounds, according to revised figures released by the Provincial Depart-



FILLETING OPERATION AT A LARGE FISH PLANT IN ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND.

ment of Fisheries and reported on June 11 by the American Consulate at St. John's. This production, the bulk of which consists of fillets, was exported soon afterit was produced (see table).

| Species | | Heaviest Monthly Production | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| opecies | Production | Month | Quantity | | |
| Cod Haddock Rosefish Catfish Flounder Grey sole Halibut 1/ <u>Total</u> 1/ OF THIS AMOUNT, 57,80 | 2,020,601 9,659,116 119,784 3,051,698 731,803 261,355 | August April June September November April May | 701,664 1,360,748 22,708 517,700 255,699 | | |

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<u>NEW NEWFOUNDLAND FILLETING PLANT READY BY JULY</u>: The new filleting plant now being erected at Gaultois, Hermitage Bay, on the south coast of Newfoundland, should be ready for operation late in July of this year, a June 5 American Consular report from St. John's states. The plant building will be a one-story structure of 280 feet over-all length. The machinery is said to be very modern. A total of 100 plant employees are envisaged and a yearly output of about 5,000,000 pounds of fillets is hoped for. At this rate, some 15,000,000 pounds of round fish are expected to be handled. Crew members of two 104-foot trawlers now being built at Clarenville shipyards will be added to the payroll. One vessel will be ready for delivery this month, according to reports, and the other later in August.

It is understood that the company will concentrate on the shore fishery, operating its own draggers, and also effect a collection service covering all of Hermitage Bay. Ice and bait will be delivered by the vessels to different depots to be established and then return with catches of cod and other fresh fish. Although there is no trap fishing in Hermitage Bay, there is, nevertheless, an allyear fishery for different species of groundfish; therefore, the firm is encouraging fishermen to own and operate their own small "long-liners" suitable for shallow as well as deep-sea fishing. One of the principal reasons why Hermitage Bay was chosen as the site for the new filleting plant is because these particular waters, known to be excellent fishing grounds, abound with a large variety of miscellaneous fish at all seasons.

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INSURANCE PLAN FOR FISHING INDUSTRY STUDIED: Insurance may be provided for Canada's fishermen and their boats according to a statement by the Canadian Fisheries Minister in the House of Commons, states a June 27 American Embassy dispatch from Ottawa. He said the scheme now under study by the Fisheries Department may turn out to be a three-way insurance with the fishermen, and the Provincial and Federal governments contributing. The insurance will cover the men's lives and their boats, but will not include the gear for the present.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO AID FISHERIES: In a five-hour debate on Fishery Department expense estimates, later passed, the Canadian Fisheries Minister indicated that the following measures were contemplated to aid the fisheries:

1. Some of British Columbia's surplus canned salmon may be sent to Canadian forces in Korea.

2. Legislation prohibiting foreign fishing vessels from having shore rights at East Coast ports, except Newfoundland, may be revised.

3. The Fisheries Council is studying the possibility of widening the list of fishermen's gear now exempt from sales tax.

4. Although subsidizing the building of certain types of fishing boats, the Government is opposed to any direct subsidy to fishermen who have poor catches as this might curb incentive to produce.

He also stated that, in general, the fishing industry is continuing to grow and that prices for salt-water and fresh-water fish were holding up well.

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STATUS OF NOVA SCOTIA FISH-PROCESSING PLANTS: The official opening of the multi-million dollar Louisburg fish plants was scheduled for sometime in June, states an American consular dispatch from Halifax dated May 2. Operations, however, have been in progress on a part-time basis at both plants being built on

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the Louisburg location. Reports indicate that some work remains to be done at one plant and at the fish-meal plant.

A fish plant at Petit de Grat was severely damaged by fire on March 2,1952. The older buildings, containing the fish-processing and cutting-line equipment, were completely destroyed. Since the freezer building was untouched, the company has contracted for the season's catch to be cut and filleted at nearby plants in Petit de Grat and then brought to the company's property for freezing, packing, and storage. It was expected that the Petit de Grat plant would be in shape again to freeze and store on its previously planned scale (15,000,000 pounds annually) by the end of May at the latest.

TRAWLING FOR SARDINES SUCCESSFUL: A new method of fishing for sardines has been introduced into the Charlotte County area of the Bay of Fundy in Canada, reports the May 1952 Trade News of the Canadian Fisheries Department.

During the first week of February 1952, the Atlantic Biological Station at St. Andrews, N. B., conducted experiments with floating and bottom trawls in Lepreau Harbour. These experiments showed that it was possible to catch sardines profitably with trawls, and about two weeks later the <u>Lil' Abner</u>, a boat from Wilson's Beach, Campobello, started to use the method for commercial fishing. Right from the beginning the operations of the <u>Lil' Abner</u> were extremely successful, although some improvements in the gear were made from time to time.

