



## International

### NORTHWEST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

FISHERIES TRENDS IN NORTHWEST ATLANTIC CONVENTION AREA: Canada: The 1955 cod landings of Canada from the Northwest Atlantic area were smaller than those of 1954, but higher than in 1953. The decline was most pronounced for the Newfoundland area, amounting to almost 25 percent, and a corresponding decline in the production of salt cod occurred. Haddock landings both from Subarea 3 and 4 continued to increase. The increase of the haddock landings continued in January and February 1956 and in these two months were twice as high as in the same months in 1955.



The regulations of mesh sizes in nets used by trawlers and draggers, recommended by ICNAF were announced as going into effect for the Canadian trawlers and draggers on January 1, 1957, reports the Commission's Newsletter of May 15.

New excellent cod fishing grounds have been discovered off the east coast of Newfoundland as the result of long-lining experiments carried out for the Research Board of Canada by the Biological Station in St. John's. The grounds extend from the northern edge of the Grand Bank to beyond the Strait of Belle Isle, spreading over an area of 10-60 miles offshore.

France: The French frigate l'Aventure will carry out its usual campaign in the Northwest Atlantic area from March to October, i. e. during the main fishing season for the French trawler fleet. Although the main purpose is to assist the fishermen, hydrographical and meteorological observations will be made. l'Aventure will visit Subareas 1, 2, 3, and 4.

United States: The U. S. A. explorations for new fishing areas for ocean perch were continued in December, to the east of the Laurentian Channel. The largest single ocean perch catch (2,000 pounds) was made south of St. Pierre Bank at a depth of 225 fathoms. The research was impeded by bad weather conditions.

Norway: The modern Norwegian fishing vessel Senior landed in December 1955 in England 70 tons of line-caught halibut from West Greenland waters. This landing is additional evidence of the renewed Norwegian interest in the fishery for halibut in Subarea 1, and furnishes a further incitement to the international research work on West Greenland halibut planned by the ICNAF Panel 1.

1956 Campaign of the European Cod Fishing Fleets: In the middle of January the first Spanish trawlers (PYSBE) left for the Newfoundland area, towards the end of the month they were followed by others (COPIBA). It is expected that the number of trawlers will be a little larger than last year; the number of vessels will in the near future be increased by several new units; the building of further units is

planned. The Spanish fishing fleet is in a few years hence supposed to be able to saturate the Spanish market with salt cod.

In the first half of February Spanish pair trawlers left for Subarea 3.

Around the middle of February a number of French trawlers left Fecamp for the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

February 15 and 17 the two large Italian trawlers Genepesca I and Genepesca II sailed from Livorno for their first trip of 1956 to the Grand Banks and the West Greenland Banks.

During February most of the Portuguese trawlers left for the Convention Area. About 22 trawlers, nearly the same number as last year, will fish in the Northwest Atlantic in the 1956 campaign.

In the beginning of March the Portuguese dory vessels left their home ports on their way to the Convention Area. Some 50 dory vessels will be fishing cod in that area this year, among them several newly-constructed units.

Up to April about 20 Norwegian vessels had left for the West Greenland fishing banks.

The Greenland Department of the Danish Government has had a new research-fishery vessel (Sujumit) of the cutter-type constructed for experimental fishing in Greenland waters. The main work of this vessel will be the trying of new fishing methods, the exploration of fishing banks, and the locating of fish shoals. During 1956 it will start work in Greenland waters. Together with another cutter of the Greenland Department it will carry out experimental fishing with pair-trawl.

The first results of the Spanish fishery on the Grand Bank this year have been highly satisfactory, especially the pair-trawlers which have reported exceedingly good yields. Some of them are reported to have left the Banks with full loads either for Vigo (Spain) or for St. Pierre et Miquelon.

#### UNITED NATIONS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BOARD

PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE EXPANDED PROGRAM OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: The United Nations Technical Assistance Board released on May 18 a report outlining proposals for possible future development of the Expanded Program of Technical Assistance based on a review of the experience gained in the first six years of that Program's operation.

Summarizing activities under the Program since 1950, the report ("The Expanded Program of Technical Assistance: A Forward Look," Doc. E/2885) points out that 78 countries have pledged a total of US\$142 million for the financing of the Program; that some 131 countries and territories have been helped at one time or another; and that 77 countries have supplied experts to the Program while 105 countries and territories have provided training facilities.

"It may safely be said," observes the report, "that never before have the resources of so many countries been mobilized for a world-wide, cooperative enterprise."

Turning to the future, the report suggests that two possible levels of expansion might be considered; the first "involving a modest increase in resources to finance limited expansion of activities within the present scope of the Program;" the second, "looking forward to a much more far-reaching extension of the work."

It suggests that to achieve the "limited advance" embodied in the first possibility, a target figure of US\$50 million for the annual income of the Program might be set, to be approached in stages over the next few years. The report stresses, however, that this would do no more than enable the participating organizations "to maintain the momentum of present activities within the existing scope of the Program and to meet the more urgent requests of newcomers."

For the more substantial expansion envisaged in the second possibility foreseen by the Board, the report states "it would be too theoretical an exercise to make any estimate of the sum needed . . . in the absence of guidance from the Technical Assistance Committee concerning the realistic limits which should govern the calculation." It indicates, however, that it would call for resources "many times the size of those now available."

Among the specific suggestions included under "Agricultural Research and Demonstration Projects" is:

"(v) fisheries could be made much more effective if full operational projects were developed, combining the initial survey with the provision of mechanized fishing boats and of cold-storage plants for effective distribution of increased supplies."

#### JAPAN-U.S.S.R. REACH AGREEMENT ON PACIFIC SALMON FISHING

Japanese fishermen can begin fishing for salmon in the Northwest Pacific immediately, according to an interim agreement in the form of an exchange of notes reached on May 15 between Soviet Russia and Japan covering the 1956 salmon fishing season. According to reports from Moscow, a Japanese spokesman indicated that since the exchange of notes is as binding as a treaty it permits Japanese fishermen to enter restricted zones off the Soviet Asian coast and fish for salmon. The agreement was the result of negotiations between the Soviets and a Japanese mission which left Japan on April 13, 1956.

An official Soviet Russian radio announcement on March 21 from Moscow stated that salmon fishing in the area of the entire Okhotsk Sea, the western portion of the Bering Sea, and the Northwest Pacific would be restricted between May 15 and September 15, 1956. The March 21 regulations also restricted the salmon catch to 50,000 tons or about 25 million fish. However, the exchange of notes raises the annual salmon catch for Japanese fishermen to 65,000 tons, according to a Japanese spokesman.

In addition to the interim salmon-fishing agreement, the Russian and Japanese ministers at the same time signed a 10-year fisheries treaty and a 3-year sea-rescue agreement. Both of these agreements will go into effect when the Russo-Japanese peace treaty is negotiated.

A release for the U. S. Information Service, Tokyo, states:

"1. Official note concerning regulatory measures for fishing operations in the territorial area of each nation:

"This indicates an understanding reached between both governments that they should take necessary measures for conservation of fish resources in their respective countries, parallel with their joint steps on the high seas.

"2. Official note on an understanding that the provisions of Article 2 of the sea-rescue agreement will not affect the stand of the signatory nations on the scope of territorial waters.

"3. Official note pertaining to provisional measures on the salmon fishing for this year:

"This shows an understanding that Japanese fishermen will be allowed to catch 65,000 tons of salmon during this year's fishing season in the restricted area declared by the Soviet Council of Ministers.

"In addition a letter . . . was attached, saying that approval by the Japanese Diet is required."

#### JAPAN-U. S. S. R FISHERIES TREATY

On May 15, 1956, a long-range agreement was reached between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regarding the fisheries on the high seas in the North Pacific Ocean. This long-range treaty will enter into force on the effective date of a peace treaty between Japan and the U. S. S. R. or on the date of resumption of diplomatic relations.

Fishing in the North Pacific area during the 1956 season is governed by another agreement reached specifically for the 1956 season (see preceding article).

The text of the long-range treaty follows:

#### TREATY--BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING FISHERIES ON THE HIGH SEAS IN THE NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

The Government of Japan and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, having a common interest in the development of fisheries on a rational basis in the Northwestern Pacific, and taking into consideration their mutual responsibilities regarding conditions of the fish species and other marine animal resources and their effective utilization:

In recognition of their agreement that the maintenance of the maximum sustained productivity of fisheries in the Northwestern Pacific is of common benefit to mankind and the two Signatory Powers;

Considering that each Signatory should assume the duty on a free and equal basis to plan for the preservation and increase of the above described resources;

The two Signatories, recognizing that it is highly desirable to promote and coordinate scientific research for the purpose of maintaining maximum sustained productivity in the fisheries with which the two Signatories are concerned;

Have, therefore, decided to conclude this Treaty and have respectively appointed Representatives for this purpose. These Representatives have agreed as follows:

##### Article I

1. The area to which this Treaty applies (hereinafter called "Treaty Area") shall be the entire waters (excluding territorial waters) of the Northwestern Pacific Ocean, including the Japan Sea, the Sea of Okhotsk, and the Bering Sea.

