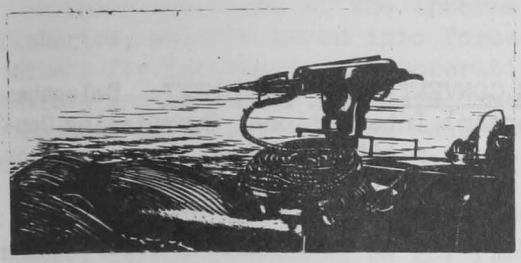
FOREIGN

International

WORLD WHALE- AND SPERM-OIL PRODUCTION DECLINES IN 1953: World production of whale oil and sperm oil in 1953 will approximate 420,000 and 55,000 short tons, respectively, compared with 460,000 and 80,000 short tons in 1952, states the May 4 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets, a U. S. Department of Agriculture publication. The decline in both types of whale oil is the result of smaller returns from the 1952/53 Antarctic pelagic (open sea) whaling operations completed in March.



Antarctic Production, 1952/53: Production of both whale and sperm oil during the 1952/53 Antarctic season totaled around 372,000 tons, according to provisional data submitted by the U. S. Embassy at Oslo, Norway. This is almost 15 percent less than the combined quantity produced in the preceding season. The 61,400-ton drop in output was shared about equally between the two types of whale oil. However, when separately compared with corresponding 1951/52 data, whale oil output (350,788 tons) decreased by only 8 percent while sperm oil (21,209 tons) dropped 59 percent. Large stocks and low prices were responsible for the sharp decline in Antarctic sperm-oil production this year.

There were 16 expeditions operating this season, 3 less than in 1951/52, and included 7 Norwegian, 3 British, 2 Japanese, and one each from South Africa, the Soviet Union, the Netherlands, and Panama. Norway completed the season with roughly one-third of the total catch as compared with nearly one-half of the 1951/52 production.

Antarctic Pelagic Whale- and Sperm-Oil Production, 1952/53 (Preliminary)

Country	Whale oil		Sperm oil		Total	
	1952/53	1951/52	1952/53	1951/52	1952/53	1951/52
	(Short Tons)					
Norway	137,782	181,407	5,101	21,701	142,883	203,108
United Kingdom	73,472	70,557	10,267	12,304	83,739	82,861
Japan	37,443	38,649	1,260	9,786	38,703	48,435
Union of South Africa	26,563	31,065	1,736	3,647	28,299	34,712
Netherlands	18,847	17,360	358	3,229	19,205	20,589
Panama	28,924	17,910	1,717	210	30,641	18,120
U. S. S. R.	27,757	26,188	770	1,373	28,527	27,561
Total 1/	350,788	383,136	21,209	52,250	371,997	435,386

1/ DOES NOT INCLUDE PRODUCTION OF SOUTH GEORGIA SHORE STATIONS. IN 1951/52 THIS PRODUCTION INCLUDED 24,419 SHORT TONS OF WHALE OIL AND 1,198 SHORT TONS OF SPERM OIL.

Antarctic production of whale oil only, including that which is produced by 3 South Georgia shore stations, normally accounts for around 90 percent of the world supply. In 1952 whale oil output from this single area amounted to 408,600 tons, including South Georgia production of 25,400 tons. Most of the remaining 1952 production, estimated at some 50,000 tons, resulted from numerous shore-station operations in scattered parts of the world.

Sperm whaling is not subject to the same strict international regulations that largely determine the quantity of whale oil produced each year. Although sperm oil is produced both before and during the Antarctic baleen whaling season by the participating expeditions, this production does not necessarily constitute the bulk of the world supply. Almost 60 percent of the sperm oil produced in 1951 occurred in areas outside the Antarctic. In 1952, Antarctic production of sperm oil amounted to 53,400 short tons, but dropped to approximately 23,000 tons in the season just passed. Although complete data are not yet available, production of sperm oil in "other" areas in 1952, and probably 1953, is not expected to exceed 30,000 tons. Of the total 1952 sperm-oil output, Norway accounted for slightly more than 30 percent, or 25,000 tons. Other principal producers last year were the United Kingdom, Japan, and the Soviet Union.

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SIGNATORIES OF NORTH EUROPEAN OVERFISHING CONVENTION OF 1946 MEET: Delegates of the 12 signatory nations to the (North European) International Overfishing Convention met early in March for the first time since ratification of the Convention. All countries represented agreed (1) that the Permanent Commission would meet on May 5, 1953, and (2) that minimum mesh and fish sizes should be enforced no later than April 5, 1954. This is to be the maximum period of time allowed before existing nets are discarded and replaced by those with the new-size mesh. The countries represented at the meeting were Belgium, Denmark, Eire, France, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

The Permanent Commission's duties will include examining the state of fish stocks on the fishing grounds covered by the Convention and making recommendations for the adequate protection of such stocks, reports the March 1953 Fish Industry, a British fishery periodical.

NOTE: SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, APRIL 1953, PP. 35-6.

NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

THIRD MEETING AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.: The Third Meeting of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries convened at New Haven, Connecticut, on May 25, the Department of State announced on that date. The U. S. Government was represented at that meeting by the following Delegation:

United States Commissioners:

John L. Kask,
Assistant Director, Fish and Wildlife Service,
U. S. Department of the Interior.

Richard Knollenberg,
Chester, Connecticut.

Francis W. Sargent, Director,
Division of Marine Fisheries,
Department of Conservation,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Advisers:

Herbert W. Graham,
Chief, North Atlantic Fishery Investigations,
Fish and Wildlife Service
U. S. Department of the Interior.

Lionel A. Walford,
Chief, Branch of Fishery Biology,
Fish and Wildlife Service,
U. S. Department of the Interior.

Under the terms of the International Convention for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, which entered into force in July 1950, the Commission provides the machinery for international cooperation in the scientific investigation and development of fishery resources in waters off the west coast of Greenland and the east coasts of Canada and New England.

While the Commission has no direct regulatory powers, it may recommend to governments the measures considered necessary for maintaining at a maximum level of sustained production the stocks of fish which support the international fisheries in the Convention area. The members of the Commission are Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

At this meeting it is expected that the Commission will adopt a comprehensive research program which will constitute in effect a master plan for the future research activities to be undertaken in the Convention area by member governments under the auspices of the Commission.

Among the matters of great interest to the United States which the Commission will have before it are recommendations on the New England haddock fisheries.

Provision was made in the agenda of the Third Meeting for the selection of a site for permanent headquarters. Invitations have been extended to the Commission to locate its headquarters at sites both in Canada and the United States. Among the sites in Canada considered are Halifax, Nova Scotia; St. John's, Newfoundland; Montreal; and Laval University at Quebec. In the United States sites have been considered at Kingston, Rhode Island; Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Gloucester, Massachusetts; Durham University, New Hampshire; and Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine.

The meeting also provided an opportunity for a review of the operations of the Commission during the period since its last meeting at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada, in June and July 1952. The Commission examined reports on research and statistics, finance, and administration; the status of ratifications of the Convention, and staff matters; as well as reports by the panels established under the Convention to exercise primary responsibility in each of the five Convention subareas. Action was also taken on a budget for 1953-54.

Australia

AUSTRALIAN PEARL- AND TROCHUS-SHELL PRODUCTION, 1952: The Australian pearl-shell production in 1952 totaled 961 metric tons, valued at £A511,570 (US$1,146,000) ex-vessel, reports the March 1953 Australian Fisheries Newsletter. This was an increase of 20 percent in quantity and 22 percent in value as compared with the 1951 production of 797 metric tons valued at £A419,432 (US$940,000). The Northern Territory and Western Australian pearl-shell fishing seasons ended in December 1952 and the Queensland season in January 1953.

The trochus-shell production in 1952 amounted to 1,163 metric tons, valued at £A233,532 (US$523,000) ex-vessel, compared with 1,279 metric tons, valued at £A227,775 (US$510,000), in 1951. The Queensland season ended June 30 and the Western Australia season ended December 31.

A total of 130 boats operated in the pearl- and trochus-shell fishery in 1952, and employed 1,503 men as compared with 152 boats and 1,608 men in 1951. The boats and equipment used in this fishery were valued at £A515,750 (US$1,155,000) in 1952 and £A540,000 (US$1,210,000) in 1951.

For the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1952, 80.8 percent of the pearl-shell and 60.2 percent of the trochus-shell Australian exports went to the United States.

Canada

FILLET PRODUCERS WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN JOINT PROMOTION CAMPAIGN IN U. S.: A number of Canada's leading fish-fillet producers have indicated their willingness to participate in and contribute to the cost of an advertising and promotional campaign to expand the sale of fillets in the United States, the Fisheries Council of Canada announced on April 23.

This decision followed a discussion with members of the National Fisheries Institute at their annual meeting in Washington in mid-April, and is based on the realization that a properly-organized and adequately-financed sales promotion program can contribute to the increased consumption of fish fillets in the United States market. Canadian fillet producers are willing to join with the United States producers and European exporters in the financing of such a program.

It is generally agreed by responsible leaders of the fishing industry in both Canada and the United States that the soundest approach to the industry's current marketing problem lies in market expansion. The potential for increased fish consumption is great, and modern merchandising and promotional methods will be required to achieve the necessary increase in sales.

The Canadian fillet producers are prepared to bear their share of the cost of realizing this objective.