<u>Two-Man Operation</u>: The Lil' Abner is a 50-foot Cape Island-type boat, partially decked, powered with a 165 hp. Diesel engine, and equipped with gallows frames, double drum winch, and an echo sounder. The trawl used was an ordinary 3/4 No. 35 Yankee with a small mesh cod end. This cod end was later replaced by a nylon cod end to reduce the over-all weight of the gear. The trawl was used without wings and with only short ground lines (ea. 20 feet) to the doors which weighed 320 pounds each. Two men operated the boat and gear. Fishing was carried on during the daylight hours and catches varied from 500 to 8,000 pounds for tows usually of 60 minutes' duration. For the five-week period, for which reports were received, the average catch was 50,000 pounds per week with an average of three fishing days per week. Since sardines are worth two cents per pound to the fishermen, this adds up to an extremely successful operation.

In March another privately-owned boat began using a trawl for catching sardines with similar success, and at last report a boat from Digby, N. S., was being fitted for this method of fishing.

Echo Sounder Not Essential: Although some method, such as an echo sounder, is essential for the general location of bodies of sardines, this instrument was useless for the actual fishing operation as the sardines were so close to the bottom that it was impossible to determine their distribution. The echo sounder on the Lil' Abner was not operated while the boat was fishing. An echo sounder on the <u>Gulf Explorer</u> was used throughout an hour-long tow by the Lil' Abner, cruising over and on all sides of the trawl, which could be readily distinguished, but there were no indications whatsoever of bodies of fish. During this tow the Lil' Abner caught 2,000 pounds of sardines.

A comparison between the trawling and purse-seine methods of fishing sardines indicates the superiority of the trawling method. A purse seine costs from \$5,000 to \$6,000, requires from six to eight men to operate, and is usually efficient only at dawn and at dusk when sardines can be located in dense schools close to

the surface. A bottom trawl costs about \$500, can be operated by two men, and can be fished throughout the daylight hours when the sardines are on or close to the bottom.



German Federal Republic

GERMAN VESSELS EXPLORE FISHING OFF GREENLAND: Two Diesel-electric German trawlers left Bremerhaven and Cuxhaven on June 11 for a 30-day exploratory fishing trip to waters off Greenland, according to reports in the June 26 issue of Fiskets Gang, a Norwegian trade paper. Fifteen years have elapsed since Germans fished these waters. At that time lines were used for catching halibut. Now the 450-ton vessels will trawl only.



Greenland

SHRIMF CANNING: The fish canning industry in Greenland has grown since last year, according to a report in Dansk Fiskeritidende (May 23), a Danish trade pape

The cannery in Narssak began operations in January and packs 4,000 cans of shrimp daily, most of which is sent to Denmark.



India

WEST BENGAL TO PURCHASE TRAWLERS FROM JAPAN: The West Bengal Government has decided to purchase only three trawlers from Japan, according to an April 21 American consular dispatch from Calcutta. Details of possible aid from the Tech nical Cooperation Administration are said to be under discussion in New Delhi. It is estimated that the three Japanese trawlers and equipment, including a cold storage plant for storing the fish, would cost about half a million US dollars.

The State's Director of Fisheries estimates a future regular daily supply. of at least 10 long tons of sea fish as a result of the operation of a trawler fleet of five--the two existing ones and the proposed three Japanese vessels. Current supplies of sea fish to Calcutta, as a result of the operation of the two Danish trawlers, are not considerable, as the average catch per vessel is estimated at present to be only about 37.6 maunds (3,095 pounds) per trawling day. Total available supplies of fish (of all kinds) in Calcutta at present are estimated at about 1,700 maunds (13,990 pounds) per day, against requirements which are estimated to be at least 7,000 maunds (57,610 pounds).

The two Danish trawlers at present operating have a crew of 20, of which si are Danes--two skippers, three fishermen, and one net-maker. The two chief eng neers are Indians, the rest of the Indian crew being trainees. The catch is at present sold in bulk to a contractor who sells at controlled prices to retailer: There is no system of auctioning at present because of the irregularity of arri als and the uneconomical volume of catches. NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, MARCH 1952, PP. 42-43.

Lugust 1952

BOMBAY STATE REPORTS RECORD FISH CATCH DURING 1950-51: Despite the late commencement of the fishing season, the quantity of fish caught by launches along the Bombay coast reached a record of 8,081,663 pounds during 1950-51 as compared with 6,225,831 pounds caught in the previous year, according to a recently published report of the Department of Fisheries of the Government of Bombay supplied by the American Consul at Bombay.



The Department's efforts to increase the supply of fish reaching the Bombay City from all sources met with considerable success. Fish brought to the city during the year totaled 31,674 metric tons as against 31,627 tons in 1949-50, and 29,000 tons in 1948-49. These figures do not include considerable quantities of fish sold at landing sites and villages around the city. An increase of more than 40 percent was recorded in the quantity of fish brought to Bombay from places in Saurashtra--4,059,837 pounds as compared with about 2,930,000 pounds for the previous year and 1,500,000 pounds for 1948-49. Thus, more effective exploitation of the rich waters of Saurashtra was rendered possible through the many facilities placed within the reach of the fishermen in Saurashtra and launch owners.

The major events during the year were the inauguration of the Taraporevala Aquarium, expansion of the Technological Laboratory, and erection of a new fish market in Bombay.