2. It shall be understood that no provisions of this Treaty shall affect in any way whatsoever

the position of the Signatories as regards the extent of the territorial waters and their jurisdiction over fisheries [therein?].

##### Article II

1. Both Signatories agree, for the preservation and development of fish and other marine animal resources (hereinafter to be called "fishery resources"), to adopt for the Treaty Area the joint measures indicated in the Appendix 1 to this Treaty.

2. The Appendix 1 to this Treaty shall be considered as constituting an inseparable part of the Treaty. The word "Treaty" shall be understood to include this Appendix 1 in its present wording or as amended in accordance with Paragraph (a) of Article IV.

##### Article III

1. In order to fulfill the objectives of this Treaty, both Signatories shall establish a Japanese-Soviet Fisheries Commission (hereinafter called "Commission").

2. The Commission shall be comprised of two National Committee Divisions; each National Committee Division shall consist of three Commissioners appointed by the Governments of the respective Signatories.

3. All resolutions, recommendations, and other decisions of the Commission shall be made only upon agreement between the National Committee Divisions.

4. The Commission shall determine the rules for the conduct of meetings and may revise them whenever necessary.

1/Not available at present.



5. The Commission shall meet at least once annually and in addition may meet at the request of the Nationality Committee Division of either party. The date and place of the first meeting shall be determined by agreement between the two Signatories.

6. The Commission shall at its first meeting select a Chairman and a Vice Chairman from the two different National Committee Divisions. The Chairman and the Vice Chairman shall be selected for a term of one year. The selection of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman from the National Committee Divisions shall be accomplished in such a way that each year each Signatory shall be represented in these positions on a rotation basis.

7. The official languages of the Commission shall be Japanese and Russian.

8. The expenses incurred by the Commissioners in attending Commission meetings shall be defrayed by the appointing government. The Commission shall pay the joint expenses of the Commission in accordance with the allotted charges to be borne by the two Signatories as advised by the Commission after the formality of approval and allocation by the two Signatories.

#### Article IV

The Commission shall carry out the following duties:

(a) At the meeting following regular annual meetings, joint measures which are being enforced at the time shall be examined for their appropriateness and, if necessary, the Appendix to this Treaty may be amended. These amendments shall be determined on a scientific basis.

(b) If, in accordance with the Appendix, a fish species requires determination of the total annual catch, the Commission shall determine the amount of annual catch for the said fish species for both Signatories and report the figure to the two Signatory Powers.

(c) In implementing this Treaty, the Commission shall determine the kind and scope of statistics and other data which each Signatory shall submit to the Commission.

(d) The Commission shall draw up and coordinate joint scientific research programs for the purpose of studying fishery resources and shall recommend these to the two Signatories.

(e) It shall submit annually to both Signatories a report of the activities of the Commission.

(f) Besides the duties indicated in the previous sections, the Commission may make recommendations to the two Signatories on problems dealing with the preservation and increase of fishery resources within the Treaty Area.

#### Article V

In order mutually to exchange experiences concerning fishery regulation and the study and preservation of fishery resources, both Signatories agree to carry out an exchange of men of science with experience in fisheries. These exchanges of persons shall be carried out upon agreement by the two parties for each such occasion.

#### Article VI

1. The two Signatories shall take appropriate and effective measures to carry out this Treaty.

2. When a Signatory receives notification from the Commission relative to the amount of the total annual catch as determined for the Signatory in accordance with Paragraph (b) of Article IV, it shall issue licenses or certificates to fishing vessels on this basis, and the two Signatories shall notify each other concerning the issuance of all such licenses and certificates.

3. The licenses and certificates to be issued by the two Signatories shall be written in both Japanese and Russian and shall always be carried aboard when the fishing vessel is in operation.

4. In order to make the provisions of this Treaty effective, the two signatories shall enact and enforce the necessary laws and regulations, with appropriate punishment for violations committed by their citizens, organizations, and fishing vessels; moreover, both agree to submit to the Commission a report on the measures taken by their own country concerning this matter.

#### Article VII

1. When an authorized official of either of the Signatory Parties has sufficient reason to believe that a fishing vessel of the other Signatory is actually in violation of the provisions of this Treaty, the said official may board and search the said fishing vessel in order to determine whether or not the fishing vessel is observing the provisions of this Treaty. If the ship's captain demands it, the aforesaid official must present his identification papers issued by the Signatory Government to which he belongs, which shall be written in Japanese and Russian.

2. The said official may seize the said fishing vessel or arrest an individual if he discovers facts proving violations of the provisions of this Treaty by the fishing vessel or by an individual on board, as a result of his search of the said fishing vessel.

In such case, the Signatory Power to which the said official belongs shall as soon as possible inform the other Signatory Power to which the aforesaid fishing vessel or individual belongs, of the seizure or arrest; if the two Signatories cannot agree upon a different location, the said fishing vessel or individual must be turned over as quickly as possible at the same location to an authorized official of the Signatory Power to which they belong. If, however, the said Signatory Power

which received the report is not able immediately to receive them, and if the other Signatory Power is requested, the Signatory Power which receives such request may place the said fishing vessel or individual under surveillance within its own territory, if this is mutually agreed to by the two Signatories.

3. Only the authorities of the Signatory Power to which the said fishing vessel or individual belongs may try cases arising in connection with this Treaty; furthermore, they shall have the authority to mete out punishment for these [violations]. Records and evidence proving violation shall as soon as possible be presented to the Signatory Power having the jurisdictional right to try the case.

#### Article VIII

1. This Treaty shall come into force on the effective date of a Peace Treaty between Japan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics or on the date of resumption of diplomatic relations.

2. Either of the Signatories may inform the other Signatory of its intention to abrogate this Treaty at any time after a period of ten years following the date on which this Treaty comes into force.

If such notification is given, this Treaty shall terminate one year after the date on which the abrogation notification was received by the other Signatory Power.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Representatives have signed the present Treaty.

DONE at Moscow, in duplicate, in the Japanese and Russian languages, each text having equal authenticity, this [fifteenth] day of May, 1956.

For the Government of Japan:

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

### FISH-PROCESSING TECHNOLOGISTS MEET AT ROTTERDAM

An international meeting of Fish Processing Technologists, sponsored by the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Interim Committee on Fish Handling and Processing, was held at Rotterdam, Netherlands, June 25-29, 1956. The meetings were attended by technologists from member governments of F.A.O. and from non-member countries who wished to attend.

The chairman of the meeting was Dr. G. A. Reay of the United Kingdom and working committees were headed by F. Bramsnaes of Denmark, K. Bakken of Norway, Professor George Borgstrom of Sweden, and E. Heen of Norway who presented their reports on chilling and freezing of fish, fisheries products for tropical consumption, and prepackaged fisheries products.

A symposium was held during the meeting on the use of antibiotics, bacteriostatic ices and dips, brine-cooling, sea-water ice, scale and crushed ice, and fresh-fish quality assessment using organoleptic and objective methods.



### Australia

PROSPECTS FOR TUNA FISHING INDUSTRY GOOD: The 84-foot former purse-seiner Tacoma obtained 30 metric tons of tuna on her first two trips as a tuna bait boat out of Port Lincoln, South Australia.

As reported in the Adelaide Advertiser, 10 tons were taken on the second 8-day trip which struck bad weather.

On the way back to port the Tacoma ran into two eagerly-biting schools of tuna near Cape Wiles and hauled over 400 fish aboard in four hours. At the peak of the strike, the 40-pound fish were taking the hooks at the rate of one every 10 seconds. Nearly a ton of them was hauled aboard in 10 minutes.

It was the second trip on Tacoma by two Californian fishermen who came out for trial fishing by arrangement with the South Australian Government. The paper reports them as saying:

"If your fishermen can regularly find schools of tuna like the best ones we have worked on the past three weeks, the prospects of establishing a worthwhile industry here are very good.

"To make it a stable proposition, however, you would probably need a fleet of at least a dozen boats with a crew of six or seven, and each capable of holding up to 40 tons of tuna. These boats would have to average about two tons of fish a day in your December-July season. They could go to other states when the local season ends."

The Port Lincoln cannery is paying 6d. (5.6 U.S. cents) a pound for the raw tuna, the Fisheries Newsletter (April 1956) of the Australian Commonwealth Director of Fisheries reports.