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EAST COAST FISHERIES AFFECTED BY HEAVY FILLET STOCKS IN UNITED STATES: By the end of 1952 the Atlantic Coast fisheries of Canada were experiencing some difficulty in disposing of their product in the traditional market, the United States, a March 10 U. S. consular dispatch from Halifax states. This was particularly noted in the case of companies attempting to sell cod and other groundfish fillets.

The price of market cod at one Cape Breton, N. S., port dropped from 3½¢ to 3¢ (Canadian) in a few weeks; steak cod went down to 3¢ (Canadian) from its previous selling price of 4½¢ (Canadian). It is understood that some Newfoundland ports report cod prices as low as 2½¢ (Canadian) a pound. The price drops are blamed on the glut of frozen cod fillets in the United States—largely due to increased exports to that country from other sources.

The situation in the frozen-fillet market is important to those dealing in these products. Nevertheless, with about one-half of eastern Canada's fish catch marketed fresh, the exigencies in the frozen fillet portion of the industry must be considered as relatively minor to the whole Canadian Atlantic coast fishery. The increased frozen-fillet supplies entering the United States market from other foreign sources is disruptive to some Canadian exporters, but cannot be considered of overriding importance to the whole eastern Canadian fisheries. United States tariff policy on fish imports is of prime importance. As long as the general tariff does not change, Canada's Maritime fish producers feel that they will be able to dispose of their product on a level comparable to that of past years. United States consumption of fish is rising steadily as is that in Canada. Therefore, Canadian producers are not overly fearful of what the future may bring if the United States tariffs remain unchanged.

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NOVA SCOTIA'S FISH-PROCESSING FACILITIES, 1952: At the end of the 1952 licensing year there were 333 licensed fish-processing plants in Nova Scotia, a March 10 U. S. consular dispatch reports. Almost 300 of these consist of small plants where the catch of only a few vessels is processed. In addition to these plants, there were 139 licensed buyers.

Three new fish plants opened in Nova Scotia during the year: A medium-size plant at Dingwall; a medium-size plant at Jordan Bay; and a large jointly-owned plant at Louisburg, Cape Breton Island. The Louisburg plant is estimated to have cost C$4 million to construct and has facilities for landing, freezing, cold storage, and the manufacture of fish meal.

In March, fire destroyed a fish-processing plant at Petit de Grat in Richmond County. The freezing and power plants of the company were not severely damaged and by hiring the use of other local processing facilities the plant managed to operate throughout the year. A new plant is now under construction by the same company at the same location and it was expected to be in operation by May 1953.

During the year one large corporation announced that additions to plant and equipment valued at C$250,000 had been made to its Halifax plant. This plant's facilities are now capable of producing 40 million pounds of fish per year on a one-shift operation basis.

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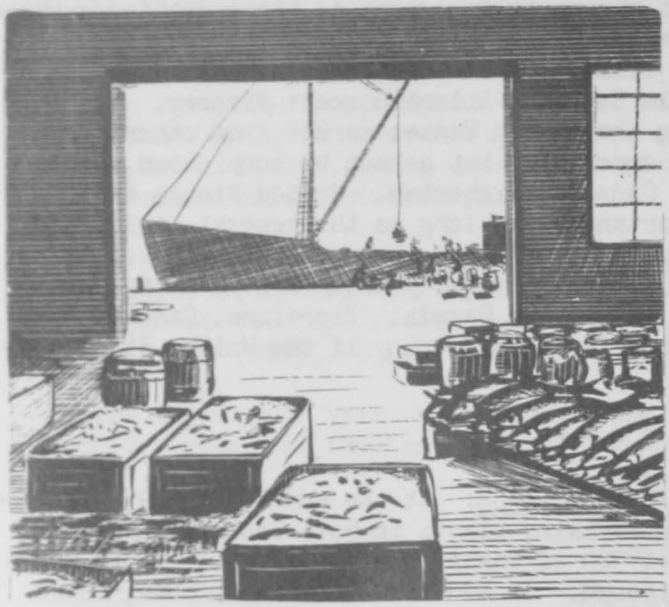
FISHERIES OUTLOOK IN THE MARITIME PROVINCES: The present trend of Nova Scotia's and the Canadian Maritime Provinces' fishery industries is away from salt fish and towards the production of fresh and frozen fish for export (particularly to the United States) and for sale in the broadening Canadian market. This trend is due to the instability of traditional salt-fish markets in the Caribbean area and the realization that the prime competitive advantage of the Maritime Provinces lies in their nearness to the most productive fishing grounds in the western Atlantic. Operators on the Nova Scotia mainland are beginning to feel that even they are located too far from the most productive areas. The geographic location of the Maritime

Provinces is being turned to greatest commercial advantage by emphasizing quality production, states a March 10 U. S. consular dispatch from Halifax.

Increased demand for fishery products throughout North America would seem to indicate a favorable future for eastern Canadian producers. Nonetheless, some sources in Nova Scotia believe the sale of the 1953 production may be extremely difficult unless there are more favorable developments than can be foreseen. Improved producing and processing facilities developed the past several years are believed by some to have created a situation which may prove disastrous, in the light of market conditions where Canadian producers compete with other sources. Many of the marginal producers who might have been frozen out if the Korean crisis in 1950 had not halted a declining market are still in business. Also many new firms have been organized. Increased competition from foreign fish may cause considerable hardship among producers on the eastern Canadian seaboard.



Members of Parliament from the affected areas are reported to be urging increased assistance and protection for the fishermen. The Customs and Fisheries Protection Act of 1860 is under complete revision in an effort to more clearly protect Canadian fishing privileges; M.P.'s from all parties have called for such measures as insurance against equipment loss, unemployment insurance, pensions, floor prices, and other government-sponsored steps. If a depressed condition is in store for Canadian fish producers, the Federal Government is apparently reaching the conclusion that it must take steps to assist the industry.

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NOVA SCOTIA FISHERMEN USING MORE "LONG-LINER" VESSELS: Perhaps the most important equipment development in the Nova Scotia fishing industry during the past year or so has been the development of the so-called "long-liner" fishing vessels. The ideal type "long-liner" is about 55 feet in length, carries a 3 to 5 man crew, and is designed for groundfishing essentially. It is able to lay down long lines at desired depths by use of anchor buoys. The main line has shorter lines (with baited hooks attached) at spaced intervals. The vessels have a power engine on deck for hauling back the gear. About 30 of these vessels are believed to be in operation out of Nova Scotia ports and they are considered to be most effective off the southeast Coast.

Long lines are replacing the hand-line gear used by smaller boats. Under previous conditions the small fisherman could only hope for an average income of about C$1,200 to C$1,500 a year. But on a long-liner he might expect to net C$3,000 a year, and under most favorable conditions up to C$5,000 to C$7,000. A well-equipped long-liner may be purchased for about C$25,000, compared to the larger steam trawlers that cost up to C$250,000. The long-liner is also better suited for areas of rough bottom. The dragger on the other hand may well prove to be more efficient where the bottom is relatively smooth. A small dragger about 60 feet in length will cost about C$40,000 or less. The dragger-type vessels have been found to be particularly suitable for the Prince Edward Island fishery, and the new types

of draggers are capable of working efficiently at up to 100-fathom depths, a March 10 U. S. consular report from Halifax points out.

In addition to the long-liners mentioned above, the following fishing vessels were licensed in Nova Scotia at the end of 1952: 25 trawlers of 100 feet in length; 8 draggers 65-100 feet in length; about 100 draggers less than 65 feet in length.

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NOVA SCOTIA FISH-MEAL PRICES LOW: The wholesale price for fish meal in Nova Scotia in January 1953 dropped to about C$70 per ton, compared with C$125 per ton at the same time in 1952, reports a March 10 U. S. consular dispatch from Halifax. This price drop is blamed on the relative surplus of animal bone meal in Canada. The animal bone meal surplus is attributed to the United States embargo on Canadian animal products because of the hoof-and-mouth disease outbreak.

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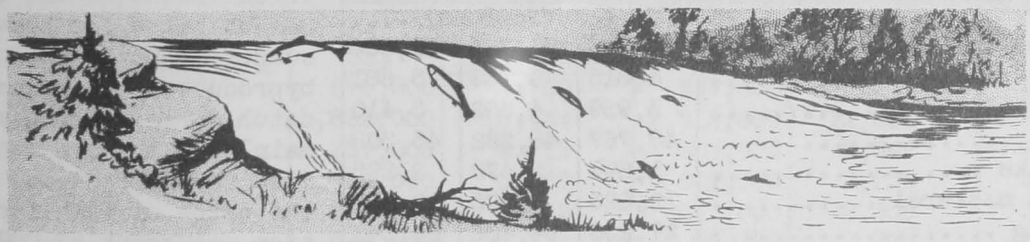
BRITISH COLUMBIA SALMON INDUSTRY TRENDS, JANUARY-MARCH 1953: As a result of strikes and unfavorable export market conditions, the British Columbia fishing industry is in the doldrums, states an April 13 consular dispatch from Vancouver. One of the largest packers has passed dividend payments for the first time in 11 years. Estimates indicate that in the 1952/53 selling year the domestic market will absorb approximately 900,000 cases of canned salmon, largely as a result of a C$300,000 advertising campaign. Export markets will absorb another 400,000 cases. This leaves some 200,000 cases in excess of the demand. Before World War II, 65 percent of the annual salmon pack was sold in export markets and only 35 percent in Canada.



