



FEDERAL ACTIONS



Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

BRISTOL BAY ALASKA SALMON FISHING GEAR REGISTRATIONS ANNOUNCED:

The total number of units of gear registered for use in the salmon fishing districts of Bristol Bay were announced by the U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries on June 22, 1959. As published in the Federal Register of June 23, the number of units registered by district as of 6 p.m. Friday, June 19, 1959, were as follows:

Kvichak-Naknek	150 units
Nushagak	293 units
Egegik	60 units
Ugashik	50 units

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FISHERY ATTACHE PACT SIGNED:

On May 5, 1959, Assistant Secretary Scott of the Department of State and Assistant Secretary Leffler of the Department of the Interior signed a document establishing a fisheries and minerals attache program.

The agreement spells out the responsibilities of each Department in selecting attaches, the duties of the attaches, and the methods for instructing attaches as to the types of reporting required from abroad on developments that affect the United States fishing and minerals industries.

At present, there are two fishery attaches--one in Mexico City as Regional Fisheries Officer for Latin America, and one in Tokyo as Fisheries Attache for Japan. The Bureau has requested that the Department of State establish four additional regional posts to cover other strategic fishing areas of the world. The

posts recommended will be at the Oslo, London, Lisbon, and Bangkok Embassies.



Treasury Department

BUREAU OF CUSTOMS

DECISIONS ON AIRTIGHT CONTAINERS MAY INCREASE IMPORT DUTY ON SOME PACKAGED FISHERY PRODUCTS:

Recent decisions by the U. S. Bureau of Customs hold that frozen rainbow trout and fish fillets, packaged in a certain manner, are packed in airtight containers, and therefore dutiable under Tariff Paragraph 718(b) at 12-1/2 percent ad valorem. Previously they were dutiable at a 1/2 cent a pound in the case of whole frozen trout, and 1-1/2 cents a pound for frozen fillets other than groundfish, under Tariff Paragraph 717. These two decisions may be applied to frozen fish fillets and other products that are imported in cellophane, polyethylene, and cryovac, and other modern packaging materials. The decisions read as follows:

Treasury Decision 54826 (47): Fresh or frozen trout, beheaded or eviscerated or both, but not further advanced, are classifiable under 718(b), Tariff Act of 1930, when packed in airtight containers (whether polyethylene, cellophane, cryovac bags, or other containers completely sealed so as to be impermeable to air), weighing with their contents not over 15 pounds each, or if not in airtight containers as fresh-water fish under 717(a).

Treasury Decision 54802(13): Bag made from a sheet consisting of a layer of cellulose nitrate-coated cellophane and a layer of polyethylene in such a way that the inside of the bag is polyethylene only, three edges joined by heat sealing, a fish fillet inserted, and the top also heat-sealed, is an airtight container for the purposes of 718(b). If the same fillet is placed in an open container or "boat" overwrapped in cellophane and waxed paper and sealed in such a way that air can pass in and out, the overwrapped "boat" is not an airtight container for the purposes of 718(b).

The two decisions did hold that the products submitted were in airtight containers and therefore that the containers were impermeable to air. The trout was packed in cryovac; the fillets were packed in what is called a poly-cell bag or cellulose-film bag. The classification by the Bureau of Customs is being protested by the American Seafood Distributors Association and a determination as to impermeability to air will in due course be made by the Customs Court in the future. In the meantime, packers and importers of all fishery products, using the modern packaging methods, must make a decision on future shipments, shipments on the water, purchase contracts, etc., otherwise they will find that what they thought would be dutiable at from a 1/2 cent to 1-1/2 cents a pound is going to be assessed at the rate of 12-1/2 percent ad valorem.

The Bureau of Customs makes no statement of a criteria for impermeability to air. They provide no additional information on the decisions than is contained in the summaries. They will decide each case as it is presented. Possible interpretations of criteria are as follows:

1. All cryovac containers and all containers packed under vacuum will be considered to be airtight containers, and dutiable at 12-1/2 percent.

2. The heat-sealed polyethylene bag, not packed under vacuum, and not of an abnormal thickness, and consisting of one layer only, that is used by so many fishery firms, will not be considered to be an airtight container, and dutiable at the lower rate.