## Brazil

NEW MARINE LABORATORY ESTABLISHED: A new marine biological laboratory, the Laboratorio de Biologia Marinha de Sao Sebastiao, was inaugurated in September 1955 at Segredo Beach, nearly 4 miles south of Sao Sebastiao, State of Sao Paulo, Brazil. It is operated by a foundation (Fundacao de Biologia Marinha), of which the University of Sao Paulo and its Departamento de Fisiologia Geral e Animal are founding members. It was built partially from grants made available by the University of Sao Paulo, the National Research Council of Brazil, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

The laboratory is intended to be a place where Brazilians and foreigners who are interested in marine biology can find adequate means of research. Training courses for graduate students in biological sciences will be a part of future laboratory activities.



## Cambodia

CANNED FISH IMPORTS PROHIBITED: The importation of certain food products into Cambodia is now prohibited by a decree of the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs dated April 26 and published May 9. Included among the prohibited products are canned fish and meats, and similar products such as birds' nests and abalone and sharks' fins, reports a May 10 dispatch from the United States Embassy at Phnom Penh.



## Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA REPORTS RECORD HERRING CATCH FOR 1955/56 SEASON: The greatest herring season in British Columbia's history ended with a total catch of 253,396 metric tons. From mid-November until fishing closed on March 8, a fleet of 90 seiners and many auxiliary vessels scouted and fished in coastal waters from Prince Rupert to the southern boundary, the April 1956 Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries points out.

Top producing area was the Queen Charlotte Islands, where a fleet of 60 seiners and numerous packing vessels endured several weeks of rough seas and freezing temperatures to harvest a catch of 92,637 tons in waters not restricted by catch quotas. The bulk of this was taken in the vicinity of Huxley Island, near the southern tip of the Queen Charlottes, where only minor quantities previously had been caught. Fish were first located here on February 6 and steady supplies continued to arrive on the grounds from adjacent Hecate Straits until fishing stopped and catches were limited only by the packing capacity of the fleet. Subsequent surveys indicate that large schools continued in evidence at this point after the season closed. The catch consisted preponderantly of large mature fish of good quality. The total Queen Charlotte Islands catch was more than three times the quantity of any previous catch from this area and was substantially greater than the yield of any other British Columbia herring fishing area at any time.

A total of 50,084 tons was taken from the Central Area of northern mainland coastal waters. The original 40,000-ton quota in this area was extended by 10,000 tons following the appearance of a volume of large size herring just before the fishermen's Christmas recess.

In the Northern Area, the catch was 11,000 tons out of a quota of 30,000 tons. A lower take than usual was not unexpected this season, and fishing effort was also less than normal due to the heavy fishery in other areas.

Earlier in the season herring fishermen, making a delayed start, quickly harvested the original 40,000 tons quota from large supplies available in the lower east coast of Vancouver Island Area, and the quota was extended by 10,000 tons. The total take from this area amounted to 48,978 tons.

Due to the large volume of herring present in the Middle East Coast Area, two extensions of 10,000 tons each were granted over the original 10,000-ton quota and the full 30,000 tons were taken from the plentiful supplies present.

The total catch from the west coast of Vancouver Island was just short of 20,000 tons; the bulk of this was taken in Barkley Sound.

According to the seasonal bulletin issued by the Department of Fisheries, the big catch resulted in a total yield of 47,000 tons of herring meal and 4.4 million gallons of herring oil, besides other herring products.

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PLANT STANDARDS AND INSPECTION PROGRAM INAUGURATED: Uniform minimum standards for plants producing fish and shellfish products have been set by the Department of Fisheries of Canada and a voluntary program of plant inspection is being instituted in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, effective May 1, points out the April 1956 Trade News of that Department.

The minimum standards for plant construction, equipment, and sanitation were reviewed by members of the Maritime fishing industry during meetings with Departmental officials in Halifax, N. S., and Moncton, N. B., in March. Agreement was reached during these meetings to enable the introduction of the minimum standards on a voluntary basis.

The minimum standards were drawn up by the technical branch of the Department's Inspection and Consumer Service following intensive research and investigation. In 1954, in cooperation with the fishing industry, the Department completed a coast-to-coast survey of more than 500 fresh, frozen, salt, and pickled fish plants which handled fish for interprovincial and international trade. The data collected during this survey was used as a basis in establishing the minimum plant standards.

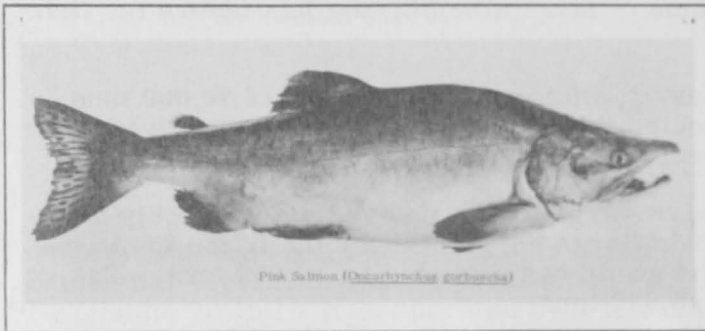


A Federal-provincial meeting was held in Ottawa shortly following the survey, and the views of the ten provinces were expressed. General agreement was reached at that time on cooperative measures to bring about more effective inspection not only of fish products, but also of fish plants and procedures.

The setting of the minimum standards of construction, equipment, and sanitation of fish and shellfish plants is a further step in the advancement of the Department's over-all inspection program which is designed to maintain peak quality from the time the fish are caught until they reach the consumer.

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INTERNATIONAL PINK SALMON MANAGEMENT REQUESTED: At its annual meeting in Ottawa April 9-11, 1956, the Fisheries Council of Canada (National Organization of Fish Producers and Wholesalers) adopted a resolution asking the Canadian Government to discuss with the United States the problem of the pink salmon



Pink Salmon (*Oncorhynchus gorbuscha*)

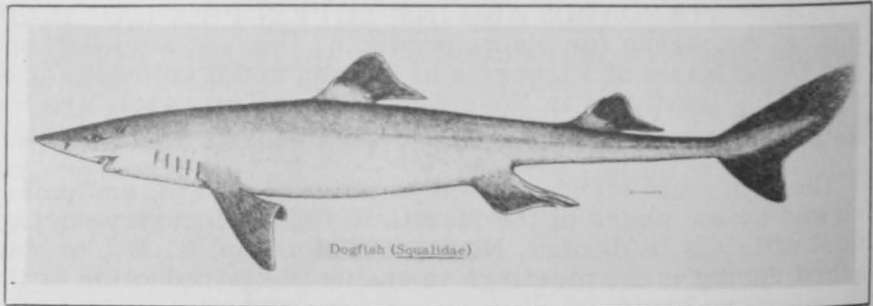
fishery of the Straits of Juan de Fuca, Puget Sound, and the Fraser River with the view in mind of "bringing under joint international management . . . the valuable fishery of the area concerned."

In his speech before the annual meeting of the Fisheries Council, Canadian Minister of Fisheries James Sinclair predicted that an international agreement with

the United States concerning the pink salmon runs of the Fraser River would be negotiated in the near future. He noted that Canada's west coast fishermen have been trying to get an agreement on pink salmon similar to the International Pacific Sockeye Salmon Convention which has been so successful in rebuilding the sockeye runs of the Fraser, a May 15 dispatch from the United States Embassy at Ottawa points out.

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DOGFISH BOUNTY ESTABLISHED: The establishment by the Canadian Federal Department of Fisheries of bounty payments on dogfish caught by British Columbia fishermen, recently announced, will benefit both Canadian and United States fishery interests. The bounty is a direct conservation measure and its purpose is to protect a valuable food fish by the removal of a predator, the April 1956 Canadian Trade News reports.



Dogfish (*Squalidae*)

The Department offers to pay fishermen C\$10 a ton for whole dogfish, up to 30,000 tons in the current fiscal year, delivered to any British Columbia reduction plant which is willing to convert the dogfish to fish meal. Requests for the bounty were made by the fishing industry, the fishermen's unions, and the sport fishing clubs of British Columbia. It will be of immediate benefit to the British Columbia and United States fishermen who share in the catches of food fish built up by joint conservation under the conventions between Canada and the United States for the Fraser River sockeye salmon and the Pacific halibut fisheries.

The dogfish, a small member of the shark family, has no value in Canada as a food fish, but during the last war it was fished extensively for its liver, which yields a high-potency vitamin oil. The development of cheaper synthetic vitamins since the war largely ended this industry. As a consequence the number of dogfish in coastal waters has increased enormously. They devour large quantities of valuable fish, do great damage to fishermen's gear, particularly salmon nets, and nullify the work done by the Department of Fisheries in conserving and rehabilitating the West Coast fisheries.