Even though the fishing season of the year started rather late, it was free from the usual unexpected gluts and sudden disappearance of fish. The chief characteristic of the season was its uniformity, catches being regular and steady. Markets were well supplied with different varieties of fish and prices generally tended to be low. Large catches of fish were landed in Bombay from Saurashtra, greatly augmenting the supplies procured from adjacent areas. Likewise, the markets were well stocked with supplies of mackerel, derived mainly from NorthKanara District, where the season also commenced late, but large catches continued to be available throughout the season, which lasted from October to the end of March. The season in Ratnagiri District, however, proved to be slack.

The number of launches for catching fish in the State increased from 62 to 65. However, only 44 of them were used for fishing as against 35 during the previous year.

Experiments have shown that the most promising success was obtained by fishermen using vessels powered by small engines. The fishermen, by their own unaided efforts, were able to land larger catches, which have averaged twice, and at times thrice, as much as those of sailing boats. This performance is heightened by the fact that these vessels were able, at the same time, to range as far as 35 miles from the coast, a distance incapable of being traversed by a sailing craft, if its haul has to reach the market quickly. Fishermen are now thoroughly convinced of the advantages of powered craft over sailing craft and they are increasingly applying for engines for installation in their vessels. Besides the new fish market in Bombay, fish markets were also established at Malwan, in Ratnagiri District, and at Ankola and Bhatkal, in Kanara District. Provision of adequate landing facilities were also added during the year. The Government also provided fishermen with trade accessories, such as hemp twine, yarn, fish hooks, etc. Provision of ice factories and enlargement of cold-storag capacity continued to be made during the year.

During 1950-51, loans amounting to Rs. 522,879 (about US\$109,800) were grante to fishermen's cooperative societies for expanding their trade as against Rs.410,72 (US\$86,250) during the previous year.

There were 36 fish-curing yards in the State during the year 1950-51 as against 35 in the previous year.



Indonesia

FISHERY CONFERENCES: An International Seminar on Fish Culture sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization opened in Bogor on May 1, reports a June 18 American consular dispatch from Djakarta. Representatives from Indonesian ministries, the Technical Assistance Mission of the United Nations, and delegates from several Far Eastern countries attended. This is the second seminar to be held in Indonesia; the first, convoked last year, dealt with the cultivation of fish ponds but this year's seminar concerned itself with all aspects of fish cultivation.

An all-Indonesia Sea Fishery Conference was held at Surabaja May 15-18 and 250 delegates from throughout Indonesia attended. The Minister of Agriculture, in his speech of welcome, pointed out that every Indonesian requires 33 to 44 pounds of fish yearly. Only one third of the needs were being met, he observed, in spite of the 44 million pounds imported annually, The present domestic yield amounts to 777 million pounds yearly and 2.2 billion pounds must be added to this production to come up to requirements.



Japan

<u>PROPOSED FISHING OPERATIONS IN NORTH AND CENTRAL PACIFIC</u>: The intention of Japanese fishermen to extend their high seas fishing operations into the north ar and central Pacific is indicated from recent Japanese press items. <u>Tokyo Shinbur</u> (June 10) reported three Japanese fishing companies are planning a joint operation for whales in the north Pacific during the current summer, a June 19 American Embassy dispatch states. The plan reportedly provides:

- 1. The fleet to be used for this purpose will consist of one mothership and four catcher boats.
- 2. The operation period to be from the end of June to the middle of September.
- 3. The planned catch....about 400 whales.
- 4. Operation waters: Seas near the Aleutian Islands.

An official of the Japanese Fisheries Agency said on June 17 that the Agenc had not yet received any application for the approval of the proposed whaling ex pedition and that the Agency had not made any prior decision to approve or disapprove the request if and when submitted.

Proposed development of tuna-fishing regions south of Hawaii was also reported in the Japanese press (Nihon Keizai, June 11). It was stated that ten fishing companies at Misaki and other principal tuna ports were already constructing large size boats (100 to 300 tons) for operation in this central Pacific area. The Japanese are hopeful of a successful operation in the area south of Hawaii because the waters "are calm and safe" and the "catch in the areas high." An official of the Japanese Fisheries Agency said on June 17 that the Agency considered the proposal simply a plan of operations and that the proponents may encounter difficulty in financing the construction of the new vessels for this tuna fishing.

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INDO-JAPANESE PEACE TREATY INCLUDES FISHERY CLAUSE: The Indo-Japanese Treaty of "perpetual peace and amity" was signed the first part of June, reports an American Embassy dispatch from New Delhi, dated June 10. Pending the conclusion of a treaty to place trade, maritime, aviation and other commercial relations "on a stable and friendly basis," both India and Japan have agreed to accord each other most-favored-nation treatment with respect to air traffic rights and privileges, customs, imports, and exports.

Article 3 of the treaty states: "Japan agrees to enter into negotiations with India, when India so desires, for the conclusion of an agreement providing for the regulation or limitation of fishing and the conservation and development of fisheries on the high seas."

