

COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



A review of developments and news of the fishery industries prepared in the BRANCH OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

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Mailed free to members of the fishery and allied industries. Address correspondence and requests to the: Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington 25, D. C.

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COVER: West Coast tuna clipper. These vessels operate with live-bait, the principal method used by U. S. fishermen in catching tuna. They are equipped with live-bait tanks on deck in which the small bait fish are carried alive to the fishing grounds. On locating a school of tuna, live bait is thrown overboard to attract the tuna to the vessel. When they rush in to take the bait, feathered lures concealing barbless hooks attached to short lines fastened to stout bamboo poles are cast into the water near the tuna. The tuna take the lures and the fishermen heave them over the rail of the boat onto the deck. Live bait is continually cast over the side to hold the school in the vicinity of the vessel and fishing continues as long as the school remains, or until the fishermen are obliged to discontinue operations in order to care for the fish that have already been taken.

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