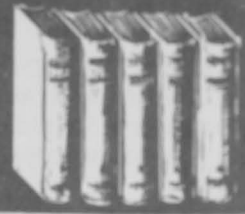




FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of Commerce

BUREAU OF FOREIGN COMMERCE

NO EXPORT LICENSE NEEDED FOR CERTAIN EXPORTS TO HONG KONG, INCLUDING FISH OILS:

Exporters now may ship a number of additional commodities to Hong Kong without applying for individual export licenses, the Bureau of Foreign Commerce, U. S. Department of Commerce, announced on October 17, 1958.

Effective on that date, items added to the list of nonstrategic commodities which may be exported under general license GHK without prior application to the Bureau of Foreign Commerce include certain inedible animal and fish oils, stearic acid, and gasoline outboard motors of 15 horsepower and under.

Time-limit license procedures were also revised so that more than one consignee in Western Hemisphere destinations may be covered on one application. The purpose of a time-limit license is so exporters can ship unlimited quantities of certain commodities to a named consignee in a Western Hemisphere country for 1 year under 1 license, instead of having to apply for a license for each shipment.

More detailed information is obtainable from the Bureau of Foreign Commerce's Current Export Bulletin No. 805, dated October 16, 1958.



Federal Maritime Commission

ALASKA SHIP-CARGO RATES AND CHARGES INCREASED:

The Federal Maritime Board ruled on October 9, 1958, in its Docket 828

(General Increases in Alaska Rates and Charges), that the proposed increased ship-cargo rates and charges, and regulations and practices of respondents were found just and reasonable. The ruling came about due to a petition by the Alaska Steamship Company and some of the other large common carriers between United States Pacific coast ports and ports in Alaska for a general 15-percent increase in rates and charges.

The Federal Maritime Board, during consideration of the proposals, heard testimony submitted by the Territory of Alaska, General Services Administration, Department of Defense, Northwest Fish Traffic Committee, and Associated Grocers Incorporated. The decision to allow the 15-percent increase in rates and charges does not apply to carriers not parties to the proceedings.

Prior to this final ruling by the Board, a 7½-percent increase in rates had been granted effective January 30, 1958, and another 7½-percent increase effective April 15, 1958. Therefore, the October 9 ruling by the Board makes permanent rate increases of 15-percent already in effect since April 15, 1958.



Federal Trade Commission

FOOD INDUSTRY INVESTIGATION LAUNCHED:

The Federal Trade Commission has adopted a resolution directing an investigation and study of the food industry, according to an October 13, 1958, news release from that Agency.

In taking the action, the Commission pointed out that many complaints have been received concerning the development in recent years of concentration of power, collusive price action,

and unfair competitive methods in the industry.

The resolution also notes that a goodly number of all Commission antimonopoly investigations is of alleged law violations by industry members.

The investigation is directed toward the integration and concentration of economic power at the retail level of distribution in the industry. However, the Commission emphasized, not only will the practices of retailers be considered, but also those of food wholesalers, manufacturers, distributors, and brokers, if relevant to the investigation.

* * * * *

SEAFOOD PACKER DENIES CHARGES OF ILLEGAL PRICE REDUCTIONS:

A Bellingham, Wash., packing company, its wholly-owned subsidiary, and the president of both firms, have denied (Answer 7202, Seafood) Federal Trade Commission charges of granting favored buyers illegal price reductions in lieu of brokerage.

In answer to a Commission complaint issued July 22, 1958, the subsidiary admits that it packs, distributes, and sells canned seafoods, but the packer company and its president deny they are engaged in this business.

The subsidiary company admits it has made substantial sales to certain direct buyers without utilizing brokers but denies it gave illegal price reductions approximating brokerage, or allowances, which otherwise would have been paid. The complaint had alleged that these practices violate Sec. 2(c) of the Robinson-Patman Amendment to the Clayton Act.

The respondents further state that their records were made available to a Commission examiner, and they have never been advised of any violation as alleged in the complaint.

The respondents asked that the complaint be dismissed.

* * * * *

SHRIMP COMPANY CHARGED WITH PAYMENT OF ILLEGAL BROKERAGE:

The Federal Trade Commission on October 27, 1958, charged (Complaint 7274 Shrimp) a New Orleans, La., shrimp firm with making illegal brokerage payments to some customers on direct sales of its shrimp.