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CANNED TUNA CHECK PRICES REVISED AGAIN: The Japanese Government recently again revised the check prices (in effect floor prices) on canned tuna for export, reports a June 20 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo. A committee comprised of members of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (which includes the Fisheries Agency) announced the new prices at a meeting held June 24. The latest revised check prices, f.o.b. Japan, are as follows:

| | | | 1 | Light Meat Tuna | |
|--------------|----------------------|--|--|---|---|
| ans per case | Brine | Oil Al | Oil B2 | Oil | Brine |
| | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ | US\$ |
| 48 | 5.10 | 5.30 | 4.85 | 4.80 | 4.60 |
| | 8.50 | 8.80 | 8.10 | 7.90 | 7.60 |
| 48 | 15.00 | 15.60 | 14.35 | 14.00 | 13.50 |
| 12 | 17.00 | 17.60 | 16.20 | 15.80 | 15.40 |
| | 48 48 48 12 | US\$ 48 5.10 48 8.50 48 15.00 12 17.00 | US\$ US\$ 48 5.10 5.30 48 8.50 8.80 48 15.00 15.60 | $\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | $\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ |

2/ "OIL B -- FANCY PACK, BUT INCLUDES SOME BROKEN PIECES.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, JULY 1952, P. 39.

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SALMON FISHING AREA EXTENDED WESTWARD: In an effort to improve the catch, the Japanese Government on July 3 authorized the westward extension of the salmon fishing area toward Kamchatka and Kurlies, reports a July 3 American Embassy dispatch from Tokyo. The new area is as follows: 1. 170° E. LONGITUDE AND 48° N. LATITUDE. 3. 156° E. LONGITUDE AND 48° N. LATITUDE. 2. 170° E. LONGITUDE AND 53°30' N. LATITUDE. 4. 163° E. LONGITUDE AND 53°30' N. LATITUDE.

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FISHING EXPEDITIONS IN OVERSEAS AREAS: The principal Japanese fishing expedition (excepting Bonin Island whaling) in overseas areas during May was the salmon expedition to the North Pacific. Three fleets departed from Hokadate on May 1 for these northern fishing grounds. The catch as of May 31 of red andketa salmon totaled 288,108 fish. No pink salmon were caught during May. Rough weather was encountered in May and fishing throughout the month was curtailed, states a July 8 American consular dispatch from Tokyo.

Two Japanese companies obtained government licenses to operate mothership tuna expeditions in equatorial waters. One company will operate in the general region between 5° N. latitude to 20° S. latitude and 154° E. longitude to 140° W. longitude. The second company will fish in the region bounded by 5° N. latitude to 25° S. latitude and 95° E. to 135° E. longitude. Fishing will not be conducted in territorial limits (3 miles) of countries or islands lying within these areas. Both companies expect to catch a total of approximately 7,125 metric tons of tuna and shark during the fishing period from June 20 to September 4.

PATROL VESSELS ASSIGNED TO OVERSEAS AREAS: The Japanese government assigned patrol vessels to the East China and Yellow Seas, northern waters off Sakhalin and Kuriles, and southern waters (equatorial region general vicinity of East Indies). These vessels will render whatever assistance necessary to Japanese fishing boats, including actions to prevent Japanese boats from fishing in territorial waters (3 miles) off islands in the regions.

FISHERIES LEGISLATION: Fisheries legislation being considered by The Diet includes: (1) authority to restrict fishing operations in accordance with needs (training and billeting) of the U. S. Security Forces stationed in Japan, (2) introduction of the Tripartite Fisheries Treaty for ratification (the Treaty was formally signed by representatives of Japan-Canada-United States at Tokyo on May 9 and (3) provisions for financial assistance to fisheries cooperatives and vessel owners.

FISHERIES RESEARCH APPROFRIATION: Appropriations for the eight principal Japanese Government fisheries research laboratories and two research vessels total 262,045,000 Yen (US\$727,900) for fiscal year 1952 (12 months ending March 31, 1953). These laboratories are located at points throughout Japan from Hokkaido, (the northernmost main island) to Honshu (the southern main island). Coordination of regional programs is subject to the general supervision of the Director, Japanese Fisheries Agency at Tokyo.



Korea

FAO REHABILITATION TEAM TO SURVEY FISHERIES: An international team of ten experts is being recruited by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for Korea. This team in six months is to draw up a five-year program for rehabilitating the nation's agriculture. Fisheries is one of the fields to be surveyed by the FAO Mission. The other fields to be surveyed are agriculture, forestry, and nutrition. Of the ten experts, two will be fisheries specialists.

Mexico

<u>NEW SHRIMP GROUNDS OFF BAJA CALIFORNIA</u>: Following the discovery of new shrimp fishing grounds on the southwestern shores of Baja California early in June, the shrimp industry on Mexico's west coast enjoyed a short boom, state several American consular reports from Mexico. A large part of the Mazatlan, Guaymas, and Santa Rosalia fleets sped for the new beds. During the first three weeks of the month their catches were large, but during the closing days of June many boats reported that it was as difficult to find shrimp there as on the coasts of the mainland.