Fortunately the British Government has agreed to spend C$4,250,000 for British Columbia salmon in 1953, which will account for approximately one-third of the 600,000-case carryover from 1952. Thus, the industry must find additional outlets for some 600,000 cases of salmon--a 400,000-case carryover from 1952 and an excess production of 200,000 cases if the season has a normal pack of 1,500,000 cases. While the British purchase is not a barter deal, it is understood that packers have arranged through a large can company to take 2,000 tons of Welsh tin plant in return.

Colombia

U. S. TUNA BAIT BOAT TO EXPLORE FISHING OFF COAST: A modern tuna bait boat owned by a large California cannery arrived at Cartagena, Columbia, to explore the possibilities of large-scale tuna fishing grounds along the Atlantic Coast of Colombia. The area between Santa Marta and the Guajira peninsula will get the greatest study, states recent U.S. consular dispatches from Barranquilla. The exploration is at the instigation of a Barranquilla fish-canning plant interested in increasing its present output.

If the exploration proves to be successful, it is understood that the California firm would be prepared to sell about 50 percent of each trip to the Barranquilla firm, or an amount sufficient to fill its unused canning capacity. The final outcome of these negotiations and explorations will be followed with a great deal of interest in Colombia because, if successful, they could significantly aid in increasing the local food supply, and stimulate the local fishing and canning industry.

The results of the explorations during the last weeks of April were inconclusive due to the unseasonal heavy winds and high seas along the Atlantic coast. Rough seas cut short the visit and the vessel proceeded to quieter waters to continue its explorations.

The Colombian cannery is also interested in encouraging some United States firm to send a modern purse seiner to increase the Colombia fish supply. At present fish landings are very light due to the primitive methods used by local fishermen.

Denmark

FISHERIES REVIEW, 1952: Production: The Danish catch of fishery products in 1952 was 311,032 metric tons (table 1), an increase of 12 percent over the 278,294 metric tons produced in 1951, and 30 percent more than the 238,961 metric tons in 1950. Three-fifths of the 1952 catch was utilized for human consumption and two-fifths for byproducts. The increased catch during recent years was mainly due to more landings of fish for byproducts. In 1950 the catch of fish for reduction was about 62,000 metric tons, but by 1952 it had increased to 131,000 metric tons, states a March 30 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Copenhagen.

Table 1 - Danish Fishery Products Landings by Principal Species, 1950-52

	1952[1]	1951	1950
	.... (Metric Tons)		
Plaice	36,369	31,744	31,860
Flounder	4,315	5,166	5,681
Dab (yellowtail)	3,939	4,302	3,410
Cod	48,767	48,282	45,308
Gar pike	1,899	2,470	2,295
Common mackerel	12,026	9,975	10,281
Herring	27,250	24,486	26,341
Sprat	3,919	2,875	3,855
Eel	3,923	4,439	4,510
Lobster and Shrimp	1,402	1,752	1,676
Mussels	17,285	17,267	25,792
Miscellaneous for food[2]	18,665	17,145	15,835
Miscellaneous for reduction	131,273	108,391	62,117
Total	311,032	278,294	238,961

1/ PRELIMINARY. 2/ INCLUDES FRESH WATER FISH.

The principal species of food fish caught in 1952 were cod (comprised 27 percent of the total), plaice (20 percent), herring (15 percent), and common mackerel (7 percent). The remaining 31 percent was made up of a large variety of species, the most important of which was flounder, dab, gar pike, sprat, and eel.

Fish meal and fish oil were the principal byproducts of the fish caught for reduction. In 1952 the output of fish meal was estimated at 28,000 metric tons, compared with 22,000 metric tons in 1951. The 1952 production data on fish oil is not yet available, but it was expected to decline from the 11,000 metric tons produced in 1951.

Fishing Conditions: During the first four months of 1952, fishing was hampered by unstable and stormy weather, further complicated in Danish home waters by trouble with ice formation.

In January and February herring were caught in great quantities in the Skagerak, 12-15 miles northwest of Grenen, and at the southwest coast of Norway. In February and March landings of cod, principally caught in the Belt Sea and the eastern part of the Baltic Sea, were considerably above normal. In January and February bivalves were caught in less quantities than normal because of failing export markets.

In May the weather was quite favorable, but spotty in June, July, and August. The catch of common mackerel was very good in July, the peak month of the season for this species. The salmon season came to an end in June. On the Fladen Bank in the North Sea, the herring fishing started at the end of July--usually takes place from July through October. A great number of vessels went out to fish simultaneously for herring and tuna. The herring catch was just normal, whereas the tuna catch was very good.

At the end of July intensive fishing for fish for reduction commenced on Bløden Bank in the North Sea. From August through October about 55,000 metric tons of fish for reduction were landed. These were caught principally in the North Sea and on Bløden Bank.

In September and October the weather was unstable and windy but became rather favorable at the end of the year. In October the salmon fishing began in the eastern part of the Baltic. Vessels from Bornholm and the Faroe Islands participated.

Imports: In 1952 total Danish imports of fishery products amounted to 34,202 metric tons, valued at 34.5 million kroner (US$5 million), 22 percent more in volume and 28 percent greater in value than 1951 when 28,056 metric tons were imported, valued at 26.9 million kroner (US$3.9 million). (See table 2.)

Table 2 - Value of Danish Imports of Fishery Products by Country of Origin, 1950-52

	1952		1951		1950	
	1,000 Kroner	US$	1,000 Kroner	US$	1,000 Kroner	US$
Norway	4,661	675,000	3,780	547,000	2,865	415,000
Sweden	12,864	1,863,000	10,444	1,512,000	12,651	1,832,000
Iceland	2,053	297,000	4,019	582,000	2,047	296,000
Faroe Islands	9,086	1,316,000	5,850	847,000	3,254	471,000
Greenland ...	2,067	299,000	2,162	313,000	2,305	334,000
Other	3,726	540,000	673	97,000	825	119,000
Total	34,457	4,990,000	26,928	3,899,000	23,947	3,467,000

Fresh salt-water fish (principally herring) landed directly in Danish ports by Swedish boats constituted 66 percent of the total imports (table 3). Cured fish

Table 3 - Danish Imports of Fishery Products by Types, 1950-52

	1952	1951	1950
	..... (Metric Tons)		
Fresh-water fish, fresh	5	13	1
Salt-water fish, fresh	22,727	17,191	22,731
Fish, salted, dried or smoked fish	9,252	8,987	6,107
Shellfish, crayfish, and cuttlefish	78	43	95
Canned fish	531	180	207
Anchovies and other specially prepared fish	140	80	147
Pickled herring	1,469	1,563	1,010
Total	34,202	28,057	30,298

comprised 27 percent of the imports; wet salted cod and haddock, salted herring, and splits were the principal types of fishery imports. The most important suppliers were the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway.

No significant changes in the imports of fishery products are expected, inasmuch as these imports are of a traditional nature.

Table 4 - Value of Danish Exports of Fishery Products by Principal Countries of Destination, 1950-52

	1952		1951		1950	
	1,000 Kroner	US$	1,000 Kroner	US$	1,000 Kroner	US$
Western Germany	24,967	3,615,000	22,174	3,211,000	17,048	2,469,000
Eastern Germany	11,301	1,636,000	6,325	916,000	8,110	1,174,000
United Kingdom	53,555	7,755,000	57,571	8,336,000	58,273	8,438,000
Sweden	13,914	2,015,000	11,518	1,668,000	9,444	1,367,000
Italy	29,966	4,339,000	22,014	3,188,000	19,010	2,753,000
United States.	16,465	2,384,000	10,551	1,528,000	5,324	771,000
Others	52,399	7,587,000	57,530	8,330,000	52,446	7,594,000
Total	202,567	29,331,000	187,683	27,177,000	169,655	24,566,000

Exports: In 1952 total exports of fishery products were about 119,085 metric tons, compared to 120,500 tons in 1951. In terms of value, exports increased by 8 percent from 1951 to 1952 (table 4). The Danish exports were concentrated principally in the European markets. The most important non-European customer was the United States which received 8.1 percent of the total exports in terms of value. In volume, the United States received 3.3 percent of the total (table 5), with frozen plaice fillets, cod fillets, and brook trout as the leading items.

Table 5 - Danish Exports of Fishery Products to the United States by Types, 1952

Species	Quantity
	Metric Tons
Frozen Fish:	
Brook trout (pond trout) .	791.7
Cod	7.9
Cod fillets	1,271.7
Other cod varieties	54.2
Common sole	13.3
Plaice	14.1
Plaice fillets	1,061.9
Other flat fish	24.1
Other fish	255.0
Total Frozen Fish	3,493.9
Shellfish, etc	1.6
Salted, Dried, and Smoked Fish	5.9
Canned Fish:	
Sprat sardines	396.2
Other fishery products ...	22.3
Total Canned Fish	418.5
Grand Total	3,919.9

The major portion (78.6 percent) of Danish fishery exports in terms of value was made up of fresh, not processed or cured fish (table 6). Exports of shellfish, crayfish, and cuttlefish totaled 9.8 percent; salted, dried, or smoked fish exports came to 8.2 percent, and only 3.3 percent was canned products. Some specially prepared fish products constituted the remaining 0.1 percent of total exports.

The export of fresh whole and filleted salt-water fish increased only slightly from 1951 to 1952, probably because

Table 6 - Danish Exports of Fishery Products by Types, 1950-52

	1952	1951	1950
	..... (Metric Tons)		
Fresh-water fish, fresh	456	432	406
Salt-water fish (but including lake trout)	93,090	90,411	87,204
Salted, dried, or smoked fish	9,799	10,892	5,347
Shellfish, crayfish, and cuttlefish	11,692	15,313	570
Canned fish	3,902	3,355	6,851
Anchovies and other specially prepared fish	70	66	274
Pickled herring	76	30	5
Oysters and bivalves, preserved		-	21,588
Caviar, not vacuum packed		-	-
Total	119,085	120,499	122,245

the catch of fish for human consumption was somewhat neglected in favor of an increased catch of fish for byproducts.

