

TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Additions to the Fleet of U. S. Fishing Vessels

A total of 56 vessels of 5 net tons and over received their first documents as fishing craft during October 1953--8 more than in October 1952. Louisiana led with 12 vessels, followed by Florida east coast and Texas with 9 vessels each.

Section	October		January-October		Total 1952
	1953	1952	1953	1952	
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
New England	-	1	18	26	30
Middle Atlantic	1	1	17	23	26
Chesapeake	6	8	73	59	65
South Atlantic	10	11	89	75	89
Gulf	29	17	212	130	161
Pacific	5	3	153	195	203
Great Lakes	1	3	6	12	13
Alaska	3	4	49	86	88
Hawaii	1	-	3	-	-
Total	56	48	620	606	675

NOTE: VESSELS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE VARIOUS SECTIONS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR HOME PORT.



Alaska

COMMERCIAL POSSIBILITIES OF PREDATORY FRESH-WATER SPECIES: Possible commercial utilization of certain predatory fresh-water fish in the Bristol Bay area



of Alaska is being explored by the Service's Branch of Fishery Biology in Juneau and the Fishery Products Laboratory at Ketchikan. Plans call for experimental netting of predatory fish in the Wood River and Nushagak River systems this winter. Gill nets of various sizes will be used as they were in studies the summer of 1953.

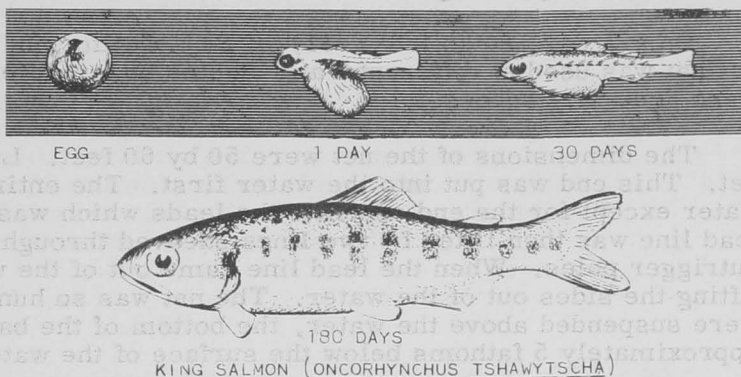
One purpose of the study is to determine if fish are available in the same numbers in winter as in summer. In the past summer, 1,046 fish were taken in experimental nets, the catch being composed of 98.5 percent charrs, 1.2 percent whitefish, 0.3 percent pike, and 0.1 percent rainbow trout. In studies this winter, a record was to be kept again of the number of fish taken, the area of capture, and other biological information, such as length, sex, and stomach contents.

In addition, fish were to be shipped to the Fishery Products Laboratory in Ketchikan for study of their commercial possibilities, including a market survey and a quality analysis.



California

KING (CHINOOK) SALMON RESEARCH: A recently completed controlled-flow experimental stream has advanced natural propagation studies of king (Chinook) salmon at Mill Creek, California, being carried out by the Service's Branch of Fishery Biology in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game. The stream has been created in the old north fork of Mill Creek at Los Molinos, which has been dry until recent years brought high-water conditions. The channel has been deepened and the water flow controlled by a gate at the head of a 30-inch culvert through an earth-fill dam at the channel head.



A study is being made of the early life history of king salmon. Experiments last year on egg survival in Mill Creek resulted in a severe egg loss because of extreme flood conditions. In present studies, plastic screen bags containing fertilized eggs were planted in November and will be periodically removed for comparison of survival conditions in Mill Creek and in the controlled-flow channel.

Through use of the control area, biologists hope to measure the influence of flooding and other factors on salmon production each year. Future studies will include experiments on spawning density, optimum ratio of male to female spawners, and other phases of the life history of king salmon.

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GEAR FOR SAMPLING FISH ATTRACTED TO LIGHT TESTED BY "YELLOWFIN" (Cruises 53-Y-10 and 53-Y-11): Tests with two different type nets to develop a method of sampling fish attracted to a light were made by the California Department of Fish and Game's research vessel Yellowfin. On the first five-day cruise (53-Y-10), completed at Los Angeles on November 1, the vessel experimented off the California coast with a trap lift net similar to that described in Commercial Fisheries Review, August 1953 (pp. 14-17). This net was designed by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Branch of Exploratory Fishing and Gear Development Section, and proved successful on bait fishes in the Gulf of Mexico on tests aboard the Service's vessel Oregon.

This lift net was in a rigid box-like frame, 8½ feet on a side. A light square frame was made to slide up and down the vertical supports of the heavy frame. The webbing for the sides and bottom of the net was of ¾-inch stretched mesh, fastened at the top to the light sliding frame and at the bottom to the bottom netting. When using a light suspended above the surface of the water, the frame was placed in the water so that the top of the frame was just above the water. When using an underwater light the entire net was submerged to a depth of about 10 feet. After fish were attracted to the light, the light was turned off and the net was pulled by a line that led through a block to the sliding frame, thus, a wall of webbing was pulled around the fish.