Dogfish can be reduced into fish meal for use in livestock and poultry feeds, but this has not been economical because of cost. It is hoped that the experience which will be gained by the reduction plants on bounty-caught fish will enable them to make dogfish reduction an economical operation in the future. With the cooperation of the fishing industry and the fishermen, it is expected that the program will markedly reduce the number of these predators.

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WHALING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA: Whaling operations off the west coast of Vancouver Island, B. C., during the 1955 season produced 630 whales from the six killer ships operated by the one company engaged in this industry. The catch was equally as good as that of the previous season when the same number was taken, which marked the largest catch for a great many years. In 1953 the total catch was 539 whales, the Trade News of April 1956 reports.

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SALT SUBSIDY FOR ATLANTIC COAST SALT-FISH PRODUCERS: The Canadian Federal Government proposes to extend into 1956 the salt-assistance program which was available to Atlantic Coast producers of salted fish in 1955, the Minister of Fisheries announced recently. Under the plan the Government rebates to fishermen and plants producing salted-fish products 50 percent of the cost of their salt, provided the products are not marketed in the United States. Exclusion of the benefit with regard to products marketed in the United States is to avoid any suggestion of subsidization of exports to that market, the Minister said.

Again the assistance will be paid only on salt used to produce salted fish for sale. Salt used for preserving fish for bait will not be included.

Payments will be made to fishermen and plants operating in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec. Under the 1955 program between C\$400,000 and C\$500,000 has been or will be distributed to these producers.

The Minister made it clear that the program is being continued only on a year to year basis, the April 1956 Trade News announced.

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BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FISHERMEN'S SHORT UNIVERSITY COURSE: For the second year in succession a short course for fishermen has been held at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. A class of 35 professional fishermen, selected from localities along the coast, began the course March 12 and finished March 23.

Fishermen were drawn from seining, gill-netting, trolling, and trawling branches of the fishery.

In the brief but intensive course a wide range of subjects relating to practical fishing was covered. Fishermen were given an opportunity to look briefly into the fields on fisheries biology, technology, and oceanography. Electronics, marine insurance, and the work of credit unions shared time with navigation and the care of engines. The work of international fishery commissions, fisheries economics, first aid, and boat designs were other subjects on the syllabus, states the April 1956 Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries.

Instructors were recruited from the University faculty, the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, the Federal Department of Fisheries, international fishery commissions, and business and industrial organizations.

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ANTIBIOTICS TESTED ON WHALE CARCASSES: Attempts are being made by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada's Pacific Fisheries Experimental Station in Vancouver to find means of retarding the marked bacterial spoilage which occurs readily in whales between time of harpooning and processing into meal, oil, and other products. In view of the success which has attended experimental use of chlortetracycline in fish preservation, tests are being made with this antibiotic as applied to whale carcasses.

In an initial trial conducted at the Coal Harbour, B. C., whaling station about two ounces of the antibiotic in 10 gallons of solution were injected into the peritoneal cavity of a sperm whale by entraining it in the compressed air used to inflate the animal. In about two days the carcass of the treated whale was still in fairly good condition, while the visceral cavity and meat of an untreated animal of similar post-mortem age were markedly spoiled. Further tests are anticipated, according to the February 1956 Trade News of the Canadian Department of Fisheries.



### Ceylon

TRAWLER FISHING NOT TO BE EXPANDED: A decision against further development of trawler fishing has been announced by the Minister of Industries and Fisheries, according to the Ceylon Daily News of May 11. The Fisheries Department is operating two trawlers given by Canada and manned by Canadian officers under Colombo Plan capital aid and technical assistance.

Canada has also given considerable financing under the Colombo Plan to the development of a fishing section in Colombo Harbor. It is reported that the cold-storage plant, which is the most important installation in the harbor, will rent at low rates its surplus storage space (now that no more trawlers are to be manned) to all sections of the fish trade and, possibly, to the meat and vegetable trade, a May 17 dispatch from the United States Embassy at Colombo points out.



### El Salvador

STATUS OF FISHERIES EXPANSION PLANS: The appointment of Dr. Mario Hector Salazar as the new Minister of Economy foretells increased activity on the part of the Salvadoran Government toward the development of the fishing industry. For the past four years, as Minister of Labor, Dr. Salazar has worked hard in the development of a fishing cooperative and now with authority over all marine fisheries it is expected he will encourage the advancement of the industry. The new

Minister not only has a keen interest in fishing, but indicates that a concrete program for its development would be initiated as soon as possible.

In general, El Salvador has no distribution and marketing facilities, and all phases of fish care and handling need tremendous improvement, reports the United States Operations Mission in an April 13 report.

Nine applications for permission to fish have been received by the government and five provisional fishing permits have been issued. It is estimated that the boats now fishing bring in approximately 200,000 pounds of fish a month and some 20,000 pounds of shrimp. This represents an annual production of 2.4 million pounds of fish and 240,000 pounds of shrimp. The total catch of fish by all methods is roughly estimated at 3.3 million pounds a year, a considerable increase over the old catch of approximately 1.0 million pounds.



## France

**FIRST DIESEL-ELECTRIC POWERED FISHING TRAWLER:** While Great Britain has produced in the Sir William Hardy the first experimental and research fishing trawler powered by Diesel-electric equipment, the French will have in operation shortly the first practical workaday trawler so powered, reports The Fishing News (April 27, 1956), a British fishery periodical.

The French vessel, the Cap Fagnet III, now under construction at Ateliers et Chantiers de la Seine Maritime, has an over-all length of 245 feet, a moulded breadth of 37 feet 9 inches, a depth of 19 feet 8 inches, and a maximum draught aft of 19 feet 4 inches. The vessel will operate on the Grande Sole off Newfoundland and will be one of the world's largest fishing vessels.

This ship has already aroused considerable attention because of the bold effort to obtain maximum flexibility, high speed to and from the fishing grounds, and satisfactory power output when trawling.

A deep-sea trawler of the 223-foot class and upwards requires a propulsion power in the region of 1,200 shaft horsepower to obtain a passage speed of about 11 knots, and the power required for trawling at 3-4 knots is of the order of 1,000 shaft horsepower. To achieve a comparatively small increase in passage speed, about twice the horsepower is needed and with conventional machinery this would result in the engines running at very much reduced output when trawling.

The owners of the Cap Fagnet III have overcome these difficulties by specifying Diesel-electric propulsion. This will give the vessel an increased power of 2,000 b.hp., effect a passage speed of between 12 and 14 knots, and avoid the harmful consequences of running the engines at half power for long periods when trawling.

Diesel power is provided by three engines. They are pressure-charged inter-cooled units, each developing 750 b. hp. at 750 r.p.m., and each driving two self-ventilating and constant-speed generators. The generators are mounted in tandem; one is the propulsion generator, and the other an auxiliary generator used for supplying either the trawl winch motor or auxiliaries.

The propulsion generators each have a continuous output of 510 kw. at 750 r.p.m., and the auxiliary generators each have a maximum output of 195 kw. (one-hour rating) and a continuous rating of 150 kw.



The three propulsion generators are coupled up in series, for feeding--also in series, the two propulsion motors. These motors, each rated at 950 hp. at 850 r.p.m. drive the propeller through a reduction gear which allows a higher motor speed with-in a reduced weight and size.

The generators can be coupled to the motors in the following combinations: Full power for passage--3 generators on 2 motors; trawling--2 generators on 2 motors; slow speed and hove to--1 generator on 2 motors.

The flexibility thus obtained is supplemented by simplified maintenance at sea. Of the 100 to 120 days duration of the average fishing trip, only 16 of these will be spent in passage. During the remainder of the time spent on the fishing grounds one of the engines can be shut down. With no separate auxiliary generator sets to be maintained, there is an obvious advantage in the reduction in the number of spares to be carried. Any one of the propulsion sets is capable of propelling the vessel and the risk of total immobilization is thus reduced to a minimum.

The ventilation of the generators and motors has been closely studied. To insure effective protection of the winding of the electrical machines (against the moist salty atmosphere and oil vapors in the engineroom), closed-circuit ventilation has been adopted, in spite of its complexity.

The controls for the propulsion generators and motors are fitted on the bridge and all maneuvering of the vessel is carried out from a control desk in the wheel-house. An automatic governor insures that the Diesel engines run at constant speed whatever the load.

To round out the story of Diesel-electric usage for trawlers, a British shipyard now is also building a vessel which will be so equipped.