The increased exports of fish fillets, lake trout, and canned fish was partly due to increased shipments to the United States. Exports to the United States in terms of value increased from 10.6 million kroner (US$1.5 million) in 1951 to 16.5 million kroner (US$2.4 million) in 1952. Exports of frozen and smoked fish to the United States, however, declined.

German Federal Republic

U. S. TO TRANSFER CHARTER FISHING VESSELS TO PRIVATE OWNERSHIP: A total of 124 fishing trawlers, cutters, and luggers will be returned to German ownership by the United States, according to a U. S. State Department press release of April 9. The United States is returning to the German Federal Republic altogether 350 of the vessels which the Tripartite Naval Commission allocated to the United States in 1946, and the 124 fishing trawlers, cutters, and luggers are included among these. All the vessels are presently on charter to the German economy.

Final arrangements for the return of these vessels, the time and date of transfer, and other details will be worked out between United States and German Federal Republic authorities.

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FISHING OPERATIONS OFF GREENLAND AND NEWFOUNDLAND: In an effort to expand German overseas fishing operations, the trawler Nuernberg fished on the Grand Banks off Newfoundland in February, states a March 26 U. S. consular dispatch from Bremerhaven. The vessel fished at latitude 54° N., longitude 45° W., and caught 245 metric tons of small fish, mainly cod. The trip took a total of 25 days, and the catch was landed and sold at Grimsby, England. The catch averaged 9.8 metric tons for each day of the trip. The trip was considered successful, and voyages to the Grand Banks were continued.

Plans called for catches from Newfoundland banks to be landed and sold in England. The German fishing industry desired, however, to land and sell catches in the United States and Canada. The industry planned to request the German Federal Republic Government to negotiate for treaties to make these landings possible.

On March 3, the trawlers Nuernberg and Wuppertal returned to fish in the waters off Newfoundland. Their catches were sold at Grimsby, England, and return voyages were made to the fishing grounds. On the following trips to Grimsby, however, the port was crowded with other vessels and they continued on to German ports. On April 27, the Wuppertal landed 225 metric tons at Cuxhaven--the first fish from Newfoundland waters ever to be sold at a German port; and on April 29 the Nuernberg landed 260 metric tons at Bremerhaven.

Seventy percent of these landings were fish too small for filleting and, therefore, not profitably marketable in Germany. As the British fishing fleet will be able to meet the British demand for fish during the summer, and since these fish cannot be marketed in Germany as profitably as those caught in less distant waters, fishing off Newfoundland is being discontinued until the end of October.

It is believed that the high cost of operations at such a great distance from Germany and the inability to sell at North American ports, coupled with the approaching herring season, had greater bearing on the decision than the British fish situation. The catches consisted mainly of cod, haddock, and halibut. These species are caught in marketable sizes in closer waters off Germany. Therefore, it appears that fishing off Newfoundland under present circumstances is not as profitable as was indicated earlier.

BREMERHAVEN FISH AUCTION HALL.

In June 1952, two 450-ton Diesel-electric trawlers, the Bonn and the Heidelberg, conducted experimental fishing voyages to the waters off Greenland in an effort to offset the effects of the loss of the right to fish in certain waters off Norway and Iceland following the extension of sovereignty by these countries to encompass certain formerly international waters. As the experiment was considered a success, German trawlers were ordered regularly to these waters. From July 1 to December 31, 1952, five trips were made by German trawlers to the Greenland fishing grounds, resulting in landings amounting to 1,087.68 metric tons, mostly cod.

Comparative figures illustrate the degree to which fishing in the waters off Greenland was successful. On the Greenland fishing grounds the German trawlers average 32.8 metric tons of fish for each fishing day as compared with average catches of 15.3 tons in the waters off Iceland, 16.9 tons in the waters off Norway and 23.3 tons in the Barents Sea during 1951; the average catch per fishing day for all German trawlers in all fishing grounds in 1951 was 16.3 tons.

Greater significance attaches, however, to the average tonnage per day of each fishing voyage. In 1951, German fishing trawlers averaged 16.3 days per voyage to all fishing grounds, 20.7 days for all voyages to the waters off Iceland, 20.2 days for all voyages to the waters off the Norwegian coast, and 20.0 days for all voyage to the Barents Sea. As the average of all voyages to the waters off Greenland was 23.6 days, the average voyage to Greenland was only 2.9 days longer than the average voyage to the most distant of other fishing grounds. On the basis of average tonnage of catches per fishing voyage, it is determined that the waters off Greenland yielded 9.7 metric tons of fish for each day at sea, the waters off Iceland 7.3 tons of each day at sea, the waters off Norway 7.8 tons for each day at sea, and the Barents Sea 8.8 tons for each day at sea. Therefore, the waters off Greenland are considered by the German fishing industry to be more profitable than the European fishing grounds.

Nevertheless, it is believed that the German trawlers have not been as successful in operations off Greenland as have the British trawlers. According to German reports, English landings have been 97 percent cod, while the German landings have averaged only 72 percent cod. The following table indicates the German landings

from Greenland for five trips (from June 10 to August 3, 1952) by types of fish, tonnage, and value of return:

Species	Quantity	Ex-vessel Value	
	Metric Tons	Deutsche Marks	US$
Cod	822.1	147,558	35,134
Ocean perch	299.6	57,400	13,666
Wolffish (Catfish)	10.0	3,024	720
Halibut	1.7	2,203	525
Other fish and Cod-Liver Oil	12.4	6,236	1,485
Total	1,145.8	216,421	51,530

* * * * *

HERRING-GUTTING MACHINE INSTALLED ON TRAWLERS: A herring-gutting machine that can handle approximately 10,000 fish per hour has recently been installed on a number of German trawlers, reports the March 1953 issue of Fish Industry, a British trade magazine. The machine is produced by Lubecawerke Gmbh, Lubeck, and requires less skill than gutting by hand. It reduces the time required for gutting, and thus cuts down on the time the herring are left on deck. The machine is bolted to the deck of the vessel.

Gold Coast

FISHING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLANNED: In order to increase the prosperity of the Gold Coast fishermen and to obtain a much larger supply of fish for domestic consumption, plans for developing the fishing industry have been made, the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources announced in an April 2, 1953, news release, the United States Consulate at Accra reports.

The first step has been the introduction of motor surfboats which have been used by the Gold Coast Fisheries Department for several years with good results. The Department has recently ordered six such boats from the United Kingdom and has also established a boat-building yard at Sekondi, where vessels of this type are being built. They will soon be available for sale to fishermen and fishing companies. Their cost is expected to be about £1,500 (US$4,200) each. Measures to help prospective purchasers find the necessary capital are now being considered in consultation with the Agricultural Loans Board. Motor surfboats can only work at places where they can find sheltered moorings, such as Sekondi and Takoradi, and in a few years' time at Tema. Where the beach is open to the surf, as at so many fishing towns, canoes will continue to be the best craft for the fishermen.

In the long-term development of the industry, Tema will play a vital part. Plans for the new port include a special fishing harbor with accommodation for fishing craft of all types. There will be a beach for canoes, moorings for motor surfboats, and wharves for larger trawlers. The larger trawlers are indispensable if the Gold Coast is to have a modern fishing industry equal to the task of providing the country with all the fish it needs. They will not in any way endanger the livelihood of the canoe fishermen, who can continue to operate as at present. The trawlers will aid greatly in feeding the very large number of laborers and others who will come to Tema and who could not be supplied with food by the canoe fisheries alone.

It will be a number of years before construction of the new harbor at Tema will have reached the stage of providing safe accommodation for the smaller fish-

ing vessels. In the meanwhile, however, there may be a possibility of using larger trawlers as soon as there is a breakwater where they could land their catches. Such a scheme is being investigated and may later be placed before the Agricultural and Fisheries Development Corporation. Such a scheme, if found to be feasible, would greatly ease the problem of supplying food to the population engaged in the construction of the harbor, besides making an important contribution to the modernization of the fishing industry.

Guatemala

IMPORT DUTIES INCREASED ON CERTAIN FISHERY PRODUCTS: Guatemalan import duties have been raised on more than 350 classifications of the tariff by a Guatemalan congressional decree effective February 28. The fishery products affected as reported by the U. S. Department of Commerce are listed in the table.

Guatemalan Import Duties on Certain Fishery Products Increased

Tariff Classification	New Rate	Old Rate
	... (In US$ Per Gross Kilogram) ...	
Caviar and imitations	1.50	1.00
Fresh shucked oysters	.20	.10
Dried and salted codfish in brine	.15	.07
Unspec. fish, shellfish, and crustaceans salted, dried, smoked, or in brine (except sardines)	.15	.10

Japan

REGULATIONS FOR FACTORYSHIP CRAB-FISHING IN BERING SEA: Regulations for the Japanese factoryship crab-fishing expeditions to the Bering Sea in 1953 were announced on March 28 by the Japanese Fisheries Agency. Following are the regulations as reported by an April 9 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo:

A. Conditions of License:

1. Joint operation of the 1953 expedition is to be by three fishing companies.

2. Tenure of license is from March 28, 1953, to March 27, 1956.

3. Operating area (1953) is in the Bering Sea, east of 166° W. longitude, excluding waters 3 miles from the shoreline.

4. Catch will be landed only at Hakodate (Hokkaido) and Yokohama.

5. Only one mothership will be in operation; its size and equipment may be restricted when deemed necessary.

6. Kinds of equipment, number, gear, products, and amount of production may be restricted, if necessary, for adjustment of the fishery and for the Japanese public interest.