Seventeen stations were occupied where attempts were made with a trap lift net to sample fish attracted to a light. In general the trap lift net worked better when used

with an underwater light. The greatest success was on anchovies; however, the anchovies milled in a large circle around the frame and seemed to avoid the net. Only occasionally would the anchovies come directly over the net and then only in sheltered waters where there was little or no motion. In even a small sea or swell the action of the frame kept the fish away. Also, when the ship rolled slightly operations were very difficult, the frame was cumbersome and dangerous to use, and the results were poor.

It became apparent that this particular type of gear would have to be modified for safe use in the open sea, and that its use for sampling would have to be restricted to sheltered areas. Therefore, it was decided to terminate the cruise early and work on a different type of gear.

On a 7-day cruise (53-Y-11) off Baja California, completed November 17, a blanket net was used at different water depths under different conditions and the results were generally successful.

The dimensions of the net were 50 by 60 feet. Leads were placed on one end of the net. This end was put into the water first. The entire net was then dropped into the water except for the end opposite the leads which was made fast to the vessel. The lead line was then lifted by two lines sheaved through blocks at the ends of two 50-foot outrigger poles. When the lead line came out of the water, the two wings were pulled, lifting the sides out of the water. The net was so hung that, when the sides of the net were suspended above the water, the bottom of the bag (of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch stretched mesh) was approximately 5 fathoms below the surface of the water.

At some stations few fish were seen and few were captured. At others, fish were observed under the light but sea lions made them wild and difficult to capture. However, on each station where fish were seen a sample was obtained.

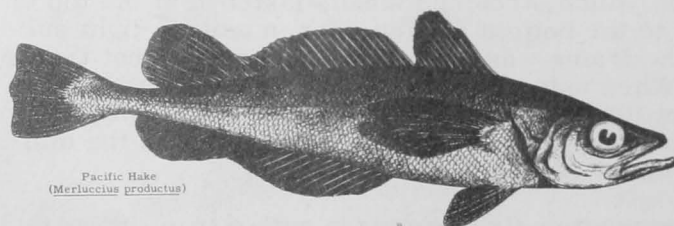
The best set of the cruise was inside the middle breakwater in Los Angeles Harbor where approximately 5,000 anchovies were caught. Several sets were made which yielded from a few hundred to about 1,000 sardines per set. One set yielded about 1,000 sauries. Atherinids were commonly taken up to approximately 2,000 per set. In addition to these fish, the following species were taken: California pompano (211 in one set), deep bodied anchovies (209 in one set), queenfish, jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, squid, thread herring, round herring, barracuda (2 species), needlefish, flying fish (2 species), half moon, rock wrasse, and blacksmith. The last three species were taken during daylight off Cedros Island.

When there was a strong current the net worked better with the anchor up and the net on the windward side of the vessel. The net worked well in winds up to 30 miles per hour, and in moderate seas and swells. The net could be worked in shallow water or in deep water. Six men can make a set in about five minutes.

The net shows promise and with some modification following more experimentation it should prove to be a useful sampling tool, and a possible method of catching bait.

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PACIFIC HAKE LARVAE STUDY: Pacific hake (*Merluccius productus*) larvae were the most abundant taken on extensive survey cruises of the agencies participating in the



Pacific Hake
(*Merluccius productus*)

California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations. The South Pacific Fishery Investigations of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is interested primarily in studying distribution and abundance of sardine spawning and survival of sardine larvae in relation to oceanographic conditions. The Pacific hake is one of the ecologically associated species about which information is also being collected.

Hake larvae have a widespread distribution, from Oregon to Cape San Lucas, Mexico, and offshore for at least 400 miles. The center of greatest abundance is off southern California and adjacent Baja California, between Pt. Concepcion and San Quintin Bay. About 98 percent of the hake larvae obtained each season have been collected during February, March, and April.

Although hake larvae are commonly taken in hauls containing sardine eggs and larvae, the two species do not appear to compete directly. Hake larvae are seldom taken above the 50-meter level while sardine larvae rarely occur that deep. Most hake larvae occur within a 5° temperature range, 10° C. to 15° C. (50° F. to 59° F.), with the optimum temperature about 13° C. (55° F.). Sardine eggs and larvae are usually taken in somewhat warmer water, 13° C. to 17° C. (55° F. to 63° F.), with the optimum temperature about 15° C. (59° F.).

The Pacific hake probably represents our largest latent fishery resources, for there is no commercial fishery for this species off the West Coast. The objection to Pacific hake as a market fish is because of the softness of its meat. However, related species of hake support important fisheries off the Atlantic Coast, Europe, South Africa, and Chile. A state permit has recently been issued to a California plant operator for experimental reduction of hake to fish meal and oil.



Cans--Shipments for Fishery Products, January-October 1953

Total shipments of metal cans for fish and sea food during January-October 1953 amounted to 91,365 short tons of steel (based on the amount of steel consumed in the manufacture of cans). Comparative data for 1952 are not available.

NOTE: STATISTICS COVER ALL COMMERCIAL AND CAPTIVE PLANTS KNOWN TO BE PRODUCING METAL CANS. REPORTED IN BASE BOXES OF STEEL CONSUMED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF CANS, THE DATA FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS ARE CONVERTED TO TONS OF STEEL BY USING THE FACTOR: 23.0 BASE BOXES OF STEEL EQUAL ONE SHORT TON OF STEEL.