## German Federal Republic

RICH FISHING GROUND FOUND EAST OF GREENLAND: A German trawler which fished west of Iceland in March 1956 found another rich fishing ground only 80 nautical miles west of the Dohrn Bank in the same latitude as Angmagsalik on the east coast of Greenland, according to Dansk Fiskeritidende (April 6), a Danish fishery periodical. Dohrn Bank was found by the West German ocean research vessel Anton Dohrn last summer. The new bank is so rich in both cod and ocean perch that trawlers fill their holds in a short period.

More and more of the West German trawlers are fishing off Greenland. The trips take a few days longer than to waters off the Norwegian coast but the new grounds offer better possibilities in regard to the quality and quantity of the catch. A Bremen trawler, Herman Ahlers, returned from a 23-day trip with 5,065 boxes of edible fish or more than one-half million pounds of fish, mainly large ocean perch and cod.



Mending net on deep-sea trawler.



## Greece

FREEZER-CATCHER BOAT COMPLETED FOR FISHING OFF NORTH AFRICAN COAST: The second Greek fishing vessel, the Evangelistria (converted from the Grassholm) left Italy early in 1956 for the fishing grounds located in the Atlantic Ocean off the Mauretanean coast. The converted vessel has a gross tonnage of 484 and is propelled by a British-made 650-hp. engine. Other equipment includes up-to-date quick freezers and a cold-storage capacity of 220 metric tons. The vessel is owned by the same Greek firm that has been fishing Atlantic waters with the Evridiki. The speed of the new addition to Greece's deep-sea fishing fleet is reported to be 11 knots, according to the February 1956 Aleia.

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FREEZER-CATCHER BOAT COMPLETES FIRST TRIP: The Evangelistria returned to her Greek home port on April 15 with a cargo of 210 metric tons of fish. The new trawler fished for 32 days off the Mauretanean coast of North Africa (Aleia, April-May 1956).

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FROZEN FISH TRIP ARRIVES FROM ATLANTIC OCEAN: The large freezer-equipped fishing vessel Evridiki arrived at Piraeus early in 1956 with 110 metric tons of frozen fish. The vessel fished off the Mauretanean coast of North Africa, according to the February 1956 Aleia, a monthly Greek fisheries review.



## Haiti

COASTAL FISHERIES TO BE EXPANDED: The Haitian Department of Agriculture has formed a Fishery Office for the purpose of exploiting the coastal waters of Haiti. The Department of National Economy is cooperating, and has leased one small boat, the Santonia, which is owned by a Cuban company. The Government is not expected to buy any large amount of equipment until exhaustive tests with leased vessels have been made.

First operations were encouraging. In four hours of fishing in the Windward Passage off Môle St. Nicolas, 2,400 pounds of tuna and bonito were taken. A 90-minute test off the Caymite Islands in the Gulf of La Gonave produced 1,300 pounds of the same types. Fish ranged from 10 to 20 pounds each. Thazar (wahoo) and Chrysophrys (dolphin) were also taken in this area.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations has had a fishery expert in Haiti for about one year. He is assisting in the present operation, points out a United States Embassy dispatch (April 13) from Port-au-Prince.



## Iceland

GROUND FISH CATCH LOWER JANUARY-MARCH 1956: The groundfish catch for the first three months of 1956 was down about 12 percent (15,100 metric tons) from the 119,900 tons caught in January-March 1955. The decline was due to a late start in January and a smaller catch in February 1956. The catch in March 1956 was close to the high level of March 1955, but represented a smaller catch

Production of Groundfish Fillets, 1953-55			
Product	1955	1954	1953
	... (1,000 Lbs.) ...		
Blocks, frozen (for fish sticks):			
Cod .....	7,931	26,774	-
Haddock .....	3,356	1,071	-
Ocean perch .....	56	15	-
Other (wolffish) .....	46	57	-
Total blocks .....	11,389	27,917	-
Fillets, frozen (for sale as fillets):			
Cod .....	52,977	40,858	43,417
Haddock .....	3,993	5,160	3,944
Ocean perch .....	44,378	29,456	16,901
Flounder .....	126	115	342
Other .....	3,447	2,670	3,229
Total fillets .....	104,921	78,259	67,833
Grand total .....	116,310	106,176	67,833
Estimate of unreported production .....	-	5,309	2,713
Total production of fillets and blocks .....	116,310	111,483	70,546

per boat since the fleet was larger in 1956. The peak catches of groundfish usually occur in April, according to a May 3 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Reykjavik.

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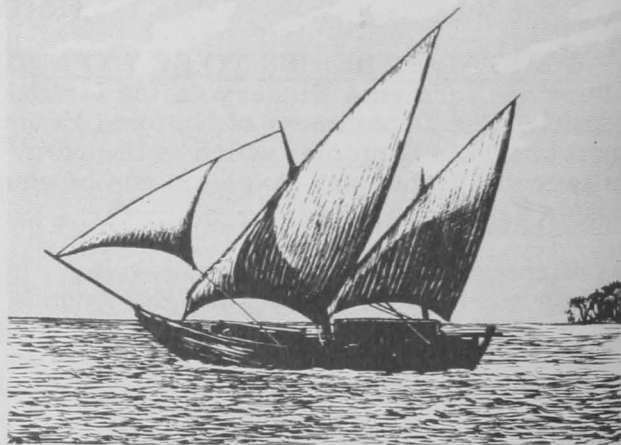
**GROUND FISH FILLET PRODUCTION, 1953-55:** Iceland's production of groundfish fillets (including fillet blocks for use in manufacturing fish sticks) has shown a steady increase from 1953 through 1955. The production of fillet blocks declined 59 percent from 1954 to 1955, but this drop was more than offset by an increase in the production of fillets for sale to consumers as fillets.



## India

**GOOD POTENTIAL MARKET FOR BOATS AND ENGINES:** The potential market in India for small fishing boats, small marine engines, nylon nets, and other fishing gear has come a step nearer realization through the recent work of experts of the U. N. Food and Agriculture Organization.

Four factors point the way: (1) an FAO master fisherman has demonstrated to Indian fishermen that with nylon bottom gill nets they can increase catches by 500 percent and earnings by 300 percent; (2) the same master fisherman had discovered a vast shrimp trawling area extending at least 140 miles down the Malabar coast, from Mangalore south to Beypore; (3) he has also found evidence of substantial stocks of sardines, mackerel, catfish, sharks, and soles on the east coast of India; and (4) the Madras State Government has drawn up a Five-Year Plan for the development of fisheries, including the provision of mechanized boats. The first twenty 30-foot boats, designed by FAO naval architects, are nearing completion.



Fishing boat of India.

The shrimp resource is a veritable gold mine, according to the FAO master fisherman. It is about 4 miles wide and anywhere along its 140 miles length you can catch 100 pounds of shrimp an hour. The FAO 22-foot boat loaned to five fishermen trained by the FAO master fisherman caught 11,306 pounds of shrimp and fish from March 21 to April 18. Another bigger boat, a 35-footer, fishing during the same period with a crew trained by the same master fisherman, caught 20,111 pounds.

"These catches are ten times bigger than anything the local fishermen have ever caught before and their earnings, consequently, have greatly increased," continued the FAO master fisherman. "Naturally, they are tremendously keen to work the new fishery but they need mechanized boats, shrimp trawls, winches and wire warps. The men who finance the fishermen have the money to buy equipment so a great opportunity exists for enterprising manufacturers."

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**BULL-TRAWLING OPERATIONS SUCCESSFUL:** Bull-trawling by the two fishing vessels Ashok and Pratap of the Pilot Deep Sea Fishing Station, Bombay, has indicated its immense potentialities off the northwest coast of India. These vessels were formerly using otter-trawl nets but were altered for bull-trawling at the end of 1953.

During the 1953/54 season, an average catch of nearly 1,350 pounds of fish per hour was obtained during an experimental operation (about 2.5 times more than by otter trawling). The quantity and percentage of commercially-valuable fish caught by bull-trawling also compared very favorably with that caught by otter trawling.

In February 1955 a record catch of 12 metric tons of fish was obtained in a single haul of 1½ hours duration off Dwarka, just outside the Gulf of Kutch. The total catch of this voyage was 54 tons, and the average catch per hour of fishing about 2,058 pounds. This is stated to be the highest over-all average obtained so far for trawling in Indian waters, reports the Current Affairs Bulletin (April 1956) of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council



### Indonesia

**LONG-LINE TUNA FISHING MAKES GOOD START:** Indonesia's first Diesel long-line tuna vessel completed six training voyages during the Djakarta area fishing season. The 100-ton 89-foot Bima is the first of four vessels which will form the nucleus of Indonesia's new long-line industry.