B. Conditions and Restrictions on Use of Mothership and Attendant Boats:

1. The mothership shall be the Tokei Maru (4,998 gross tons), limited to the period March 28 through December 31, 1953.

2. Operating areas of gill nets (tangle nets) may be restricted.

3. Quantity of canned crab from the 1953 expedition shall not exceed 50,000 cases (48 6½-ounce cans to a case--24 pounds of frozen meat is considered 1 case).

4. Fishing gear of the 1953 expedition will be (a) less than 3,500 tan (583,000 yards) of gill nets, or (b) "trawling nets" with a bag-net the mesh of which shall not be less than 12.7 centimeters (5 inches), and with a sleeve net (wings) with meshes not less than 15.3 centimeters (6 inches). (Although "trawling net" is mentioned, actually what is meant is a Danish seine.) Nets other than specified will not be possessed by the catcher boats or mothership.

5. The superintendent of the mothership (a) will report its noon position daily to the Japanese Fisheries Agency; (b) must report every 5 days to the Fisheries Agency the total length of nets used, the catch, and number of cases of crab meat packed; and (c) shall not permit the mothership to leave a fishing ground until all the catcher boats have departed.

C. Catcher Boats for the 1953 Season Will Consist Of:

1. Six boats (deck-loaded) averaging 7 gross tons each, to engage in gill netting only.

2. Six medium-sized boats as follows: Hosho Maru (57 gross tons), Nissho Maru (59 gross tons), Kaisho Maru (58 gross tons), Tairyo Maru No. 18 (75 gross tons), Tairyo Maru No. 25 (56 gross tons), Nisshin Maru No. 5 (70 gross tons). The boats may use gill nets or trawl nets.

D. Other Requirements:

1. Salmon, halibut, and herring caught incidentally with crabs shall be immediately thrown overboard. Possession of these fish is prohibited.

2. The best use must be made of cod, flounders, and other species (except as listed above) which may be caught in crab fishing. A report on the catch of these fish must be submitted to the Fisheries Agency.

This set of regulations indicates the desire of the Japanese Government to administer the first postwar Japanese crab expedition to the Bering Sea in a manner which will demonstrate a willingness to cooperate fully in an international fishery in which the United States has an important interest. This attitude is further substantiated by the invitation to the United States to have a biologist visit the Japanese crab expedition during its operations on the fishing grounds, and Japan's acceptance of the United States invitation to have a Japanese biologist aboard the United States crab trawler to collect scientific data and to become more familiar

with that fishery. The superintendent of the Japanese crab expedition has stated his intention to be firm in enforcing the Japanese regulations.

The decision of the Japanese to use "trawling" gear (Danish seines) was based on the fact that United States boats use otter trawls only. Although the Japanese believe the latter type of gear is not best suited for the proper conservation of crabs, and that gill nets are much more adaptable to proper conservation measures, the Japanese decided to do some "trawling" in the 1953 operations to avoid setting large numbers of gill nets over extensive areas of the crab fishing grounds, and thus minimize the possibility of conflict between fishermen using these two different types of gear.

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BIOLOGIST EXCHANGED WITH U. S. IN BERING SEA CRAB FISHING: A U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service fishery biologist will visit the Japanese crab-fishing expedition to the Bering Sea, while a Japanese biologist will visit a U. S. crab trawler operating in the Bering Sea, states an April 16 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Tokyo.

A rendezvous for the transfer of the biologists was arranged for about April 20 off Unimak Island. The U. S. biologist was to transfer from the U. S. crab trawler Deep Sea to the Japanese factoryship Tokei Maru, and the Japanese biologist from the Tokei Maru to the Deep Sea.

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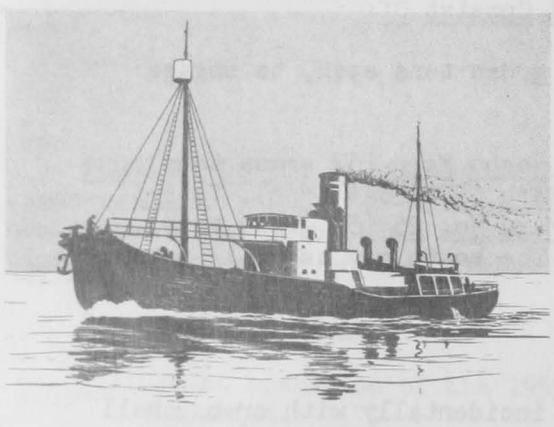


JAPANESE WHALE CATCHER.

ANTARCTIC WHALE MEAT PRICES: Whale meat and oil from the 1952/53 Japanese Antarctic expedition commenced arriving in Japan in March, reports a March 24 United States consular dispatch from Kobe. The wholesale price of whale meat on the Kobe market was approximately ¥100,000 (US$278) per metric ton and the retail price approximately ¥60 per 13.2 ounces (20 U.S. cents per pound).

The 10,000-ton whaling refrigerator steamship Settsu Maru was reported to have sunk on March 14 from a leak that started in the engine room on March 8. The vessel had 3,800 metric tons of frozen whale meat on board at the time. All members of the crew were saved.

Mexico

GUAYMAS SHRIMP FISHERY, JANUARY-MARCH 1953: Poor catches by the Guaymas shrimp-fishing fleet during the first quarter of 1953 have brought about an economic depression in that area, states an April 13 U. S. consular dispatch. Guaymas and its hinterland depend heavily on the shrimp-fishing industry, and the unfavorable conditions during the past two years have affected the entire economy of the city. However, as the quarter ended a cautious note of optimism concerning the future was evident.

Shrimp have become extremely scarce in the waters around Guaymas. For the first quarter of the last "good" shrimp year, 1950, landings at Guaymas totaled 1,650 metric tons. Since then the catch has steadily declined: 1,200 tons for the first quarter of 1951, 700 in 1952, and an estimated 400 in 1953. This year a large proportion of the fishing fleet went 1,500 miles south off Salina Cruz, Oaxaca, and the fishing there has been reported good. However, of the 7 shrimp-freezing plants in Guaymas, 3 are closed down completely and 4 are operating at a fraction of their capacity. Collections are extremely slow and many of the operators are heavily in debt.

The present optimism results probably from the high shrimp prices and low cold-storage stocks in the United States. Guaymas operators hope that by limiting the fishing in home waters this year the shrimp will be able to increase and by next year catches will improve. Although conservation measures are under discussion, they are difficult to enforce. It is believed that a return to the former prosperous level of the industry is at least 2 or 3 years away.

Norway

MARINE OIL OUTPUT TO DECLINE IN 1953: Norway's production of marine oils in 1953 is expected to approximate 255,000 short tons, a drop of 23 percent from the 330,000-ton output of last year, reports the May 25 Foreign Crops and Markets, a U. S. Department of Agriculture publication. The decrease forecast for this year is mainly due to a decline in Norway's Antarctic whale and sperm oil production, although a reduction also is expected in herring oil. Norway also produces some seal oil.

Whale and sperm oil output in 1953 is forecast at 147,900 and 5,950 tons, respectively, against 192,480 and 22,450 tons last year. The decline in Antarctic output, which constitutes all but about 10,000 tons of the total output, is due mainly to the transfer of three Norwegian factoryships to more profitable tanker operation.

The total commercial production of whale oil this season has been sold. The average price obtained was £71 10s. per long ton (US$178.75 per short ton) compared with £82 (US$205) last year. Distribution of the 1952/53 whale oil output was approximately as follows: direct exports--the United Kingdom, 52,640 tons; Sweden, 5,600; Western Germany, 23,740; Denmark; 11,200; Belgium, 3,700; Netherlands, 14,560; and France, 8,960 tons; and for processing and domestic consumption, 25,760 tons.

Herring oil output for 1953 is expected to decline to around 70,000 tons as compared with 84,880 tons in 1952. Stocks are said to be nearly exhausted. The export price for semi-processed herring oil until recently was 125 kroner per 100 kilograms (US$159 per short ton), but has now risen to 140 kroner (US$178). In 1952 Norway exported 13,729 tons of crude herring oil.

The 1952 output of fish-liver oils has been estimated roughly at 31,000 tons compared with 35,000 tons the preceding year. Cod fishing operations so far this year were reported to be reasonably good. English importers have taken a considerable quantity of hardened cod-liver oil for use by the baking industry. Also, some polymerized cod-liver oil has been shipped to England and the Mediterranean countries for use as canning oil. Exports of all kinds of fish liver oils in 1952 totaled 23,130 tons against 30,000 tons in 1951.