Federal Purchases of Fishery Products

FRESH AND FROZEN FISHERY PRODUCTS PURCHASED BY DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, NOVEMBER 1953: The Army Quartermaster Corps in November 1953 purchased 1,764,351 pounds (valued at \$839,868) of fresh and frozen fishery products for the military feeding of the U. S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force (see table). This was a decrease of 21.1 percent in quantity and 25.0 percent in value as compared with October purchases, and lower by 15.0 and 13.9 percent, respectively, when compared with a year ago.

Army Quartermaster Corps purchases of fresh and frozen fish during the first eleven months in 1953 totaled 25,407,537 pounds (valued at \$11,255,092), 18.5 percent lower in quantity and 12.0 percent less in value as compared with the similar period a year earlier.

Purchases of Fresh and Frozen Fishery Products by Department of the Army (November and the First Eleven Months of 1953 and 1952)							
QUANTITY				VALUE			
November		January-November		November		January-November	
1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952
Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	\$	\$	\$	\$
1,764,351	2,052,565	25,407,537	31,165,904	839,868	1,102,939	11,255,092	14,418,659

The over-all average price paid for fresh and frozen fishery products by the Department of the Army during November was 47.6 cents per pound, compared with 50.1 cents the previous month and 53.7 cents in November 1952.

In addition to the purchases of fresh and frozen fishery products indicated above, the Armed Forces generally make some local purchases which are not included in the above figures. Therefore, actual purchases are somewhat higher than indicated, but it is not possible to obtain data on the local purchases made by military installations throughout the country.



Maryland

PEMBROKE OYSTER BAR OPENED TO PUBLIC: Pembroke, one of the finest oyster growing bars in Maryland, was opened to public dredging on November 2, reports the November 1953 Maryland Tidwater News, a Maryland Department of Research and Education bulletin.

Some 14,000 bushels of oysters of excellent quality were harvested by the public dredging fleet during the first week of operations. About 40 typical, sail-powered dredge boats were engaged in the work of removing the oysters from the bed. Over 56,000 bushels of seed were planted on 220 acres of this big natural bar. Harvesting operations were to be stopped on November 13, or earlier, if the oyster population was overly thinned. The Commission of Tidewater Fisheries set this policy to assure that there be left on the bottom what they feel is sufficient brood stock for propagation purposes in 1954. As a part of the same policy, announcement has been made that fairly heavy shell plantings are to be made on Pembroke before the 1954 oyster spawning season.

The oysters being harvested were planted by the Commission in 1951; the seed were obtained mostly from the State's Punch Island seed area. The growth of the oysters was substantial and, it appears, natural mortality was relatively low.

In an attempt to make Pembroke a self-supporting and perpetually productive rock, the Commission of Tidewater Fisheries collected the 20-cent-per-bushel tax in strict accordance with the law, thus to provide funds to offset appropriations for oyster rehabilitation work. The oysters were selling at or over \$3.00 a bushel.



North Pacific Exploratory Fishery Program

FALL HERRING FISHERY PROSPECTS IN PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND REPORTED POOR BY "JOHN N. COBB" (Cruise 17): Herring in sufficient quantities for a commercial reduction fishery did not enter Prince William Sound, Alaska, during an October-November survey by the Service's exploratory fishing vessel John N. Cobb. The vessel commenced the cruise at Seattle, Washington, on October 12, 1953, and returned there on December 3, 1953.

Two significant schools of herring were located in Prince William Sound--one near the entrance of Port Fidalgo and the other near the entrance of Valdez Arm. Otherwise only small scattered schools were noted.

The primary purpose of the exploration was to ascertain if herring are sufficiently abundant in Prince William Sound during October and November to support a reduction fishery. To sample schools of herring, a mid-water trawl was used. Waters explored included the various bays, inlets, and channels of Prince William Sound and the bays and the coastline between Prince William Sound and Port Dick on the Kenai Peninsula.

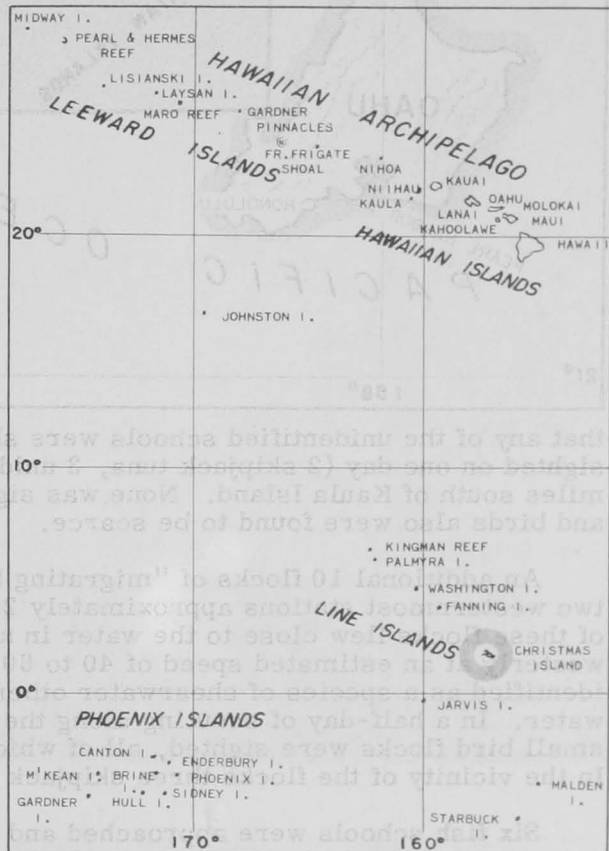
Two branches of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service participated in this cruise: the Branch of Commercial Fisheries and the Branch of Fishery Biology.