3. A bag or sack made of a combination of materials, such as cellophane and polyethylene, or made from a sheet of more than one layer or of an abnormal thickness, whether or not packed under vacuum, will be considered to be an airtight container, and dutiable at the 12-1/2 percent rate.

The determination of airtightness is made as to the immediate container--the container that immediately surrounds the fish. In the case of bagged trout or bagged fillets, which are in turn packed in a master carton, the bag is the immediate container. That the master carton is cardboard, overwrapped with cellophane, is not important in this determination, if within the master carton are individual containers. The one-pound fillet packages, packed in a cardboard box overwrapped in cellophane, will probably be considered non-airtight.

In a discussion with Bureau of Customs officials on June 11, 1959, the National Fisheries Institute was advised that, "contrary to general opinion" the Bureau's recent decisions regarding airtight containers made from films (polyethylene, cellophane, cryovac, etc.) will not adversely affect the duty classification of fishery products to the extent believed by the industry.

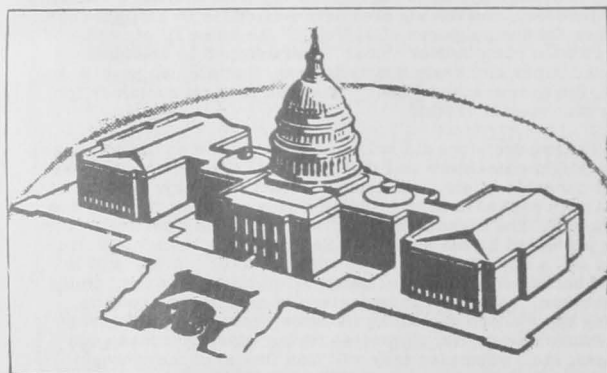
Fishery products packaged in film of single thickness is not considered airtight by the Bureau of Customs, nor is multiple thickness packaging considered airtight if the bags are NOT heat-sealed. If the open end of a bag is stapled, for instance, it is not considered airtight.



Eighty-Sixth Congress

(First Session)

Public bills and resolutions which may directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries are reported upon. Introduction, referral to



committees, pertinent legislative actions, hearings, and other actions by the House and Senate, as well as signature into law or other final disposition are covered.

ALASKA OMNIBUS ACT: The President on June 25 signed into law H. R. 7120, to amend certain laws of the United States in light of the admission of the State of Alaska into the Union (P. L. 86-70). The legislation is largely technical providing changes in Federal laws, necessary because of the change in Alaska's status from Territory to a State, eliminating inappropriate references in Federal statutes. Other provisions are substantive, terminating certain special Federal programs in Alaska, and enabling participation by Alaska in other programs on "an equal footing with other States." The bill was drafted by the executive agencies concerned with the administration of Federal responsibilities in Alaska. Two provisions are of particular interest to fisheries interests: (1) Alaska will assume jurisdiction over its fish and wildlife resources the first day of the calendar year following expiration of 90 calendar days (instead of 90 legislative days) after certification by the Secretary of the Interior that the Alaska State Legislature has made "adequate provision for the administration, management, and conservation of the fish and wildlife resources of Alaska in the broad national interest." (The Secretary of the Interior made the certification on April 20, 1959. The transfer, therefore, will be effective January 1, 1960, unless Congress adjourns before the 90 days provided for in the bill.); (2) authorizes the President to transfer to Alaska without reimbursement property used in a function taken over in whole or part by the State.

BONNEVILLE REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1959: A draft of proposed legislation entitled "A bill to amend the Bonneville Project Act, as amended," was transmitted with an accompanying paper from the Under Secretary of the Interior to both Houses of Congress on June 18; referred to the respective Senate and House Committees on Public Works. The proposed reorganization, among other things, would provide that the Bonneville Power Corporation set up would try to coordinate its programs with fish and wildlife preservation and propagation.

The Subcommittee on Flood Control of the Senate Committee on Public Works conducted hearings July 15, 16, and 17 on S. 1927, to establish a Bonneville Power Corporation. Among other purposes, the bill provides that the Corporation would be responsible for carrying out the policies of the Federal Government for comprehensive multiple-purpose water resources development and to coordinate its programs in relationship to other agencies including those for fish and wildlife preservation and propagation.