Long-Line fishing has been successfully used for years by the Japanese in the waters surrounding Indonesia. With Bima and her sister ships, Indonesia can for the first time exploit these waters which are one of the world's richest sources for deep-sea fishes and potentially the largest new source of protein available in Indonesia.

The tuna long-line fishing program is being carried out by the Indonesian Sea Fisheries Service with assistance from the U. S. International Cooperation Administration (ICA). The Sea Fisheries Service has provided the Rp. 800,000 vessel (US\$70,000). ICA has provided an adviser and around US\$9,000 of fishing equipment.

During Bima's six voyages south of the Sunda Strait, the ICA long-line technician and a man from the Sea Fisheries Institute instructed the 17-man crew in long-line fishing. Incidental to learning, the crew caught 15,000 pounds of tuna and shark which were sold at Pasar Ikan for Rp. 26,485 (US\$2,300).

Developments of the long-line industry are expected to contribute substantially to the Sea Fisheries goal of doubling its present yearly catch, points out the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council in its Current Affairs Bulletin of April 1956.

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SHRIMP FISHERY BEING DEVELOPED: A U. S. International Cooperation Administration trawl fishery expert, who has been assigned to the Indonesian Government for two years, is actively engaged in the development of the Indonesian shrimp fisheries. A native of Florida with much experience in shrimp fishing and in construction and maintenance of this type of vessel, he has begun his work with shrimp-trawl experiments in the fishing area off South East Kalimantan (Borneo).



## Israel

CAMPAIGN TO EAT MORE SEA FISH PROMOTED BY PRESS TOUR: The Israel Government's program to boost the consumption of sea-caught fish was given new impetus during March by an organized press tour of representatives of the entire Israel press, arranged jointly by the U. S. Information Service and the U. S. Overseas Mission (USOM).

Israel Government plans to reduce the expenditure of foreign currency on imported protein foods place great emphasis on a considerably increased fishing industry and the introduction of sea fish as an important part of Israel's diet of animal-protein foods.

The newsmen were taken for an overnight trip on a trawler belonging to the Israel fishing fleet to the new fishing grounds recently discovered with the help of the USOM Sea Fisheries Specialist, who was on board. Top officials of the Sea Fisheries Department of the Government also took part in the trip, and apart from "Moonlight and Oysters," the newsmen had an opportunity to learn a great deal about what was being done to supply the protein-hungry population with an ever increasing supply of sea fish.

The trip paid good dividends from every point of view with excellent press coverage driving home the availability of good supplies of tasty fish. The help given to this young industry through U. S. Technical Assistance was also acknowledged.



## Japan

NORTH PACIFIC SALMON INVESTIGATION PROGRAM: The Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed the Embassy of the United States in Japan that Japanese research vessels will engage in the salmon and trout investigation program in the North Pacific area this summer in accordance with the decision reached by the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

The vessels that will be conducting the investigation from May 15 to August 20 are: Etsuzan Maru (152 tons), Takuyo Maru (172 tons), and the Eike Maru (111 tons).

The Etsuzan Maru will operate in the North Pacific area within 40°-49° N. latitude and 165°-180° W. longitude. The Takuyo Maru will operate within 40°-49° N. latitude and 160°-175° E. longitude; and the Eike Maru will operate in the Bering Sea within 54°-62° N. latitude and west of 175° W. longitude.

The specialists aboard the vessels will collect operation records, and carry out oceanographic and biological investigations. (U. S. Embassy, Tokyo, May 2.)

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**PACIFIC SALMON FISHERY OFF TO A GOOD START:** As of May 20, 1956 the catch of salmon by the Japanese salmon fleet fishing east of 170 degrees east longitude and between 48-55 degrees north latitude amounted to 3,100,000 salmon, according to a dispatch, dated May 25, from the United States Embassy in Tokyo. Salmon fishing in this area began on May 3 and the catch is reported to be about 35 percent greater than the catch for a comparable period in 1955.

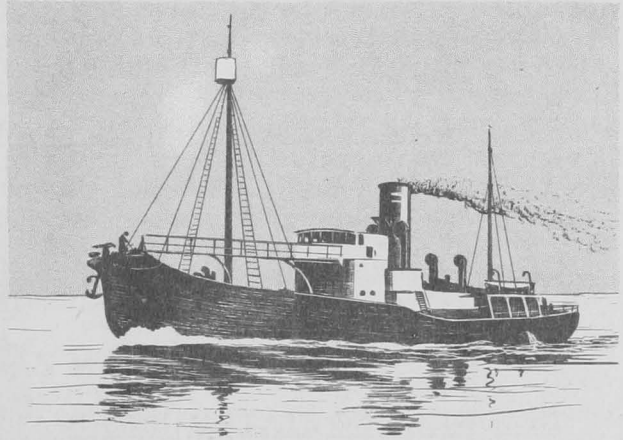
The relatively large early catch does not necessarily mean a large seasonal catch in this area as warm currents have raised the water temperatures further northward than is normal. The fishing industry is of the opinion that the increase in temperatures will cause the salmon to migrate inshore towards their spawning streams earlier than usual. Because of this factor, some observers predict a salmon catch in the unrestricted area of 15-20 million fish.

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**JAPAN-RED CHINA FISHERIES COUNCIL HOLDS CONFERENCE:** The annual conference to negotiate extension of the unofficial fisheries agreement between the private fishing industries of Japan and Red China was held in Peiping on April 27, 1956. The talks were expected to last about one month, according to an April 13 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Tokyo. The agreement last year was signed by private fishing interests from each country and the delegates to this conference represent private fishing companies, fishermen, and fishermen's unions.

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**ONASSIS WHALING FLEET PURCHASED:** Details relating to the purchase of the Panamanian-registered Aristotle Onassis whaling fleet consisting of one factoryship and 15 catcher boats have been completed, according to a May 18, 1956 dispatch from the United States Embassy in London. The Japanese firm, Kyokuyo Hogeiki KK., announced that formal possession of the fleet will take place at Rotterdam. Earlier reports of the purchase indicated that the purchase price for the factoryship Olympic Challenger was close to US\$4 million and that for the 15 catcher boats about US\$3.5 million.



Japanese whale catcher.



Mexico

**"RED TIDE" REPORTED OFF WEST COAST:** The coastal waters located off Mexico's west coast port of Manzanillo has suffered from an invasion of "Red Tide," according to newspaper reports transmitted on May 8 by the United States Embassy in Mexico City.

The "Red Tide," which is a popular name given to the sudden appearance of enormous numbers of a one-cell marine organism of the dinoflagellate group, has been reported in various parts of the world. Indications are that the invasion reported off Manzanillo has similar characteristics to previously-reported invasions of this marine organism.

Tremendous quantities of dead fish have been washed up on the beaches. Port authorities at Manzanillo have assigned squads of workmen to the task of cleaning up the beaches. This is the first time that an invasion of this type has been reported from this area.

The "Red Tide" was reported to have extended over a wide area and is believed to have originated around the Island of Islas Marias.

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MERIDA FISHERIES TRENDS, JANUARY-MARCH 1956: The Mexican area of Merida, which includes the ports of Campeche and Ciudad del Carmen, exported close to 3.1 million pounds of shrimp to the United States during January-March 1956. Other exports to the United States included 94,800 pounds of frozen fish, 3,065 pounds of shark fins, and 12,300 pounds of shark skins, states a May 3 dispatch from the United States Consul in Merida.

Due to a prosperous year in 1955, there has been a considerable expansion in shrimp vessel construction in the cities of Campeche and Ciudad del Carmen. It is estimated that about 50 percent of the new construction will contribute favorably to the shrimp fishery but the balance is believed to be an overextension of the future economic prospects of the Mexican shrimp industry.

Average prices for shrimp delivered to Brownsville, Texas, in U. S. cents a pound for the January-March period for frozen 15-20 count headless were: January, 80; February, 78; and March, 75. Due to the high price level there was considerable resistance on the part of United States buyers.

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FISHING FEES FOR FOREIGNERS INCREASED: Increased fees and taxes for foreigners commercial or sport fishing in Mexican waters became effective on May 16 in accordance with new decrees published in the May 15 Diario Oficial, reports the United States Embassy at Mexico City in a May 16 dispatch.



## New Zealand

NEW WHALING STATION ESTABLISHED: A new company has been incorporated in New Zealand for the purpose of operating a whaling station on Great Barrier Island in the northernmost part of the country, states an April 23 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Wellington.

The new Great Barrier Island station is expected to operate during the 1956 whaling season. The cost of building the station is £55,000 (US\$154,000). Almost all production of oil will be exported with earnings in foreign exchange of about £140,000 (US\$431,000) expected annually. Exports will be chiefly to the United Kingdom and to Europe. The new station will also produce meat byproducts such as meat meal and meat for pet food.