Pacific Oceanic Fishery Investigations

WINTER TUNA FISHERY POSSIBILITY OFF CHRISTMAS ISLAND REVEALED BY "JOHN R. MANNING" (Cruise 18): Good yellowfin tuna catches in December off

Christmas Island were made by the Service's research vessel John R. Manning on a cruise completed at Honolulu on December 19, 1953. This may open the possibility of a winter fishery for the Hawaiian fishing fleet. It was the first attempt by a Service research vessel to fish the equatorial waters south of Hawaii during December. A total of 14 days was spent fishing long lines for tuna en route to and in the immediate vicinity of Christmas Island. Fishing was particularly good near the island where the yellowfin tuna caught were the smaller sizes preferred by canners. A total of 5½ tons of yellowfin tuna were landed at a Honolulu cannery.

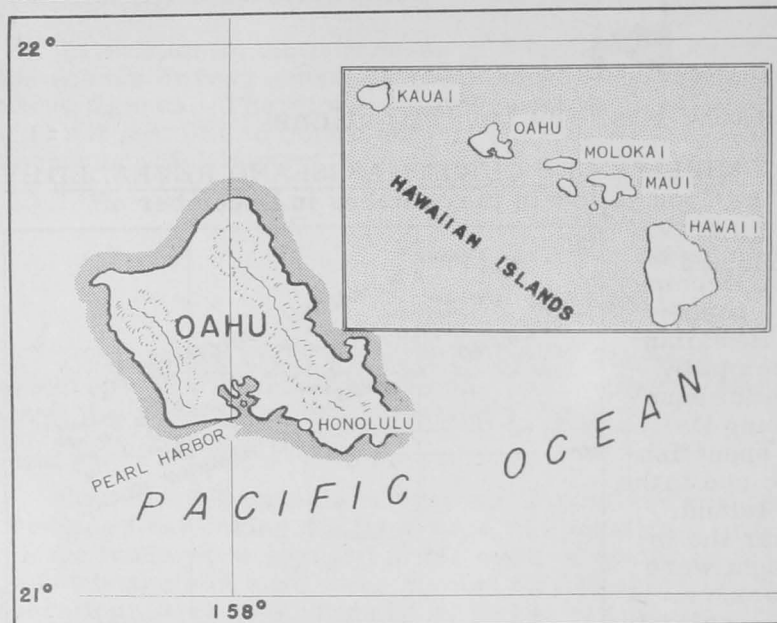


The vessel also brought back a party of scientists and fishermen who had spent two months on Christmas Island installing meteorological instruments and automatic sea-water temperature recorders on that equatorial atoll. Christmas Island is strategically located in the heart of the rich tuna fishing grounds recently found to the south of Hawaii, and the information recorded by the instruments installed there should be of great value in studying the environmental changes that affect the abundance of yellowfin tuna in equatorial waters. The newly discovered fishing grounds are beginning to attract the attention of mainland and Hawaii tuna fishermen, and the water temperature and weather data collected by POFI scientists will be used to predict the best seasons and areas for commercial fishing operations.

Setting up the recording thermometers involved the building of two steel towers on the reef, one on the windward and one on the leeward side of the island; and skin diving to anchor the sensitive elements in deep water off the face of the reef. Three Gilbertese residents were trained to tend the instruments and keep records. Meteorological instruments were loaned by the Honolulu office of the U. S. Weather Bureau, which will use the reports from this remote and isolated station to fill in its coverage of the general Central Pacific weather picture.

The field party also surveyed the lagoon of Christmas Island, one of the most extensive in the Pacific, for stocks of small fish suitable for use as live bait for tuna fishing. Little bait of this type was found, but there were plentiful supplies of larger mullet and milkfish (awa) that could be used for long-line (flag line) bait.

SKIPJACK TUNA ABUNDANCE AT SEASONAL LOW IN HAWAIIAN WATERS REPORTS THE "HUGH M. SMITH" (Cruise 24): The abundance of skipjack tuna (aku) in



Hawaiian Island waters had dropped to a seasonally-low winter level during the last week of a 30-day cruise of the Pacific Oceanic Fishery Investigations' research vessel Hugh M. Smith. The cruise, completed at Honolulu on December 1, included tests with tuna attractants and the collection of hydrographic data.