The distance from any base of operations made trips to the new grounds expensive and, as the route to and from the new beds lay largely in the open Pacific, also dangerous for the small type of shrimp boat common to the industry in this area. At the end of the month, many boat owners decided to cease operations unless more "rich strikes" were reported.

The large catches and profits made by boat owners will aid many of them to weather the summer closed-season financially and to prepare for the opening of the new season in October. The shrimp fishing season closes officially on August 1.

The majority of the shrimp from the new beds were brought to freezing plants in Mazatlan, the nearest suitable base, and Guaymas profited directly from the new developments only to a moderate degree.

MAZATLAN SHRIMP EXPORTS: During May and June the Mazatlan freezing plants operated at full capacity. The three freezing plants in Guaymas which had continued operations in May and June were Magatlan (Mexico) Shrimp Exports By Months

tinued operations in May and June were able to take care of all shrimp brought to that city, and though the other four freezing plants considered reopening, the developments at the shrimp beds in late June made this impractical.

A total of 7,054,780 pounds of shrimp were exported from the Mazatlan freezing plants during the 1951-52 Season, compared with 6,552,770 pounds during the 1950-51 season.

Most of the shrimp exported from Mazatlan during May and June was of the size 12-15 count (heads off) and 16-20 Count, and was sold for 80-85 US cents a United States During the south of June

count, and was sold for 80-85 US cents a pound f.o.b. point of destination in the United States. During the month of June, the freezing plants bought the shrimp from the boat owners at an average price of 9,400 pesos (US\$1,087) a metric ton or about 49 US cents per pound.



| freezing | plants | in | Guaymas | which | had | con- |
|----------|--------|----|-----------------------|-------|------|---------|
| Mazatlan | | | Shrimp Ex 51-1951/ | | By M | lonths, |
| | | | | | | |

| 1950/51-1951/52 | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Month | 1951-52 Season | 1950-51 Season | | |
| October November December January February March April May June Total | 720,000 774,353 300,291 598,182 291,766 1,733,535 1,047,233 | 1,035,400 919,000 1,106,378 1,112,580 598,182 | | |

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Netherlands

IMPROVEMENT OF SEA FISHERIES RECOMMENDED: Scrapping of a large portion of the present Dutch fishing fleet, and construction during the next ten years of a smaller, more efficient fleet is recommended in the Tinbergen Report recently presented to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, a June 23 American Embassy report from The Hague reports.

The report is the result of more than a year's study by a 20-man committee representing the Government, the fleet, factory owners, and the fishery unions, under the chairmanship of Professor J. Tinbergen, Director of the Central Planning Bureau. The report further recommends Government financing of 50 percent of the estimated 37 million guilder (US\$9,731,000) cost of such improvements.

Noting the steady drop in the average daily catch in the North Sea since the end of the war (now less than 50 percent of the 1945 average), the committee also recommended the construction of three long-distance trawlers costing an additional 4 million guilders (US\$1,052,000).

Examining the background of the fisheries business in the Netherlands, the report states that it can be an economically rewarding enterprise, but that to



A TYPICAL LUGGER-TRAWLER OF THE NETHERLANDS. SEVEN NEW VESSELS ARE TO BE ADDED TO THE PRESENT FLEET OF 34 ME-DIUM-SIZE LUGGER-TRAWLERS.

be so, methods and equipment must be modernized and efficiently used. This would include not only fishing vessels and actual fishing, but extend to more efficient processing of fishery products, and a more aggressive promotion policy in the sale of fish in the Netherlands and for export.

The report points out that the Dutch have a low per-capits fish consumption, even though meat prices remain high, and suggests that greater emphasis should be put on the substitution of fish for meat as a protein food. A 20-percent ih-

crease in domestic consumption of fish is urged.

Details of the reconstitution of the Dutch fishing fleet over a ten-year period as suggested in the report include addition of 30 new small cutters to the present 84, but scrapping of 100 other inefficient and low-powered types. Seven new vessels would be added to the present fleet of 34 medium size lugger-trawler Of the present fleet of 208 herring vessels, 118 should be scrapped and 72 new ones built to make a total of 162 boats in the new fleet.

The report further recommends that all 15 low-powered motor trawlers of the present fleet be scrapped, and that 13 of the present 28 higher-powered motor trawlers be replaced with more modern vessels. With the suggested addition of three long-distance trawlers, the new fleet as recommended would total 248 vessels instead of the present 469.

The Committee estimates that this fleet could produce 50,000 metric tons of fresh herring as compared with the present fleet's 40,000 tons, and bring in the

same 80,000 tons of salted herring. In addition, the Committee estimates that with the three long-distance trawlers contributing approximately 5,000 tons of fresh sea fish to the total, the fleet could increase the catch of the other sea fish from the present 50,000 tons a year to 57,500.

Norway

NYLON NETS FOR HERRING FISHING TESTED: Nylon nets for herring fishing have been tested on the Norwegian research vessel <u>G. O. Sars</u>, states a July 2 American Embassy dispatch from Oslo. According to a report in <u>Fiskaren</u>, the catches made with these nets were from 80 to 100 percent better than with ordinary nets. However, it was more difficult to take the fish from the nylon nets, but attempts have been made to correct this by changing the size of the meshes. It is estimated that a nylon net will last six times longer than a cotton net.