A Commission complaint charges that the firm, whose sales exceed \$1 million annually, made approximately 60 percent of such sales direct to certain favored buyers without utilizing the services of its brokers and, on these direct sales, granted allowances which approximated and were in lieu of brokerage or gave the buyers lower prices reflecting this brokerage.

These practices, the complaint concludes, violate Sec. 2(c) of the Robinson-Patman Amendment to the Clayton Act.

The firm was granted 30 days in which to file answer to the complaint. A hearing was scheduled December 18 in New Orleans before a Commission hearing examiner.

* * * * *

CONSENT ORDER PROHIBITING ILLEGAL BROKERAGE BY SEATTLE CANNED SALMON BROKER APPROVED:

The Federal Trade Commission on November 3, 1958, approved a consent order (7099, Food Products) prohibiting a Seattle, Wash., primary broker of canned salmon and other food products from making illegal brokerage payments to its customers.

The Commission adopted an initial decision by the Hearing Examiner based on an order agreed to by the company and the Commission's Bureau of Litigation.

The Commission's complaint, issued March 27, 1958, had alleged that the firm favored certain buyers with substantial allowances in lieu of brokerage or price concessions reflecting brokerage.

According to the complaint, these typical means were used to make such allowances to favored buyers: (1) selling at net prices less than the amount accounted for to the packer-principals; (2) granting price deductions, a part or all of which were not charged back to the packer-principals; and (3) taking reduced brokerage on sales involving price concessions.

These practices, the complaint concluded, violate Sec. 2(c) of the Robinson-Patman Amendment to the Clayton Act.

The firm's president is joined in the order prohibiting these practices.

The agreement is for settlement purposes only and does not constitute an admission by the company or its president that they have violated the law.



Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HEARINGS ON ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHING REGULATIONS:

Public hearings on the proposal to adopt amendments to regulations for the protection of commercial fisheries in Alaska were announced in the November 14, 1958, Federal Register by the Department of the Interior.

Publication of the dates of the public meetings in December followed the decision by Secretary of the Interior Fred A.

Seaton on November 8, 1958, to propose elimination of all fish traps except those owned by Indian tribes or villages. Secretary Seaton announced this decision in Juneau, Alaska, on November 9.

The hearings were held in Seattle, Wash., on December 4, 5, and 6; Juneau, Alaska, December 10, 11, and 12; and Anchorage, Alaska, December 17, 18, and 19.

The proposal to eliminate fish traps in the pending regulations is in accord with instructions from Secretary Seaton to "adjust our actions as quickly as possible to the desires of the Alaskans in re-

gard to the disposition of their natural resources."

The use of fish traps in Alaskan waters has been a controversial issue for many years. Twice the people of Alaska have voted in referendum to abolish them. The first expression was in October 1948 when the vote was 19,712 to 2,634 for the discontinuance of the traps. The second came in April 1956 when a second referendum favored elimination of the traps, 20,872, to 3,946.

The note as it appeared in the Federal Register follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

[50 CFR Parts 101-115]

ALASKA COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

PROTECTION

Pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act approved June 11, 1946 (60 Stat. 237; 5 U. S. C. 1001 et seq.), notice is hereby given that the Secretary of the Interior intends to adopt amendments to existing regulations governing the time during and the means and methods by which commercial fish and shellfish may

be taken in the waters of Alaska. Amendments to existing regulations for the protection of the commercial fisheries of Alaska are to be adopted under the authority contained in the Act of June 6, 1924, as amended and supplemented (43 Stat. 465, 48 U. S. C. 221 et seq.), and are to become effective on or about March 1, 1959, and are to continue in effect thereafter until further notice.

Interested persons are hereby invited to participate in the adoption of amendments to the regulations by presenting their views, data, or arguments in writing to the Director, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Department of the Inte-

rior, Washington 25, D. C., on or before December 31, 1958, or by presenting their views orally or in writing at a series of open discussions scheduled to be held as follows:

Seattle, Wash., December 4, 5, and 6.
Juneau, Alaska, December 10, 11, and 12.
Anchorage, Alaska, December 17, 18, and 19.

The hour and place of each meeting will be announced by the local representative of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries at the cities indicated above.

Dated: November 8, 1958.

FRED A. SEATON,
Secretary of the Interior.