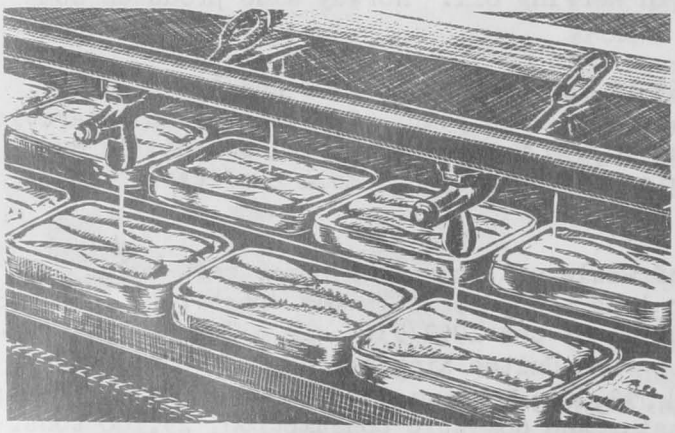
Pakistan

U. S. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FISHERY FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT: The United States through the Technical Cooperation Administration of the Department of State will provide assistance in the amount of US$750,000 for the development of modern fishery facilities in Karachi, according to an April 3 State Department release. This project was one of a number included in a supplementary program agreement for fiscal year 1953 for technical cooperation between the United States and Pakistan. The Government of Pakistan will bear all rupee costs of joint projects which will at least equal the United States costs. The agreement, signed on April 1 at Karachi, is supplementary to the Point 4 Program Agreement signed between the two governments February 2, 1952.

There has been a tremendous increase in the population of Karachi, from about 400,000 before partition to the present 1,500,000. This has posed an urgent problem of increased food production. The construction of modern facilities for handling fish, motorizing the fishing fleet, and other improvements in the service should result in important increases in the volume of fish and insure safe supplies of this important food item.

Portugal

CANNED FISH PRODUCTION AND CHIEF EXPORTS, 1952: Portugal's production of canned fish amounted to 1,718,181 cases in 1952, an increase of 16 percent over the 1,478,511 cases packed in 1951 (table 1). Sardines were the leading item canned and comprised 78 percent of the total pack in 1952 and 76 percent in 1951, reports a February 24 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Lisbon.



PORTUGUESE SARDINE ASSEMBLY LINE SHOWING OIL MACHINES AUTOMATICALLY ADDING OLIVE OIL TO FILL THE CANS.

Although the production of canned fish improved substantially in 1952, the canneries continued to suffer from a lack of foreign demand, especially for sardines. Exports of canned sardines increased substantially in 1952, but only because of a 25-percent price reduction. Stocks of canned sardines at the end of the year were reported to be 18,502 metric tons.

Waste products of the fish canneries were sold to eight plants producing fish meal and oil. These byproducts plants manufactured 2,384 tons of fish meal and 608 tons of fish oil in 1952.

South-West Africa

ADDITIONAL CANNING AND BYPRODUCTS PLANTS PLANNED: Two additional licenses were granted in May 1952 for the establishment of fish canning, fish oil, and fish meal factories at Walvis Bay, a March 25 American consular dispatch from Cape Town points out. A total of 14 companies applied for these licenses, which were granted by the South-West African Administration. It is believed that these will be the last licenses of this kind to be issued by the Administration for a long time in view of the declared intention of introducing stricter measures for conserving the pilchard schools off the South-West African coast. When these two companies go into operation towards the end of the current year, and early next year, there will be six fish factories operating in Walvis Bay, bringing the total number of reduction plants in the Union of South Africa and South-West Africa to 17. It is estimated that together the two new factories will employ about 100 Europeans and 600 Natives.

One of the two companies granted a license already has a subsidiary tuna company operating at Walvis Bay, and at Velddrif in the St. Helena Bay area it is still in the process of planning their new factory. The company expects to commence building operations in May and to have the buildings completed by December and fish-meal and fish-oil plants installed by April 1954. The company will probably initially produce only fish meal and oil, with canning to commence at a later date.

The factory will be completed at an estimated cost of £420,000 (US$1,176,000) of which £240,000 (US$672,000) will be required for the fish-meal and oil sections, the balance to be used for the canning section. Although most of the machinery is to be of local manufacture, a spokesman of the company has intimated that they would probably seek additional second-hand machinery from California.

The Walvis Bay Factory will utilize the process of producing "whole" fish meal, whereby the protein and other nutrients usually contained in the stickwater are retained in the final product.

Once the factory is in full swing it is expected that 8,000 tons of fish meal, 2,000 tons of oil, and 200,000 48-lb. cases of canned fish will be produced annually.

The company that received the second license granted has obtained a suitable factory site from the Walvis Bay municipality. A new and separate company has been set up.

The company's building program, which has already commenced, is divided into two stages: first, the establishment of a fish-meal and fish-oil factory, and second, the erection of a cannery.

The capital requirements for development is £127,000 (US$356,000), which includes the installation of the plant, factory and housing sites, factory buildings, jetty and housing for employees, preliminary expenses, and working capital. On this expenditure, the fish-meal and oil department will be expected to produce 6,000 tons of fish meal and 1,500 tons of fish oil per annum, which will result in an estimated net profit of £60,000 (US$168,000) per annum.

The initial requirements for the canning establishment will be £137,500 (US$385,000) which includes machinery and vehicles, factory buildings and housing for factory personnel and laborers, and working capital.

While much of the machinery will be produced locally, the canning manager of the parent company has recently returned from the United States where the necessary negotiations for the acquisition of the most modern machinery were initiated. According to the company's auditors, a portion of the locally-produced machinery has been completed, while those purchased abroad have already been shipped.

The fish-meal factory is expected to commence production in May 1953, while conditions indicate that the installation of the canning plant will begin early in April. Thus, the fish-meal, oil, and canning sections will probably all be in operation by mid-July 1953. This coincides with the peak fishing period at Walvis Bay.

For further contemplated expansion, the company plans to raise £155,000 (US$434,000) for the purchase of additional machinery, factory buildings and housing for employees, and working capital.

On completion of the expansion program it is hoped to achieve an eventual production of 300,000 48-lb. cases of canned fish per annum. The directors estimate the annual net profits on the sale of this output at £180,000 (US$504,000). The total annual net profit when the fish-meal, fish oil, and canning plants are in full operation is thus estimated at £240,000 (US$672,000).

Spain

FISH-CANNING INDUSTRY OPTIMISTIC: The Spanish fish-canning industry is looking forward to 1953 with more optimism than it had a year earlier because the first shipment (600 tons) of United States tin plate to be received under the terms of the U. S. loan, granted to Spain in December 1951, arrived in Vigo, Spain, on December 27, 1952. Further shipments, up to about 5,000 tons, were expected during the first quarter of 1953, reports a United States consular dispatch from Vigo.

This tin plate will enable the industry to increase its canning activity, which has been at a low ebb. Operation of the Vigo fish canneries in December 1952 was estimated at 7 to 8 percent of production capacity, one of the lowest monthly outputs in 1952. Most of the output consisted of canned anchovies. Many of the packers store anchovies in brine for canning during slack periods.

Sweden

NEW HERRING FILLETING MACHINE: A new herring filleting machine has just been placed on the Swedish market and is also being introduced abroad. The patent is of Norwegian origin and has been taken over by a concern manufacturing washing machines and other household machine aids in Gothenburg, Sweden.

The new machine will fillet ordinary-size herring, but can be adjusted somewhat for fish of other sizes. The machine has a capacity of about ten barrels of herring per hour, corresponding to the filleting capacity of 20 to 25 persons, reports an April 14 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Gothenburg.

The machine weighs only about 550 pounds and sells for about US$2,000. The price will probably be reduced as soon as the company has been able to increase production.

The machine is 44 inches high, 41 inches wide, and 54 inches long. An electr three-phase motor (220/380 volts, 2 hp., 1,400 r.p.m.) furnishes the power. All movable parts are made of stainless material and enclosed in a stainless steel box When operating, the machine is fed either with fresh or salt water. The machine

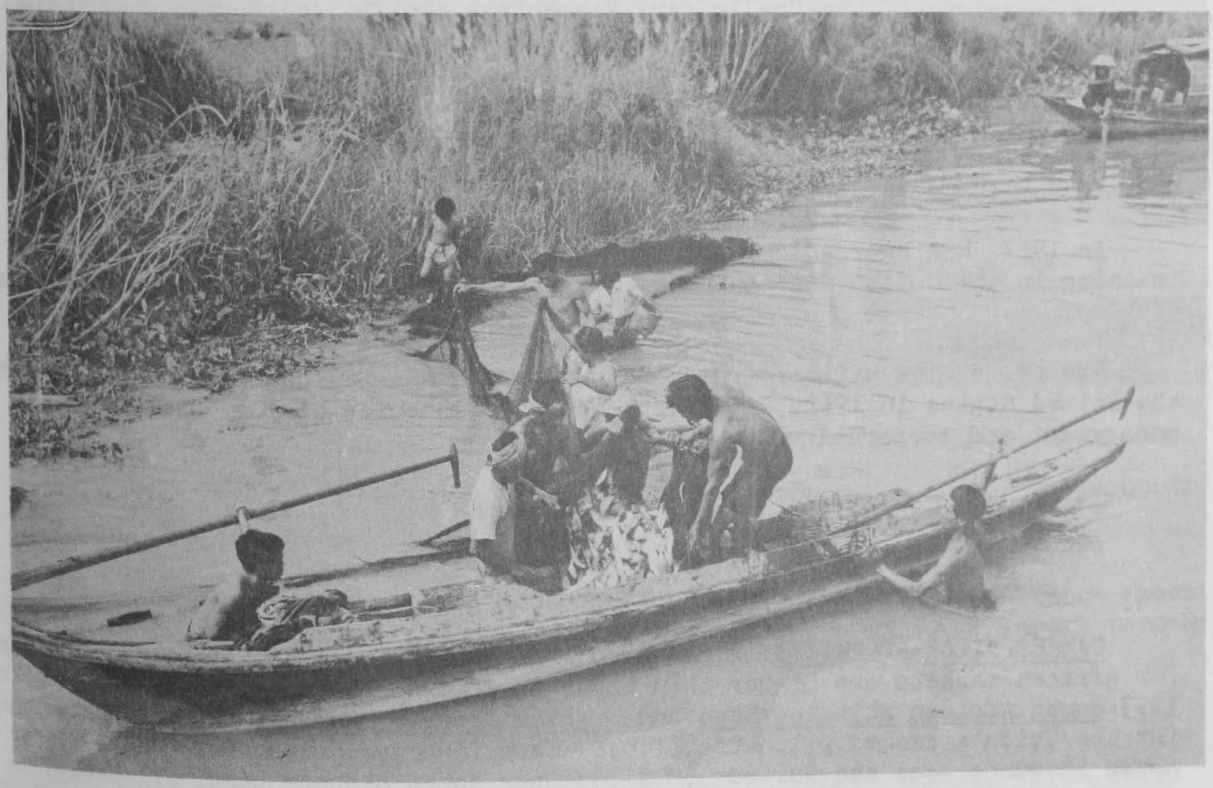
can be easily cleaned and it does not rust or deteriorate even if salt water is used. The whole or round fish is fed head first in the gable side of the machine. The feeding bands seize the herring and convey it towards a rotating knife which cuts a strip off the belly. The entrails are drawn out, and the herring is then conveyed towards a set of knives that cut the fillets. The fillets come out the opposite end of the machine. The right and left fillets come out through separate furrows. The waste (head, bones, and entrails) comes out through a furrow on the right side. The machine can easily be handled by one person.