. Further tests will be made by fishermen in the Icelandic fishing this summer.

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BRISLING CANNED FROM FROZEN FISH: Norwegian tests of brisling which were frozen, stored for 3 to 11 weeks at temperatures varying from -9° to -31° F., and then canned, showed that the product prepared from fish stored at -22° to -31° F. was fully equal in quality to brisling canned from fresh fish. Frozen brisling stored at higher temperatures did not give as good results.

To be of any practical help to the fishermen, the minimum storage period must be at least 8 weeks, reports the April 29 issue of Fiskaren.

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MACKEREL EXPORTS MAY INCREASE: A large increase in the export of Norwegian mackerel is probable if the current good fishing continues, according to a report from Norway's Mackerel Association in <u>Fiskaren</u> (May 20), a Norwegian trade paper. Holland and England are interested in fresh, iced mackerel. The frozen product has a good market in Germany and a number of other European countries, and is being introduced in Israel.

Export of mackerel fillets to the United States is mentioned as a possibility.

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<u>COD-LIVER OIL OUTPUT IN 1952 MAY EQUAL LAST YEAR'S</u>: Norway's production of cod-liver oil in 1952 is expected to approximate that of 1951 provided fishing conditions remain favorable, reports the American Consulate at Bergen. The major cod fisheries began their operations in January and usually close in May or June.

Production of cod-liver oil this season (as of March 22) was reported at 1,320,875 U.S. gallons. This was somewhat below the comparable figure of 1,585,050 gallons in 1951, but somewhat higher than the 1,056,700 gallons reported for the same period in 1950. Production for the whole of 1951 was 3,170,000 gallons.

More boats and more men are engaged in cod fishing this year than ever before. As of late March there were 5,593 vessels and 24,053 men participating in the most important cod area, the vicinity of the Lofoten Islands.

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A price war in the fishing area as of late March had been in full swing since operations began in January. This was said to be the result of a minimum price schedule for fish established by the Fishery Department and the Price Directorate, as was done last year. Keen competition had arisen among the factories, canneries, and others, in their efforts to procure fish. As a result, prices had gone up materially. And prices of raw livers climbed correspondingly

Export prices for cod-liver oil this year had not been announced as of late March. However, the fishing organizations were pressing the Norwegian Government to initiate action toward that end. Prices were reported to have strengthened somewhat owing to a recent sale of 660 short tons of oil to Germany. This was to be used in the making of margarine, soap, and other products.

Prices of oil for export probably will not change much this season as long as world political conditions remain as they are, according to the opinion of one of the leading men in the industry.

Buyers in the United States, the largest single importing country of Norway's steamed medicinal cod-liver oil in 1951, were reported recently as being "very cautious" compared with last year. Exports to the United States last year were 330,388 gallons out of a total of 1,726,690 gallons. The Netherlands and Western Germany, second- and third-largest purchasers, took 219,117 and 182,883 gallons, respectively.

ANTARCTIC FISHING VENTURE: Two strongly-built Norwegian fishing vessels (62 metric tons each) recently returned to Norway from a fishing venture off

South Georgia in the Antarctic, according to the June 4 issue of Fiskaren, a Norwegian trade paper. These vessels (manned with 8 or 9 men) fished for a whaling station at Husvika, using purse seines to catch a fish called "sea cod." The "sea cod" was reported as having no relationship to the ordinary cod but as being more nearly like a sculpin. Actually, the fish were fat and resembled wolffish or "catfish" in taste. They ranged up to 3 feet in length and weighed from 11 to 18 pounds each.

Large quantities were caught in a single set of the seine. Those which were not eaten by the staff (up to 2,000 men) at Husvika were utilized formeal and oil by the whaling station. Hook and lines were tried, but the "sea cod" would not take a hook. Seining in the winter months was not possible. Even in the summer months conditions could be arduous for a crew of 8 or 9 men. The vessels were able to fish at considerable distances from the land sta-

SOUTH AMERICA ALANTIC CEAN SOUTH GEORGIAD SOUTH ORKNEYS IS. TH GRAHAN WEDDEL OCEAN ANTARCTICA SOUTH POLE

tion because they were equipped with radar, radio, and echo sounders. Before beginning their 59-day voyage to 60 degrees south latitude at South Georgia, the vessels last year had fished off Spitsbergen to 80 degrees north latitiude.



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Panama

BAIT-FISHING REGULATIONS CHANGED: The Panamanian Government has issued two decrees changing the bait-fishing regulations in Panamanian Pacific coastal waters. The Decrees are No. 324 dated May 28, 1952, and No. 330 dated June 7, 1952. Although not yet published in the <u>Gaceta Oficial</u>, the Decrees became effective on the dates indicated according to the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries, reports a July 8 American Embassy dispatch from Panama.