COLUMBIA RIVER FISHERIES INVESTIGATION: The House Committee on Appropriations on June 2 ordered favorably reported H. R. 7509, the Public Works Appropriation Bill 1960 Fiscal (House Report No. 424). Included in the Committee recommendations were appropriations for the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation for water resource construction programs.

The House Committee, however, rejected requests of Columbia River state conservation agencies and private conservation interests for an appropriation of \$450,000 to begin an intensified program to resolve the problem of preserving and restoring fisheries in the face of an expanded dam

building program which is rapidly destroying remaining runs of sea-run fish. The fishery program, which had been developed and approved by the Columbia Inter-Agency Committee, proposes comprehensive research into techniques and methods for perpetuating these sport and commercial fisheries. Funds made available under it would be used by State fish and game agencies and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Committee questioned increases requested by the Fish and Wildlife Service for its cooperative Federal-State Columbia fisheries development program. It approved an appropriation of \$1.2 million for construction and \$1.7 million for operation of facilities to compensate for fisheries losses that result from river development while stating in its report that it "... has no intention of permitting the Federal water resources construction program in the Northwest to become the vehicle through which this section of the country enjoys more than its reasonable share of federal funds available for regular fish and wildlife preservation work. . ."

The Committee also repeated its argument that river basin studies of the Fish and Wildlife Service should be financed by transfer funds from the Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation, but neither the Bureau or the Corps included monies in their budget requests for these purposes.

H. R. 7509 passed the House June 9. The Senate Appropriation Committee reported H. R. 7509 on July 8 (Senate Report No. 486). The bill was passed by the Senate July 9. The Corps of Engineers was granted planning money for four dams within the Snake River drainage which have been strongly opposed by conservationists and state and federal wildlife agencies. This includes: \$770,000 for Bruce's Eddy on the North Fork of the Clearwater River; \$450,000 for Little Goose lock and dam, \$800,000 for Lower Monumental lock and dam and \$200,000 for Lower Granite lock and dam, all on the lower Snake River. Each of these projects will impede movements of sea-run Chinook salmon and steelhead trout into spawning waters of the Middle Snake River System. Except for the funds recommended for the Lower Granite project, the same amounts were approved in the version of the bill that passed the House June 9.

The Senate voted appropriations of \$750,000 to finance River Basin Studies programs of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Earlier the Bureau of the Budget had requested that \$836,400 be provided for this purpose through direct appropriation in the Department of Interior and Related Agencies Appropriation Bill. But following the rejection of this request by both the House and Senate, the restoration of the \$750,000 in the Public Works Bill represents the recovery of a substantial part of the funds that are needed to determine the effects of river development programs on fish and wildlife and to compensate for losses to these resources. Language, written into the bill in three different places, specifically earmarks funds for Fish and Wildlife Service studies, investigations and reports: \$500,000 is provided under the "Coordination Act Studies" general construction item for the Corps of Engineers; \$50,000 is designated under the general investigations item for the Corps of Engineers and \$200,000 under general investigations for the Bureau of Reclamation. In each place lan-

guage in the bill provides that "wildlife conservation shall receive equal consideration and be conducted with other features of water resources development programs."

The Senate also recommended that \$280,000 be included in the Bureau of Reclamation item for fish and wildlife studies in connection with the Missouri Basin Project. This was the amount recommended by the Budget Bureau but denied by the House which, along with the \$750,000 for other River Basin Studies programs, is subject to approval by House Conferees in House-Senate Conference Committee since the House bill did not contain these funds.

The Senate approved the budgeted figures of \$1.2 million for construction, and \$1.7 million for operation and maintenance of the Lower Columbia River Fish Sanctuary program, the same amounts as provided in the House bill. No funds were included in the measure to launch the proposed intensive research program of the Columbia Inter-Agency Committee on the problem of preserving and restoring Columbia River fisheries in the face of expanded dam-building activities which are rapidly destroying remaining runs of sea-run fish.

Senate asked for a conference July 9.

House Report No. 424, Public Works Appropriation Bill, 1960 (June 2, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the House Committee on Appropriations to accompany H. R. 7509, a bill making appropriations for the civil functions administered by the Department of the Army, certain agencies of the Department of the Interior, and the Tennessee Valley Authority, for fiscal year ending June 30, 1960), 32 pp., printed. Contains budget estimates and Committee recommendations. Included are certain tabulations of projects for which funds are recommended for both planning and actual construction and reductions in budget estimates, comparative statement of appropriations for 1959, estimates for 1960, and Committee recommendations.