The feeding bands consist of solid chains with sharp jags that seize the herring at the feeding end. Rotating circular knives are used. These knives can easily be dismounted for sharpening.

The company will soon place a smaller filleting machine on the market for filleting small-size herring and sprats, or other fish of comparable size.

Thailand

STATUS OF THE FISHERIES, 1951-52: Gear in Use: The sea fisheries of Thailand were not as productive in 1951 as in the previous year, even though there was a slight increase in fishing gear in use (see table), a March 4 U. S. Embassy dispatch from Bangkok reports.



SEINE FISHING IN THE CHAO PHYA RIVER, THAILAND. TRANSFERRING THE CATCH TO A BOAT.

Bangkok Wholesale Fish Market: Estimated landings of fresh fish at the Bangkok wholesale fish market in 1952 amounted to about 40,000 metric tons. In 1951 landings at this market amounted to 23,000 tons of fresh fish and 22,700 tons of salted fish. In 1950, a total of 40,800 tons of fresh fish and 27,300 tons of salted fish were landed.

Principal Gear in Use in Thailand's Sea Fisheries, 1950-51

Types of Gear	Quantity	
	1951	1950
	.. (Unit) ..	
Deep-water bamboo stake traps	555	532
Shallow-water bamboo stake traps ...	567	515
Set-bag nets (Pong-Pang fixed)	1,742	1,742
Set-bag nets (Pong-Pang not fixed)..	172	172
Rua Siman (Pong-Pang with wings) ...	435	626
Uan Tangkeh (Chinese purse seine) ..	60	59

The new Bangkok wholesale fish market in the Yanawa district was due to commence operations in April 1953. Quarters and offices for fish agents and Government offices have been built.

Assistance for Fisheries: In 1951 the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations appointed a fish culturist to the Thai Fisheries Department; he has advised and assisted in the introduction of practical pond and other cultural technique. From 1951 to 1952 his work projects were as follows: (1) assistance in developing the 4 inland fisheries stations, (2) technical training to Thai fisheries technicians; and (3) assistance in the development of fish culture.

FAO's fellowships were awarded to 4 Thai fisheries officers to participate in the fresh and brackish-water fish culture course in Indonesia. One was awarded in 1951 and 3 in 1952.

Two sessions of the Preliminary Elementary Statistical Course conducted by the Fisheries Division of the FAO in Bangkok were held to train Thai fisheries officers. The first session was held in 1951 and the second in 1952.

The Mutual Security Agency provided the Thai fisheries in 1950 an expert in the field of marine fishery and fishing craft, and two engineers to design a refrigeration and ice plant.

In 1951, MSA awarded one fellowship to a fisheries officer for one year's training in the United States in the subjects of fisheries technology and refrigeration.

Four fisheries officers were sponsored with MSA fellowships for training in the United States in 1952, in the subjects of fisheries biology and fisheries management and cooperatives.

Union of South Africa

CANNED PILCHARD PRICES: The Union of South Africa's canned pilchard prices for African markets are higher than those of some competitors, reports the March 1953 South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review. Recent quotations for the Union's canned pilchards, f.o.b. Cape Town are: 14s. 9d. (US$2.07) per dozen 16-ounce cans and 9s. 6d. (US$1.33) per dozen 8-ounce cans, all packed 48 cans to the case. Holland's price for a similar type of fish, not a pilchard, is 48s. 3d. (US$6.90) per case of 48 15-ounce cans, c. & f. Accra (Gold Coast) or Tokoradi, plus 1s. 6d. (21 U. S. cents) per case if packed in wooden cases.

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CANNED FISH AND SPINY LOBSTER PRODUCTION, 1952: South Africa's production of canned fish for the fiscal year ending October 31, 1952, amounted to 52,996,523 pounds, as compared with 38,213,890 pounds in the previous fiscal year. In addition, the pack of canned spiny lobster totaled 6,661,432 pounds as compared with 6,318,986 pounds a year earlier.

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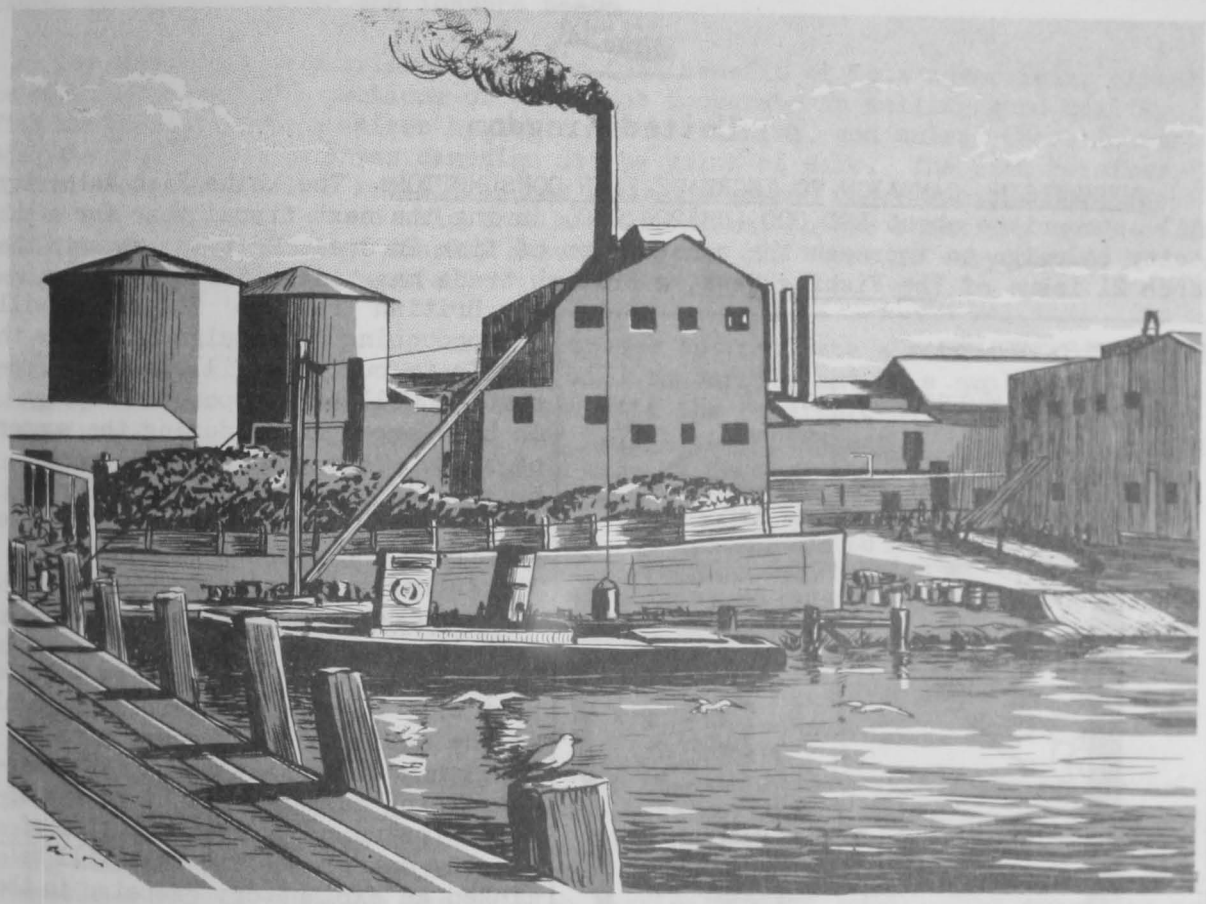
WHALING OPERATIONS, 1952: The Durban shore-based whaling station during 1952 processed 1,111 whales, about half of the 1951 catch, reports a March 18 U. S. consular dispatch from Johannesburg. Byproducts produced from the 1952 catch amounted to 5,261 long tons of whale oil, 2,178 long tons of sperm oil, 4,276 short tons of whale meal, and 300 short tons of spray-dried whale solubles.