The only other whaling station operating in New Zealand is in the Tory Channel at Te Awaiti on Cook Strait. That station has an average catch of about 115 whales annually.



## Norway

CANNED FISH TRENDS, FIRST QUARTER 1956: During the first quarter of 1956 a total of 7,000 metric tons of Norwegian canned fish valued at 30 million kroner (US\$4.2 million) were exported, compared to 8,300 tons valued at 35.6 million kroner (US\$5.0 million) in the first quarter of 1955. The canning industry blames the decrease primarily on last year's poor brisling catch. Canning of herring and kippers during the first quarter of this year was also below the first quarter 1955 pack, according to the American Embassy at Oslo (May 11, 1956).

Government regulations on the canning industry were eased last February to permit more factories to pack herring and others to expand their production. This liberalization has not yet had any appreciable result, however. Few producers are willing to start packing brisling and small herring because the poor catches make brisling supplies doubtful.

Packing of herring and kippers is expected to be somewhat larger this year than last, but the increase will not be enough to offset losses due to the short supply of brisling.

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AUTOMATIC FEEDING AND SORTING MACHINE FOR HERRING DEVELOPED: A machine which will sort and feed herring automatically to other machines which head, eviscerate, or fillet the herring has been constructed by Peter J. F. Christie, an engineer in Bergen, Norway, according to Fiskaren (May 8), a Norwegian fishery periodical. The new machine will end the need for sorting and then feeding herring singly, by hand, with the head and belly properly directed, to the machines which process them further. The machine takes the herring directly from the shortage bin, sorts out the small herring, and then delivers two or three herring a second with the heads and bellies pointed in the directions desired. Headed herring can be handled equally well.

The machine weighs about 220 pounds, is the size of a whole herring barrel, and will cost less than US\$700 (5,000 kroner). Tests of its ability to operate also on shipboard will be made this summer on some of the Norwegian vessels which operate on the high seas herring fishery off Iceland.



## Panama

RED SHRIMP IDENTIFIED AS "PENAEUS BREVIROSTRIS": The "red" or "pink" shrimp which were plentiful in the Gulf of Panama for about three weeks in March 1956 are reported to be Penaeus brevirostris, as distinguished from the more common form, P. occidentalis.

Although the "red" shrimp have been of a good size (21-25 a pound heads off), they are smaller than the P. occidentalis which commonly run to 15 and under (headless) to the pound.

Based upon preliminary information, the Cooperativa Pesquera, S. A., handled 350,000 pounds of the "red" shrimp and the total catch of this species during the short three-week season may exceed 500,000 pounds. The catch would have been higher except for the four-day Easter holiday which occurred in the middle of the run, states a May 24 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Panama.

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, July 1956, p. 74.





## Peru

BASE PRICES FOR WHALE MEAL AND SWORDFISH EXPORT DUTIES REVISED:

The base cost price of 1,261.50 soles (US\$66.39) a short ton of whale meal to be used temporarily for the assessment of export duties pursuant to a Supreme Resolution of February 7, 1955, was changed to 1,944.10 soles (US\$102.32) by a Peruvian Supreme Resolution of January 12, 1956, according to a notice which appeared in the weekly bulletin of the Lima Chamber of Commerce for February 1, 1956. According to the same source, the base cost price for frozen swordfish, also for purposes of export tax assessment, was fixed at 8,240 soles (US\$433.68) a short ton by the same Supreme Resolution. These prices were scheduled to remain in force until April 1956 when the local authorities were to revise them, states a March 7, 1956 dispatch from the United States Embassy in Lima.

Note: Conversion value: US\$1 equals 19 soles.



## Republic of the Philippines

CANNED JAPANESE ANCHOVIES CLASSIFIED AS SARDINES: The Philippine Bureau of Customs ruled on April 16, 1956, that all canned Japanese anchovies packed sardine style in tomato sauce, regardless of brand, are included in the classification of canned sardines and are exempt from the payment of the special import tax.



## Portugal

CANNED FISH PACK, JANUARY-OCTOBER 1955: The pack of canned sardines in oil or sauce for January-October 1955 amounted to 21,135 metric tons (net weight). The October 1955 pack was 2,921 tons, about 39 percent less than the 4,797 tons packed in September 1955.

Portuguese Canned Fish Pack, January-October 1955					
Product	Net Weight	Canner's Value	Product	Net Weight	Canner's Value
	Metric Tons	1,000 US\$		Metric Tons	1,000 US\$
Sardines in brine . . . . .	798	122	Tuna in brine . . . . .	69	33
Sardines in olive oil or sauce .	21,135	11,315	Tuna in olive oil . . . . .	854	721
Sardinelike fish in brine . . . .	2,095	616	Tunalike fish in olive oil .	102	65
Sardinelike fish in oil . . . . .	2,709	1,478	Other species (including shellfish) . . . . .	576	300
Anchovies, rolled & fillets . . .	1,285	1,380			
(Continued in next column)			Total . . . . .	29,623	16,030

Note: Values converted to US\$ equivalent on the basis of 28.75 escudos equal US\$1.

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CANNED FISH EXPORTS, JANUARY-DECEMBER 1955: Portuguese canned fish exports totaled 6,478 metric tons (340,900 cases), valued at US\$3.3 million, during December 1955; and 63,701 tons, valued at US\$32.4 million, during January-December 1955.

Portugal's exports of canned fish in December 1955 declined less than 1 percent when compared with the previous month, according to Conservas de Peixe, March 1956. During January-December 1955 Germany was the leading receiver with US\$6.1 million of canned fish (about all sardines in oil), followed by Great Britain with US\$4.8 million (principally sardines), Italy with US\$4.7 (principally

sardines and tuna), and the United States with US\$4.0 million (principally 3,306 tons of sardines in oil or sauce, 43 tons of tuna and tunalike fish in oil, and 2,019 tons of anchovies). Exports of canned fish to these 4 countries (during the Jan.-Dec. period) amounted to 60.5 percent of the total exports.

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#### FISHERY TRENDS, DECEMBER

1955: Sardine Fishing: The catch of the Portuguese sardine fleet declined in December 1955 to 5,911 metric tons, or about 20 percent less than the November 1955 catch. The December 1955 sardine catch was valued at about US\$1.0 million ex-vessel as compared with US\$1.2 million in November 1955.

The sardine canning industry absorbed 73 percent (4,303 tons) with most of the balance consumed fresh. The port of Matosinhos lead all others with a catch of 4,849 tons of sardines and contributed 3,815 tons (ex-vessel value US\$678,591) to the canning trade.

Other Fish: The landings of fish other than sardines totaled 3,970 tons, valued at US\$334,692 ex-vessel. The catch of fish other than sardines was 90 percent chinchards (3,560 tons), followed by tuna (357 tons), and 52 tons of mixed (mostly mackerel), the March 1956 Conservas de Peixe reports.

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FISHERY TRENDS, APRIL 1956: New Sardine Fishing Season: In the past, the fishing season in Northern Portugal was from May 1 to January 31 and in the southern part of the country from April 1 to December 31. A recent order of the Ministry of the Navy establishes a uniform fishing season for both parts of the country to begin on April 15 and end on January 15. However, fishing circles state that this advance in the date is of no advantage for Northern Portugal since fish of suitable quality and size for packing are normally available from June onwards only.

One of the reasons given by official circles for creating a uniform fishing season is that under the old system fishermen from the South came North for the first month of the southern season and fishermen from the North went South for the last month of the northern season. This complicated official licensing and controls, states a May 3 dispatch from the United States Consul at Oporto.

Fishermen's Work Contract: With the opening of the new season on April 15 fishermen began signing their contracts. As in last year's season, they signed the new type of contracts as well as the old type and have the option of receiving compensation according to the one they consider to be more profitable to them. Up to the present time only a few crews are fishing.

Canned Fish Exports to the United States: Delegates of the Portuguese agency Copnor-Conservas de Peixe, Lda., have been in the United States on an investigative and promotional tour to increase exports of Portuguese canned sardines to the United States.

Copnor decided that the sales agents in the United States of the individual member firms will in the future place their orders through Copnor, which will coordinate orders and production to the best interests of its members.

Species	Dec. 1955		Jan.-Dec. 1955	
	Metric Tons	1,000 US\$	Metric Tons	1,000 US\$
Sardines in olive oil . . . .	5,192	2,538	51,425	25,066
Sardinelike fish in olive oil . . . . .	466	405	4,860	3,518
Sardines & sardinelike fish in brine . . . . .	330	72	2,152	415
Tuna & tunalike in olive oil . . . . .	170	129	2,251	1,667
Tuna & tunalike in brine . . . . .	60	33	773	393
Mackerel in olive oil . . .	214	134	1,644	994
Other fish . . . . .	46	17	596	314
Total . . . . .	6,478	3,328	63,701	32,367

The canners, together with the Portuguese Government officials, are also studying the method of avoiding excessively high prices on fresh fish, in order not to lose foreign markets, which are now objecting to the high prices of Portuguese sardines and are consequently beginning to give preference to canned fish from other sources.