Decree No. 324 modifies Decree No. 216 of October 27, 1951, to the extent that henceforth foreign vessels licensed to fish for bait in the jurisdictional waters of the Republic will be required to pay as compensation for the services of a chief inspector and two assistant inspectors the monthly sum of US\$1,000. The decree fixes the monthly salary of the chief inspector at US\$500 and US\$250 for each of the assistant inspectors.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries revealed informally that the Decree has been issued in error and that, therefore, either a substitute Decree will be forthcoming or the present one revoked.

Decree No. 330 of June 7, 1952 (in modifying Decree No. 216 of October 27, 1951) (a) extends the limit of the bait-fishing area in Panama's Pacific territorial waters, (b) reduces the license fees for bait-fishing vessels, and (c) alters the period during which bait fishing is authorized.

Under Decree No. 216 of October 27, 1951, bait fishing was limited to the continental submarine shelf of the Pacific Ocean south of latitude 8°30' N. Decree No. 330 changes Article 1 of Decree No. 216 of October 27, 1951, to read in effect: "Bait fishing will be permitted only within the limits of the continental submarine shelf south of latitude 8°30' N. and to the East of longitude 79° 15' W.

Article 2 of the same decree was modified to read: "The owners or agents of the vessels engaged in this type of fishing must obtain an annual license which will be issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries and a navigation permit issued, in these instances, by the Ministry of Finance and Treasury. These licenses will be valid for one year from the date of issue."

The newly-designated area for bait fishing thus includes Chepillo Island, the mouth of the Bayano River, and part of the Perlas Islands. The prohibited zone includes the Chame point area and the islands of Otoque, Bona, Taboga, and Taboguilla, which areas are used by local fishermen who supply the market of Panama City.

New license fees (which are to be paid annually when license is solicited) for bait-fishing vessels of foreign registry as established by Decree No. 330 are as follows:

| Vessels | of | less than 100 net tons | US\$ 400 |
|---------|----|------------------------|----------|
| н | | 101 to 150 net tons | 800 |
| 11 | 11 | 151 to 200 net tons | 1,000 |
| 11 | 11 | 200 net tons and over | 2,000 |

Under the previous schedule of fees as set forth in Article IV of Decree No. 216 of October 27, 1951, vessels paid at the following rates:

| lessels | of | less than 25 tons US\$ | 450 |
|---------|----|------------------------|-----|
| n | 31 | 25 to 50 tons | 600 |
| H | 11 | 50 to 100 tons | 900 |

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Vessels of 100 to 150 tons US\$ 1,000 " " 150 to 200 tons 1,500 " " 200 tons and over 2,000

Where formerly the authorized period for bait fishing was from February 15 through October 31, the open season as established by Decree No. 330 begins February 1 and ends September 30, "unless the Ministry of Agriculture, Commerce and Industries should decide otherwise."

The Ministry has indicated that Decree No. 330 has also been issued in erro and that a substitute decree is to be issued in the near future.



Republic of the Philippines

<u>CONTINUATION OF DUTY-FREE STATUS FOR U.S. FISH IMPORTS RECOMMENDED</u>: Inclusion of fishery products in duty-free imports under the proposed selective free trade with the United States was recommended by the Director of the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries, according to an American Embassy dispatch from Manila. This recommendation was made in connection with the public hearings being held to consider proposals to modify the terms of the present Philippine agreement on trade provided by the Philippine Trade Act of 1946 and subject to change after July 4, 1954. Approval of this recommendation would maintain the present dutyfree status of United States fishery products.

The Bureau declared that the local fish supply is insufficient to meet the normal consumption requirements of the Philippines; the fish-canning industry in the Philippines is unprofitable because of insufficient catch; and big-scale deep-sea fising is not possible in that country as shown in the three-year survey made by the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries.



Union of South Africa

WHALE-OIL OUTPUT IN 1951/52 SEASON AGAIN HIGH: The Union of South Africa's whaling factoryship Abraham Larsen and 16 catcher boats accounted for the larges combined output of whale and sperm oil by a single expedition during the 1951/52 Antarctic season, reports the American Consulate at Durban. Of the total output of 34,350 short tons, all but 3,700 tons consisted of whale oil. In the previou season, South Africa's total output of whale and sperm oil also ranked first wit 30,224 tons.

According to pre-season agreement, the entire 1951/52 output of whale oil Was sold to the British Ministry of Food at L110 per long ton (US\$275 per short ton). The United Kingdom also purchased 2,427 tons of sperm oil at L58 (US\$182). The remaining 1,273 tons from the 1951/52 season was unsold as of the first of May.

Shore-based whaling operations in the Union during 1951 produced some 11,4 tons of whale oil and 6,000 tons of sperm oil, a substantial increase from resp tive quantities of 6,640 and 3,510 tons produced in 1950. Sales by the larger the two shore-based stations in 1951 consisted of 6,257 tons of whale oil to a cal concern at a controlled price of ±95 per long ton (US\$237 per short ton) and 2,902 tons to various European countries at prices ranging from L115 to L132 (US\$287-\$330). Sperm oil sales by the same station totaled 3,665 tons, of which all but 225 tons went to Norway, the United Kingdom, and Italy.