SHORE-WHALING STATION AT DONKERGAT, ONE OF TWO OPERATING IN THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA. THE SKIPWAY AND FLENSING STAGE ARE ON THE RIGHT, WITH THE BUILDING WHERE THE MEAT IS PROCESSED ON THE EXTREME RIGHT. THE BLUBBER IS BOILED DOWN IN THE CENTER BUILDING, AND THE OIL STORED IN TWO TANKS ON THE LEFT.

During the 1951/52 Antarctic season, South Africa's one whaling expedition, consisting of the factoryship Abraham Larsen and 16 catchers, caught a total of 2,109 baleen whales (1358.2 blue-whale units) and 362 sperm whales. From these whales were produced 27,366 long tons of whale oil, 3,306 long tons of sperm oil, 2,534 short tons of whale meal, and 148 tons of liver flakes. Although fewer whales were caught, production was considerably higher than the previous year due to the

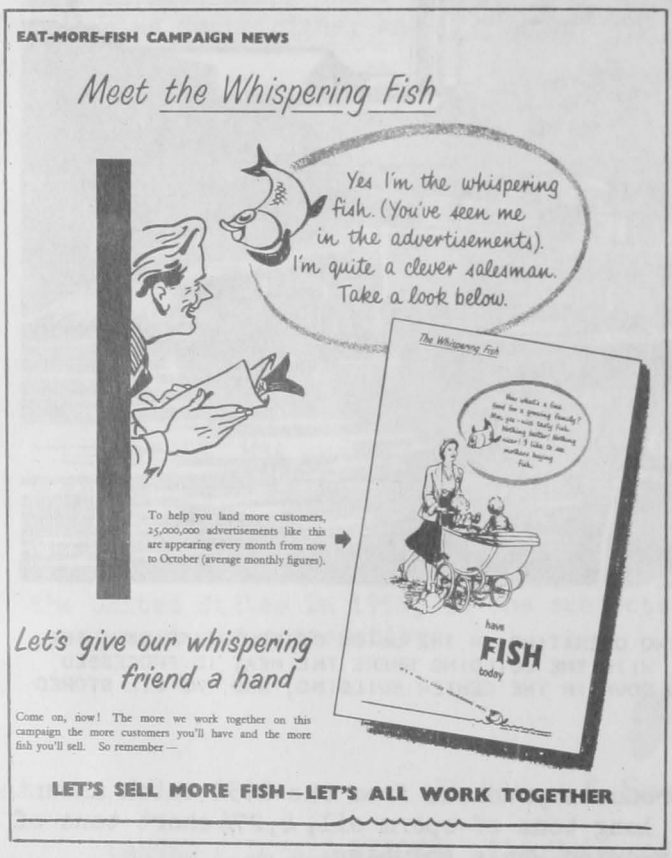
increase in the average size of whales. The 1951/52 baleen season was the shortest on record, lasting from January 2 to March 5, 1952 (64 days). The South African expedition again accounted for the greatest production of any one Antarctic expedition.

The whole of the whale oil and meat meal production of the South African Antarctic expedition was sold to the British Ministry of Food at negotiated prices.

Due to the recent fall in the price of whale oil and a rise in operating costs (particularly fuel oil), whaling will not be so profitable in the 1952/53 season as it has been in the past.

United Kingdom

ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN TO INCREASE FISH CONSUMPTION: The White Fish Authority will appropriate about £80,000 (US$224,000) during its next fiscal year for a publicity campaign to increase the consumption of fish in Great Britain, reports the March 21 issue of The Fishing News, a British trade magazine. Simultaneously, the British Trawlers' Federation will be conducting a campaign to induce the public to buy more fillets. The Federation will have a poster campaign in the larger towns during the summer of 1953. This will be supplemented by special press advertising during gluts, and by advertising to the catering trade and women's organizations. The Authority's campaign will therefore not cover any of these fields.



The Authority's campaign will consist of: (a) press advertising, mainly in the national daily newspapers and popular women's magazines; (b) a merchandising campaign at the points-of-sale; including the distribution of display material--with this will be linked an explanatory campaign in the trade press; and (c) editorial and general publicity. It is planned to put the main weight of the press advertising in the spring and summer, and advertise on a small scale through the autumn and winter to maintain continuity. The Authority hoped to begin the campaign after Easter of this year.

Because of the incidence of supplies, the advertising of fish must be aimed mainly at increasing the sale of the more common varieties; therefore, the main campaign is directed at the mass markets. For this purpose, publications with large circulations will be used, and the advertising agents have devised an attractive campaign based on the theme of the "Whispering Fish." They have turned a fish into a personality and given him an endearing and roguish character. He is shown putting into the housewife's mind the idea of buying fish for tonight. He is shown

making the thought of fish run through the minds of the children, of the husband, and of the young people. He is put into incongruous and intriguing situations.

With a substantial weight of advertising money behind him, the "Whispering Fish" will be talked about and quoted. But he is a hard-selling advertising device. He enables the ads to give the housewife a message about fish in a more interesting, acceptable, and memorable way than is possible by more conventional means.

There will be special ads in two high-class national dailies which will afford an opportunity of featuring some of the scarcer and more expensive varieties caught by the near-water and inshore boats.

The Authority is convinced that the full benefit of this advertising cannot be obtained unless all sections of the trade cooperate in selling good-quality fish and making their premises hygienic and attractive, and unless there is an adequate link with the press campaign at the point of sale. The fish retailer, in comparison with other retailers, has hitherto worked under two disadvantages: (a) he has had little or no help from manufacturers, (other retailers are supplied with tested sales aids and display material); and (b) there is very little impulse buying of fish by the housewife.

For these reasons the Authority proposes to institute a merchandising campaign among fishmongers and fish friers. It will be carried out by a small corps of salesmen who will discuss sales problems with the retailer, distribute and erect the point-of-sale display material, and help him in every other way possible. It is proposed that some payment should be made by the retailer for the display material, as this will induce him to use and value it.

The Authority intends to start this merchandising campaign in a pilot way, probably with two salesmen. Its success will depend on the cooperation of the trade, but if it proves successful it will be extended as quickly as possible to cover the whole of Great Britain.

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RUSSIA TO BUY BRITISH HERRING IN 1953: A deal with Russia covering the British 1953 herring catch is about to be negotiated, reports the March 21 Fish Trades Gazette, a British trade magazine. This will be a barter arrangement with Britain taking Russian canned crab meat in return. A member of Parliament reporting on the prospects of Russia entering the British herring market, said: "The prospects are good and I have reason to believe the contract will soon be signed."

In 1952 Russia placed an order for about £750,000 (US$2,100,000) worth of herring, and Britain took Russian canned salmon in exchange. About 40,000 barrels have yet to be delivered on this order.

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FROZEN-FISH SCHEME POSTPONED: The White Fish Authority's frozen-fish scheme has been postponed for six months, reports the April 1953 Fish Industry, a British fishery magazine. The objectives of the scheme were to reduce the surplus of fish during periods of plenty, and to secure additional stocks of frozen fish for the consumer when fish is scarce.

Several organizations objected to the scheme; some of the catchers, most of the distributors, and the National Federation of Fish Quick-Freezers were strongly

opposed to it. The Authority considered the objections and discussed them with some of the organizations concerned, but little agreement was reached.

Since time no longer would permit any scheme to be put into operation this summer, the Authority decided to postpone the submission of the scheme to the ministers for six months. They have been influenced in this decision by a statement of the National Federation of Fish Quick-Freezers who told the Authority that they are not opposed to the principle but only to the terms of the present scheme. The Federation has, therefore, been asked to put forward, after consultation with other sections of the industry, proposals to enable the Authority to draw up a scheme within six months which would achieve the purpose of the Authority and secure a greater measure of agreement.

SCHOOL-LUNCH DEMONSTRATIONS SELL FISH

"You can teach them better while they are young." In recognition of this basic educational principle, the Service is continuing to devote a substantial portion of its fishery educational and market development program to increasing the use of fish in the nation's schools. By means of fish-cookery demonstrations for school lunchroom personnel during the past year, the Service has encouraged greater use of fish by over a million children in the schools of 10 states.

AT ONE OF THE FISH-COOKERY DEMONSTRATIONS FOR SCHOOL-LUNCH PERSONNEL, A HOME ECONOMIST OF THE EDUCATIONAL AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT SECTION OF THE BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES GIVES SOME MENU POINTERS FOR USING FISH IN SCHOOL LUNCHES.

School lunchrooms are now looked upon by educators as being more than just a convenient place for students to eat their noon meal. The lunchroom has become, in effect, a classroom where the students can broaden their food preferences and make practical application of what they have been taught about the value of a balanced diet. The "teachers" in these informal classrooms are the lunchroom managers. The Service's fish-cookery demonstrations for school lunch personnel thus serve to "teach the teachers."

Since acceptance of fishery products has been lower in areas not on the sea coasts, the Service is concentrating most of its fish-cookery demonstration program in inland states. During the past year, 150 meetings were held for groups of school-lunch personnel in Illinois, Minnesota, Michigan, Kansas, Nebraska, Alabama, New York, New Jersey, Oregon, and Virginia. Over 7,000 school-lunch cooks and managers, representing 2,700 schools, attended these demonstrations to learn more about fish cookery.

A good evaluation of the results cannot be made until sufficient time has elapsed for reasonable assurance that there has been a permanent increase in the use of fish in the schools represented at demonstrations. However, the Service has found, based on surveys in other states, that a 60-percent increase can be expected in those schools.