Scouting at the 13 regular stations resulted in seeing only 14 bird flocks, of which 2 were accompanying skipjack tuna, 2 dolphin (mahimahi), and the remaining 10 accompanied unidentified fish. The bird flocks were small in size, numbering less than 50 in all cases except one, and very loosely formed. The fishermen were highly doubtful

that any of the unidentified schools were skipjack. The greatest number of schools sighted on one day (2 skipjack tuna, 3 unidentified) was on the station approximately 30 miles south of Kaula Island. None was sighted in the area to the north and east of Oahu and birds also were found to be scarce.

An additional 10 flocks of "migrating birds" (not attending fish) were sighted at the two westernmost stations approximately 250 miles west and southwest of Oahu. Each of these flocks flew close to the water in a tight cluster and moved rapidly south-southwesterly at an estimated speed of 40 to 60 miles per hour. The birds were tentatively identified as a species of shearwater other than the commonly found wedge-tailed shearwater. In a half-day of scouting along the lee of Oahu close to Pearl Harbor, four small bird flocks were sighted, all of which appeared to be "working" over fish schools. In the vicinity of the flocks three skipjack sampans were actively fishing.

Six fish schools were approached and chummed with strips of agar prepared with an extract of skipjack meat and aluminum powder. No fish responded. Three of the schools were attended by few birds which were generally inactive, indicating that perhaps live bait would also have been unsuccessful in getting the fish to the surface; a better test of the material was possible on two skipjack tuna and a dolphin school which were at the surface when approached. The agar strips, however, failed to attract fish from these schools.



Pollution Control is Wildlife Week Theme

"Pollution Control" will be the theme of National Wildlife Week, March 21-27, 1954. The National Wildlife Federation, which sponsors the annual observance, recommends the creation of citizen committees to promote water pollution control.

The general purpose of National Wildlife Week is to get more people thinking about conservation, thereby creating a better informed and more active body of public opinion bearing on natural resource matters. The major specific objectives of the Federation relating to water pollution control are:

1. Promotion of adequate water pollution laws in every state. Some states have them, most do not. The standard is the model "State Water Pollution Control Act" which has been endorsed and recommended by the Council of State Governments.
2. Adequate appropriations for state pollution-control agencies. It doesn't take a lot. About 5 cents per person per year (based on total state population) will do the job.
3. Adequate sewage treatment facilities in every community. The cost here has been demonstrated in many cities: About 3 cents per family per day, over a period of years.
4. Adequate waste prevention or waste treatment by every industry. The solution here is simple and inexpensive for some industries; some have turned waste treatment into profit through byproducts. In other industries, the problem is difficult and costly; the consuming public must expect to pay slightly higher costs for certain products, the cost of protecting vital water resources. Still other industrial waste problems have not been solved; additional research is called for.
5. Prevention of silt pollution through soil conservation practices. Let's get behind the new national movement for soil conservation and flood-prevention through watershed treatment.



A CARTOONIST AND CONSERVATION CRUSADER (ED DODD OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA) PREPARED A COLOR COMIC BOOKLET. ILLUSTRATED ABOVE IS THE TITLE PAGE OF THE BOOKLET. (FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO OBTAIN THE BOOKLET IN QUANTITIES, WRITE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION, 232 CARROLL STREET NW, TAKOMA PARK 12, D.C.)



U. S. Foreign Trade in Edible Fishery Products, September 1953

United States imports of fresh, frozen, and processed fish and shellfish during September 1953 totaled almost 60 million pounds (valued at \$16 million), reports the September 1953 United States Foreign Trade, a Department of Commerce publication (see table). This is an increase of 1 percent in quantity and 9 percent in value as compared with imports in September 1952.

Exports of processed fish and shellfish (excluding fresh and frozen) from the United States in September 1953 amounted to 5.6 million pounds (valued at \$1.2 million), 9 percent higher in quantity, but 8 percent lower in value than a year ago.

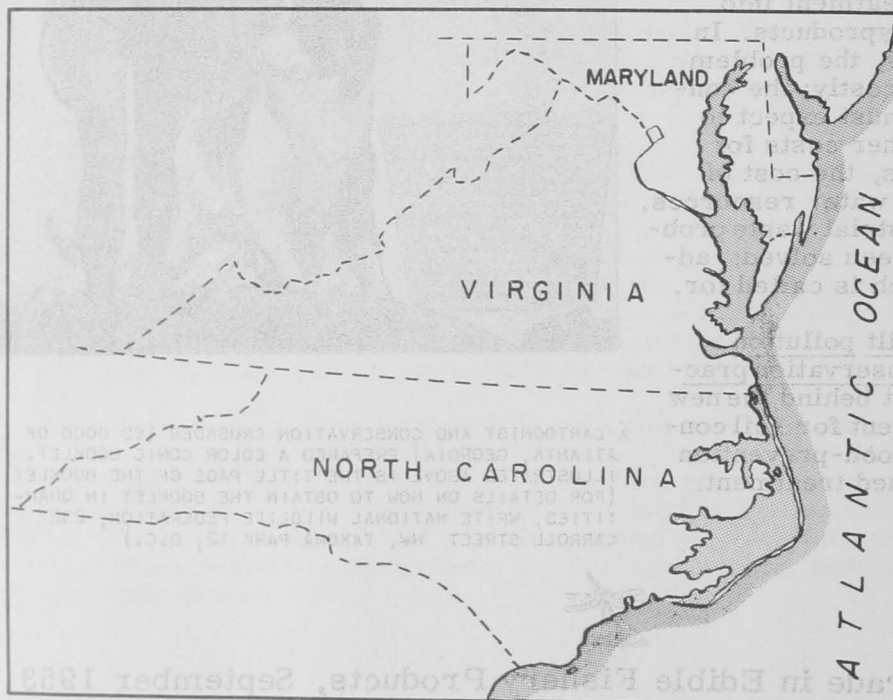
United States Foreign Trade in Edible Fishery Products, September 1953 With Comparisons						
	September 1953		September 1952		Year 1952	
	Quantity 1000 Lbs.	Value Million \$	Quantity 1000 Lbs.	Value Million \$	Quantity 1000 Lbs.	Value Million \$
Imports: Fish and shellfish: fresh, frozen, and processed ^{1/} /	59,636	16.1	58,856	14.7	705,118	183.1
Exports: Fish and shellfish: processed ^{1/} only (excluding fresh and frozen)	5,616	1.2	5,152	1.3	56,604	13.5