Interstate Commerce Commission

RAIL EXPRESS RATES AND CHARGES FOR MOST FISHERY PRODUCTS UNCHANGED:

Most of the fishery products shipped via the Railway Express Agency were exempted from the general 15-percent increase in rates and charges approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission on October 13, 1958. This is the seventh general increase in rates and charges made effective since the end of World War II.

This decision was rendered after extensive hearings in the Commission's docket Ex Parte 210. A 15-percent increase in class rates was approved, but no increase was allowed in rates for less than carload "commodity rated" fish and

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, February 1958, p. 81.

shellfish traffic which accounts for the bulk of fishing industry express shipments. No increase in the present minimum charge of \$2.01 was granted nor were proposed increases on carload traffic allowed. The exceptions to the above fishery product exemptions includes isolated shipments on routes where no commodity rates exist which are billed at class rates and for lobster shipments which are always billed at a percentage of the first-class rate.

The Commission did allow a 15-percent increase in reicing charges, but in doing so stated "We approve the proposed increase in reicing charges. However, the respondent is admonished to give prompt consideration to improving its reicing service so as to remove shipper complaint with respect thereto."



Small Business Administration

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPANIES ANNOUNCED:

The Federal Register of October 29, 1958, announced the proposed regulations governing the establishment and operation of small business investment companies chartered or licensed by the Small Business Administration under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

Interested persons were requested to submit written comments or suggestions to the Small Business Investment Division, Small Business Administration, Washington 25, D. C.



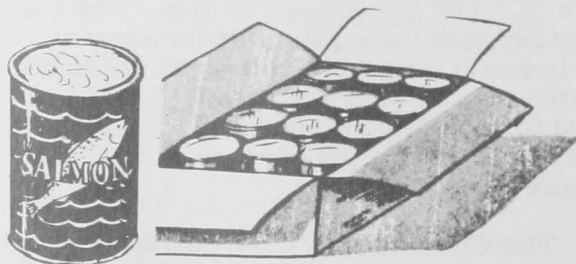
Treasury Department

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

FINDS THAT NO SALES OF CANNED PINK SALMON FROM CANADA WERE MADE AT LESS THAN FAIR VALUE:

A complaint received by the U. S. Bureau of Customs claimed that canned pink salmon from Canada was being sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of the Antidumping Act of 1921.

The Bureau has determined that canned pink salmon from Canada is not



being, nor is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value within the meaning of section 201 (a) of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended (19 U. S. C. 160 (a)).

The Canadian companies concerned, after being apprised of the complaint, immediately took steps to revise their

pricing. As a result, no sales have been made to the United States since that time which could be considered to have been made at a dumping price. Assurance has been secured from the Canadian companies involved that they do not intend to sell in the future at dumping prices.

This determination and the statement of reasons therefor were published pursuant to section 201 (c) of the Antidumping Act, 1921, as amended (19 U. S. C. 160 (c)) in the Federal Register of October 25, 1958.



White House

SUOMELA APPOINTED TO NORTH PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION:

The President of the United States on October 10, 1958, appointed Arnie J. Suomela, Commissioner of the U. S. Fish



Arnie J. Suomela

and Wildlife Service, to serve on the North Pacific Fisheries Commission. Mr. Suomela replaces Ross L. Leffler, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife of the U. S. Department of the Interior, who resigned from the Commission because of the pressure of other duties.

The North Pacific Fisheries Commission which consists of four representatives from the United States,

Canada, and Japan was established in 1953 to promote the conservation of the fishery resources of the North Pacific and to administer research programs.

Suomela, from Ilwaco, Pacific County, Wash., received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the College of

Fisheries of the University of Washington. He was formerly Director of the Oregon Fish Commission and has held various positions with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is also a member of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission.



ELECTRICALLY-KILLED SALMON REMAIN FRESH FOR EXCEPTIONALLY LONG PERIOD

A system of electrical killing of salmon has now been incorporated in a fishing weir of a fishing company in Ireland. The fish killed by shock treatment have subsequently been shown to remain fresh for an exceptionally long period. They remained fresh when held without icing under conditions and for periods in which fish killed under the normal system of clubbing would have started to deteriorate.

A prototype cardboard salmon box of a new type has also been designed to replace the traditional wooden boxes. The cardboard containers are particularly suitable for the packing of grilse or the smaller salmon (The Fishing News, May 24, 1957).

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