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United Kingdom

FISHERIES TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM: Freezing-Fish-at-Sea Studies: Among other investigations by the United Kingdom's Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, those on the freezing and cold storage of fish continue, priority being given to the development of a suitable labor and space-saving plant for freezing fish at sea. A small pilot plant, freezing large slabs of fish between moveable, vertical, directly-refrigerated plates, has been designed and installed on board the research vessel Keelby, according to the July 1952 issue of Food Manufacture quoted by an American consular dispatch from London.

This pilot plant quick freezes blocks up to 5 inches thick of cod or similar fish weighing up to 112 pounds at a freezing temperature of -30° F. to -35° F. The fish are merely dropped or poured in, their weight providing sufficient contact with the metal. The frozen slab is released by warming with compressor gas.

If mechanical filleting and freezing at sea should become possible, preliminary tests show that a very high freezing performance would be possible even at -10° F. or 0° F. with a considerable reduction in cost, weight, space, and power consumption of condensing units.

Antioxidants for Storage of Frozen Herring: In recent work on antioxidants, none of the substances tested (ascorbic acid, gallic acid, and ethyl gallate) has proved to be of much value in the storage of frozen herring. Preliminary inquiries as to whether it is better to store frozen kippers or herring show that a better product is obtained by freezing the latter when fresh, and that the quality of frozen kippers may depend much on the degree of curing.

<u>Chemistry of Wood Smoke</u>: Work on the chemistry of wood smoke has been continued. It has been found that phenols can be separated on paper chromatograms according to their hydroxyl content, and the individual components of these groups, e.g. di- or tri-hydroxyl compounds, can be separated from one another. Using a paper partition chromatogram technique and employing special conditions for elution and a suitable colorimetric porcedure, it has been possible to achieve estimations of microgram quantities of individual phenols in a mixture with an accuracy of ±5 percent.

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CANNED CRAB AND SALMON IMPORTS FROM RUSSIA FLANNED: The United Kingdom will export cured herring (about 135,000 barrels) valued at ±850,000 (US\$2,380,000) and tin plate valued at ±100,000 (US\$280,000) to Russia in exchange for canned salmon valued at ±800,000 (US\$2,240,000) and crab meat valued at ±150,000 (US\$420,000). It is presumed that the canned fish will be consumed domestically and will not be re-exported, state May 19 and June 16 American Embassy reports from London.

The agreement provides for a carryover to 1953 for quantities not delivered in 1952. The tin plate going to Russia is to be used for canning salmon and crab meat. The first arrivals of canned fish from Russia are expected in September. Canned crab meat is scheduled to retail at about 3s.9d. (52 US cents) for a "half tin."

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<u>NEW FISH CANNERY IN SCOTLAND</u>: The opening of a new fish cannery at Ayr in Scotland was reported in the July 1952 issue of <u>Food Manufacture</u>, an American consular dispatch from London states. It provides an outlet (which was badly needed) for the West Coast fishing, as it establishes a process point to handle the catch of the Clyde and West Coast fisheries on the spot.

Ayr has been increasing in popularity as a port of landing because of the short haulage distance to the main markets, and its advantage over East Anglia in offering a year-round season. The herring season in East Anglia is largely restricted to summer and early autumn. Should supplies of herring fail off the West Coast, they can readily be imported.

The initial layout of the plant comprises some 5,000 square feet allocated in an ice factory which can be expanded with the progress and success of the plant. The present capacity is about 20,000 cans per day, rising to 30,000. The first pack will include herring in tomato sauce, fresh herring, and canned kippers. Later it is planned to pack vegetables and fruit. It is expected that this canned produce will find its way into the world markets, but a certain proportion will go to home-market outlets.



EGYPTIAN FISHERIES

Egypt's postwar plans to improve the well-being of her increasing population include the reorganization and expansion of the fishing industry. Egypt, with a Mediterranean littoral to



the north, a long sea coast on the Red Sea to the east, and an extensive system of lakes, canals, drainage and irrigation works connected with the Nile may become self-sufficient in edible fish and solve the problem of feeding her under-nourished population.

In the commercial field, the Egyptian Fisheries Administration's main activities are:

- 1. DAILY COLLECTION OF STATISTICS FROM VARIOUS FISHERIES.
- 2. KEEPING & RECORD OF PRICES IN THE VARIOUS MARKETS.
- 3. RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING AMONG THE FISHERMEN; PROTECTING THEM AGAINST THE FISH DEALERS; PROMOTING COOPERATION AMONG THE FISHERMEN.
- 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNICAL SCHOOLS FOR FISHERMEN.
- 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF CANNING, SMOKING, AND PICKLING FACTORIES.
- 6. CREATION OF PLANS FOR PRODUCTION OF FISH OILS AND FISH MEAL.
- 7. DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPONGE INDUSTRY ALONG THE COAST FROM ALEXANDRIA TO SOLLUM WHERE SOME OF THE BEST SPONGE BEDS IN THE WORLD ARE FOUND.
- 8. INTRODUCTION OF OYSTER AND MUSSEL CULTURE.

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