^{1/} INCLUDES PASTES, SAUCES, CLAM CHOWDER AND JUICE, AND OTHER SPECIALTIES.



Virginia

BROADER FISHERY RESEARCH RECOMMENDED: A broad research program for data to base sound fisheries management programs was recommended in December by



the Virginia Legislative Commission, reports the December 1953 Maryland Tidewater News of the Maryland Department of Research and Education. It was recommended that Virginia join Maryland and North Carolina in an extended program which will involve additional expenditures of \$122,074, approximately 50 percent to be borne by Virginia.

The Chairman of the Commission pointed out the need of expanding research in the area due to the failure of present policies of manage-

ment to stem the tide of depletion in several important fisheries, especially sea trout, croaker, bluefish, butterfish, and scup or porgy.

The Commission listed five possible reasons for the decline in the major fisheries, as follows: (1) heavy fishing pressure; (2) poor spawning success; (3) destruction of young fish by gear operations, (4) hydrographic (temperature, currents, etc.) changes; (5) pollution.

The Commission made it clear that not all or even one of the five possible reasons cited can be evaluated soundly under present conditions of limited factual data. It urged

that since the fisheries are held in common by the three states, the study program should be implemented accordingly. Furthermore, its members indicate that with the maturity of the Tri-State program full consideration should be given to the salt-water sports fishery of the middle Atlantic area.

NOTE: ALSO SEE COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW, NOVEMBER 1953, P. 31.



Foreign Economic Policy Commission Reports to President

The Commission on Foreign Economic Policy--a special advisory commission constituted last August to shape a new foreign trade policy for the Eisenhower Administration--released its report to the President and the Congress on January 23, 1954. The 17-man Commission, headed by Clarence B. Randall, was composed of 10 members of the Senate and House and 7 nongovernment representatives.

In general, the report asked for less foreign aid and encouragement of more foreign trade, particularly imports. The report stated that the United States should take the leadership in a program to lower trade barriers; a program which also should be adopted by other nations. No specific commodities are mentioned in the report.

Significant statements in the report were to the effect that free trade is not possible under the conditions facing the United States today, and that although many United States tariffs are high and many of our customs procedures are slow and cumbersome, many other United States tariffs are low and more than half our imports enter free of duty.

The Commission points out: "Yet the nations of the free world would be stronger and more cohesive if many of the existing barriers to the exchange of their goods were reduced, if unnecessary uncertainties and delays created by such barriers were eliminated, and if adequate international arrangements for discussing and finding solutions to their common trade problems were developed and maintained."

The report discusses and makes recommendations on the postwar dollar problem, foreign aid and technical assistance, United States foreign investment, problems of agriculture and raw materials, United States dependence on imported materials, tariffs and trade policy, adjustment to increased imports, labor standards in international competition, related problems of trade adjustment, and currency convertibility. Concurrences or dissents to the Commission's recommendations which express significant differences are included as separate statements.

Some of the recommendations and comments of the Commission of interest to the fishery and allied industries follow:

1. Extend for three years the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act with broader presidential powers under the Trade Agreements Act to enter into multilateral negotiations looking toward a reduction in tariff rates on a gradual basis. For the three years following renewal of the Act, the President should be authorized:
 - a. To reduce existing tariff rates by not more than 5 percent of present rates each year. (The President under the present law, expiring June 12, cannot prescribe reductions of more than 50 percent in the level of duties prevailing January 1, 1945, and this limit already has been reached in many cases.)
 - b. Based on information provided by the Tariff Commission, to reduce tariffs by not more than one-half of rates in effect January 1, 1945, on products which are not being imported or being imported in negligible volume, regardless of whether other countries make similar concessions.

NOTE: THE COMPLETE REPORT--COMMISSION ON FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS, JANUARY 1954--IS AVAILABLE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, WASHINGTON 25, D. C., AT 35 CENTS A COPY.