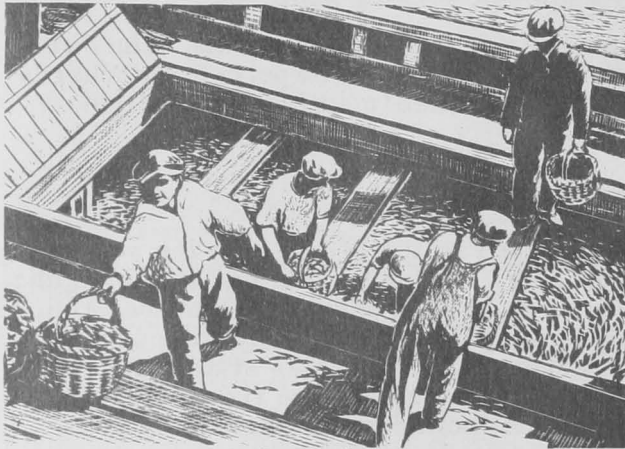


## Spain

**FISHERIES TRENDS, APRIL 1956:** In the Bilbao area, after a prolonged period of forced inactivity because of inclement weather and scarcity of fish, the coastal fishermen from the Cantabrian littoral began working practically day and night to handle the large runs of anchovy which appeared in coastal waters the last days of March 1956 and through most of April. The catch has generally been of good canning quality, states a May 15 United States consular dispatch from Bilbao.

In the Vigo area, April 1956 was a poor month for the fishing industry due to the lowest catches in two years. Landings of the cheaper varieties such as castaneta and jurel were abundant at Vigo.

The Vigo fish canneries in April 1956 purchased 426,000 pounds of fresh fish, or about 6 percent of the total catches entered through the Vigo Fish Exchange. Although this was more than in March (263,000 pounds), it was far less than in April 1955 when the canneries took 2.1 million pounds of fresh fish.



Unloading Sardines

The scarcity of tin plate continued to hinder the normal operation of the fish canneries. Since the main fishing season commences in June, the tinplate situation may become critical unless the Government authorizes sufficient imports. It is reported that some of the canneries have already brought the matter to the attention of the appropriate Spanish authorities and that they have been assured that the Government will make every effort to solve this

problem. Olive oil is also in short supply but there are indications that the situation will not become serious.

The canneries are concerned over the recent increase in the price of gold pesetas (from 357.70 paper pesetas to 715.00 paper pesetas per 100 gold pesetas). It has been customary for the fish canneries to apply for the importation of a certain quantity of duty-free tin plate under the Temporary Admission Law, and they are allowed two years to export fish in the duty-free tin plate. Moreover, if the export quota has not been filled, a heavy fine is assessed in addition to the payment of customs duties on the imported tin plate. Since the gold peseta enters into customs duties, the new rate is considered an extra tax on the fish-canning industry and hurts the canneries with a small export trade. The entire industry is affected by the new price of the gold peseta, since some of the imported tin plate is used in canning fish for domestic markets, a May 14 United States consular dispatch from Vigo points out.



## Sweden

**FROZEN FISH DEMAND INCREASES:** Consumption of quick-frozen fish in Sweden should equal approximately 9,000 metric tons in 1956, which will mean that only about 20 percent of the Swedish demand can be covered by locally-frozen fish, according to a trade report which appeared in the Goteborg newspaper Ny Tid on May 9, 1956. The balance will be imported, chiefly from Norway. During the next five years it is expected by the trade that the domestic consumption of frozen fish will rise to 20,000-25,000 metric tons a year.

The present plant capacity in Sweden for the preparation and freezing of fish is reported to come close to handling the quantity of white fish that is available for freezing. Other types of fish which are well suited are whiting and haddock, but during a normal year there is not a very large surplus of these types available after the fresh fish demand is satisfied. Cod is also a variety that is well adapted for freezing but, according to the trade, offerings are adversely affected by the decline in Baltic cod fishing activity. On the other hand, Baltic herring, other herring, and mackerel are supplied to the freezing plants in good quantities, states a United States consular dispatch (May 11, 1956).



## Turkey

**INTERNATIONAL FISHERY EXHIBITION TO BE HELD SEPTEMBER 15-22, 1956:** An exhibition of fishing equipment is being organized by the Government of Turkey to coincide with the Fourth Meeting of the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)-sponsored General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, which will meet at Istanbul, Turkey, from September 17-22, 1956.

The exhibition of fishery equipment will take place from September 15-22, 1956. Exhibition space will be available, free of charge, and special arrangements will be made to enable firms to demonstrate echo-sounders. The Turkish Foreign Trade Department will authorize the duty-free temporary import of equipment for display at the exhibition. Sales of equipment by exhibitors may be made within the limits of trade agreements between Turkey and the country of origin concerned.



## Union of South Africa

**PRICE CONTROLS ON HAKE AND CANNED FISH REMOVED:** Price controls, in effect for several years, on hake and canned fish were removed on February 24, 1956, according to the March 1956 issue of The South African Shipping News and Fishing Industry Review, a South African trade publication.

Hake and canned fish, which are two of the most important products of the South African fishing industry, will now be able to find their own price on the South African market.



## United Kingdom

**SILVER COD TROPHY FOR 1955 AWARDED TO HULL TRAWLER:** The 1955 competition for the Silver Cod trophy, which is awarded by the British Trawlers' Federation to the distant-water vessel that catches and lands the most fish, was won by the 790-ton oil-fired Hull steam trawler Kirkella.

The record-breaking catch of 2,911 long tons (6.4 million pounds) landed by the Kirkella exceeded that made by the 1954 winner, the Arctic Warrior, by 249 tons.



The Kirkella catch was valued at US\$364,700, compared with a value of about US\$343,800 for the 1954 winner.

The Kirkella during the course of the year spent 339 days at sea, mostly on the Arctic fishing grounds, and landed 18 trips, an average of about 18.8 days a trip. The winner in 1954 made 16 trips in 330 days at sea and averaged 20.6 days a trip. The winners in both years carried crews of 20 men, according to The Fishing News of April 13, 1956, a British fisheries trade periodical. The average annual catch per man on the Kirkella was 145 tons (319,700 pounds).

The runner-up for the trophy in 1955 was the 794-ton Hull trawler Kingston Jacinth which landed 2,864 tons (6.3 million pounds), valued at US\$344,200.



The British silver cod trophy to be presented annually to the distant-water trawler with the largest total catch for the year.

The President of the British Trawlers' Federation, commenting on the award, said that the results of the 1955 competition were astonishing. He added that this was most gratifying as more and more fish were being landed by British trawlers.

The trophy, introduced in 1954 by the Federation as an incentive to boost catches, consists of a silver model of a leaping cod mounted on a mahogany stand with silver waves on which will be inscribed the names of the winning crew.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, February 1956, p. 53.

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DISTANT-WATER TRAWLERMEN DOUBLE LEVY FOR ADVERTISING: In order to capture an increasing share of the United Kingdom markets for food, British Distant Water trawlermen are increasing their fish sales promotion fund by doubling the voluntary and cooperative levy on all landings at Hull, Grimsby, and Fleetwood. It will now be about 14 U. S. cents (1s.) for every 130 pounds of fish landed.

The British Trawlers' Federation advertising campaign is being handled by professional advertising and public relations firms.

The head of the advertising firm stated that with British distant-water trawlers bringing in more and more fish and of greater variety, we intend to do everything we possibly can to stimulate consumer demand. We plan to use both the national and provincial press, national magazines, and television. We are also producing a color film and recipe books in color for housewives.

"This will be by far the heaviest and most potent campaign yet undertaken to sell fish to the British housewife, with a total budget for 1956 of about US\$784,000.

"We are also employing continuous consumer research to determine trends in buying and using habits." (The Fishing News, April 20, 1956.)



## Yugoslavia

SEA FISHING ASSOCIATION TO AID IN BUILDING FISH CANNERY IN INDIA: The Yugoslav Association of Sea Fishing has accepted a request from a firm located in India to give technical assistance for the building of a fish cannery in the vicinity of Manjolar. The Yugoslav industry is reported to have agreed to deliver most of the necessary equipment, such as boilers, electrical installations, and other apparatus. (March 29, 1956 report from the International Cooperation Administration in Belgrade.)