- c. To reduce to 50 percent ad valorem, or its equivalent, any rate in excess of that ceiling, by stages over a period of three years.
2. Amend the "Buy American Act" and other acts containing the principle to permit the President to exempt bidders from other nations which treat our bidders on an equal basis with their own nationals.
3. Congress should direct and empower the President to have the Tariff Commission undertake a study of the tariff schedules immediately, with the purpose of framing proposals for the simplification of commodity definitions and rate structures and to proclaim such changes as he determines to be appropriate.
4. The Department of the Treasury should formulate proposals to simplify the problem of classifying articles not enumerated in our tariff schedules with the purpose of developing a single standard of classifications for the widest practicable application. They should also be directed to make a continuing study of difficulties and delays in customs administration and report to Congress annually.
5. The Senate should promptly consider H. R. 6584 now before it, to amend and improve the customs valuation provisions of our law by eliminating so-called "foreign value" as a basis of valuation and by other simplifying changes. In addition, the Department of the Treasury should be directed to study and report to Congress on the feasibility and effect of using actual invoice price of imported goods for valuation purposes and the feasibility of making more efficient use of the "anti-dumping" law.
6. The task of determining "that an industry in the United States is being or is likely to be injured. . ." by foreign dumping should be transferred from the Department of the Treasury to the Tariff Commission.
7. The President should study appropriate methods to assure that United States industry is not injured by embargoes upon or other impediments to exports of raw materials to the United States for use in processing here. In this connection, he should direct the Department of the Treasury to review the effectiveness of existing countervailing duty provisions and consider alternative measures.
8. Our policy of nondiscrimination in trade matters, as reflected in our unconditional most-favored-nation policy, should not be changed.
9. The "escape clause" and "peril point" provisions and existing prenegotiation procedures should be retained. However, the statute should be amended to provide that the President is authorized to disregard findings under these provisions if the national interest requires it.
10. The same standards of sanitation and health should apply equally to domestic and imported goods.
11. Where workers are paid wages well below accepted standards in the exporting countries, "our negotiators should simply make clear that no tariff concessions will be granted on products made by workers receiving wages which are substandard in the exporting country. . . ." The United States should attempt to raise labor standards through consultative procedures and cooperation in international conferences such as those sponsored by the International Labor Organization. One of the essential strengths of our entire economy is the vitality and diversification of our industry. . . . In all of their variations they must pay wages generally in harmony with the general level of wages throughout the country. We would not want it otherwise, and we do not wish it to hap-

pen that the wage level in the classes (where machinery is a minor element and where the labor factor is the controlling element) should be determined or seriously affected by the wage levels abroad in competitive industries.

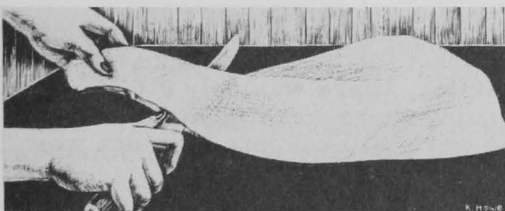
12. "In a free economy, some displacement of workers and some injury to institutions is unavoidable. It may come about through technological change, alterations in consumer preferences, exhaustion of a mineral resource, new inventions, new taxes, or many other causes. Since it has never been seriously proposed that the burden of all such injury arising in a free economy should be assumed by the Government, the Commission felt that it was not appropriate to propose such a plan (government assistance to communities, employers, and workers injured by tariff changes) in the tariff area only."
13. Movement toward establishment of a free currency exchange throughout the world and more favorable foreign investment conditions.
14. Reduction in taxes on income earned abroad.
15. An end to economic aid abroad in the form of gifts and substitution, if necessary, of a loan program. "No further aid is justified unless it contributes to the security of the United States." Technical assistance should be pressed forward vigorously through sound projects in underdeveloped areas.
16. "So far as it can be done without jeopardizing military security and subject to the embargo on Communist China and North Korea, the United States acquiesces in more trade in peaceful goods between Western Europe and the Soviet Union."
17. "... A dynamic foreign economic policy as it relates to agriculture cannot be built out of a maze of restrictive devices such as inflexible price-support programs which result in fixed prices, open or concealed export subsidies, import quotas at home and abroad, excessive use of tariffs here and abroad, exchange restrictions, and state trading. If we are to have a foreign economic policy which will make its best contribution to the strengthening of our long-term development of foreign markets for farmers, we must move as rapidly as feasible toward the elimination of such devices as a part of, or supplement to, our own agricultural policy."
18. Provisions of the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade should be renegotiated to confine functions to sponsoring trade negotiations, recommending trade policies and providing a consultation forum in trade disputes, subject to the approval of the Congress.

The programs for Congressional and Executive action suggested by the report will be subject to study and hearings by the appropriate committees in Congress and other Government departments.



Wholesale Prices, December 1953

Wholesale Prices, December 1953: Wholesale prices for edible fishery products rose from November to December because landings of fresh fish were light. Demand for most fishery products was moderate during the period. December prices were also above a year ago. The over-all edible fish and shellfish (fresh, frozen, and canned) wholesale index for December 1953 was 109.4 percent of the 1947-49 average (see table)--3.1 percent above the November index and 4.6 percent higher than a year earlier.



The drawn, dressed, or whole finfish subgroup index registered the largest increase--7.1 percent higher than November and 11.2 percent above December 1952. December catches were generally light and the demand was moderate to good. Substantial increases were noted from November to December in the prices for large offshore haddock at Boston (17.2 percent), whitefish at New York City (25.0 percent), and lake trout at Chicago (16.2 percent). Compared to a year earlier, haddock prices were up 30.8 percent, whitefish prices at New York City were up 31.5 percent, and other items under this subgroup were priced slightly higher except Western halibut which was priced 10.6 percent lower.

Group, Subgroup, and Item Specification	Point of Pricing	Unit	Avg. Prices (\$)		Indexes (1947-49=100)			
			Dec. 1953	Nov. 1953	Dec. 1953	Nov. 1953	Oct. 1953	Dec. 1952
ALL FISH & SHELLFISH (Fresh, Frozen, & Canned)								
Fresh & Frozen Fishery Products:								
Drawn, Dressed, or Whole Finfish:								
Haddock, lge., offshore, drawn, fresh	Boston	lb.	.15	.12	148.2	126.4	162.0	113.3
Halibut, West., 20/80 lbs., drsd., fresh or froz.	New York	lb.	.30	.30	93.4	91.8	93.9	104.5
Salmon, king, lge. & med., drsd., fresh or froz.	New York	lb.	.50	.52	111.2	115.7	123.9	109.5
Whitefish, L. Superior, drawn (drsd.), fresh	Chicago	lb.	.37	.35	90.5	85.5	121.5	83.0
Whitefish, L. Erie pound or gill net, rnd., fresh	New York	lb.	.63	.50	126.4	101.1	104.1	96.1
Lake trout, domestic, No. 1, drawn (drsd.) fresh	Chicago	lb.	.61	.53	125.0	107.6	107.6	124.0
Yellow pike, L. Michigan & Huron, rnd., fresh	New York	lb.	.40	.44	93.8	102.0	105.5	91.4
Processed, Fresh (Fish and Shellfish):								
Fillets, haddock, sml., skins on, 20-lb. tins	Boston	lb.	.40	.38	136.1	129.3	129.3	91.9
Shrimp, lge. (26-30 count), headless, fresh or frozen	New York	lb.	.73	.68	114.4	107.9	106.4	110.7
Oysters, shucked, standards	Norfolk	gal.	5.13	5.25	126.8	129.9	129.9	129.9
Processed, Frozen (Fish & Shellfish):								
Fillets: Flounder (yellowtail), skinless, 10-lb. pkg.	Boston	lb.	.31	.31	108.7	108.7	108.7	119.2
Haddock, sml., skins on, 10-lb. cello-pack	Boston	lb.	.27	.27	100.4	100.4	98.6	98.5
Ocean perch, skins on, 10-lb. cello-pack	Gloucester	lb.	.23	.22	110.7	105.9	105.9	114.4
Shrimp, lge. (26-30 count), 5-lb. pkg.	Chicago	lb.	.72	.71	111.1	109.9	102.2	111.8
Canned Fishery Products:								
Salmon, pink, No. 1 tall (16 oz.), 48 cans/cs.	Seattle	case	17.70	17.70	93.9	93.9	93.9	99.1
Tuna, lt. meat, solid pack, No. 1/2 tuna (7 oz.), 48 cans/cs.	Los Angeles	case	15.30	15.30	95.5	95.5	95.5	90.5
Sardines, Calif., tom. pack, No. 1 oval (15 oz.), 48 cans/cs.	Los Angeles	case	9.25	9.25	108.0	108.0	108.0	108.0
Sardines, Maine, keyless oil, No. 1/4 drawn (3 1/4 oz.), 100 cans/cs.	New York	case	8.20	8.20	87.3	87.3	87.3	76.6

1/ Represent average prices for one day (Monday or Tuesday) during the week in which the 15th of the month occurs.

In the fresh processed fish and shellfish subgroup, December prices of haddock fillets at Boston and large shrimp at New York were higher but shucked oyster prices were lower than in November. The shrimp market was quite firm as landings continued good. Compared with December 1952, prices for haddock fillets were up 48.1 percent, shrimp 3.3 percent, but oysters were down 2.4 percent. This subgroup's December index was up 2.2 percent from November and 4.6 percent higher than a year earlier.

There were only slight changes (2.2 percent) in frozen processed fish and shellfish prices from November to December. Prices for fillets of haddock and flounder were unchanged, while those for ocean perch fillets and large shrimp went up slightly. All frozen processed items were down slightly from December 1952, except haddock fillets which were 1.9 percent higher. Compared to December 1952, all prices in this subgroup were 4.6 percent higher.

For the second consecutive month there were no changes in the prices of any of the canned fishery products priced for the index. The market for these products has remained quite steady. When compared with a year earlier, there was only a 0.1-percent decline in canned fishery products prices as a group, but there were some marked changes among the individual items: Maine sardines were up 14.0 percent, tuna was higher by 5.5 percent, and pink salmon was down 5.2 percent.