Senate Report No. 486, Public Works Appropriation Bill, 1960 (July 8, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the Senate Committee on Appropriations to accompany H. R. 7509, a bill making appropriations for civil functions administered by the Department of the Army, certain agencies of the Department of the Interior, and the Tennessee Valley Authority), 49 pp., printed. Contains budget estimates, House allowances, and Committee recommendations. Included are tables showing by State, rivers, harbors, and flood control construction projects; comparative statement of appropriations for 1959, estimates for 1960, allowances by House, and Senate Committee recommendations.

COLOR ADDITIVES IN FOODS: H. R. 7624 (Harris), a bill to protect the public health by amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act so as to authorize the use of suitable color additives in or on foods, drugs, and cosmetics, in accordance with regulations prescribing the conditions (including maximum tolerances) under which such additives may be safely used; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; introduced in House June 9. The proposed legislation would expedite the testing of colors to determine safe levels of use by requiring color

manufacturers to do the appropriate research and to submit the results to the Food and Drug Administration. All types of color additives would be subject to the safety requirements of the new law, not merely "coal-tar colors" as under present regulations. The proposed bill would replace the present "coal-tar color" provisions in the Federal law enforced by the Food and Drug Administration and was introduced as a regulatory measure to insure safe use of color additives in foods, drugs and cosmetics.

Also S. 2197 (Hill and Goldwater); to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare; introduced in Senate June 17. Identical to H. R. 7624.

DOGFISH SHARK ERADICATION: H. R. 7759 (Pelly), a bill to amend the act providing for a program to investigate and eradicate the predatory dogfish sharks on the Pacific coast in order to expand such a program; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; introduced in House June 16. Similar to S. 1264 and related bills previously introduced which provide for extension and expansion of the dogfish shark eradication program on the Pacific Coast, but while S. 1264 provides for an incentive payment for dogfish, H. R. 7759 provides for finding ways and means of eradicating or controlling dogfish.

H. R. 7759 provides for determinations of the effects of dogfish removal upon commercial and noncommercial species of fish, the level of fishing intensity required to reduce depredations of these sharks on the fishing grounds, locations of their concentrations and migration routes, the value of chemical repellents as control agents, and possible commercial uses of the dogfish shark that are killed as a result of the control program. Chartered vessels would be used in these experimental studies. Cooperation with Canada also would be sought.

Dogfish Shark Eradication: Hearings May 22, 1959, before the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Subcommittee, Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, 86th Congress, 1st Session, on S. 1264 (a bill to amend the Act providing for a program to eradicate the dogfish shark on the Pacific coast in order to expand such program), 46 pp., printed. Contains purpose and provisions of the Bill, legislative background, testimony, and recommendations by State, Federal, and industry representatives. Also includes Pacific Coast Dogfish Shark Committee's review report "The Menace of the Dogfish Shark on the Pacific Coast," with accompanying tables, illustrations, figures showing areas of concentrations, and Committee recommendations.

The Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce on June 17 ordered favorably reported S. 1264, to amend the Act providing for a program to eradicate the dogfish shark on the Pacific coast in order to expand such program, with amendments (S. Rept. 411). The bill amends the Act entitled "An Act authorizing and directing the Secretary of the Interior to investigate and eradicate the predatory dogfish sharks to control the depredations of this species on the fisheries of the Pacific coast, and for other purposes," approved September 2, 1958 (72 Stat. 1710). Would extend the program from a "four year" to a "five year" period; would provide incentive payments to fishermen with re-

spect to dogfish shark carcasses (not to exceed \$15 a ton) or dogfish livers (not to exceed 15 cents a pound); and increases funds to implement the program from \$95,000 to \$325,000.

Senate Report No. 411, Bounties on Dogfish Sharks (June 22, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to accompany S. 1264), 7 pp., printed. Contains purpose and provisions of the bill, discusses sharks, predator control, and gear damage; indicates proponents and opponents, appropriations; presents agency comments and changes in existing law.

H. R. 7891 (Westland) introduced in House June 22; similar to S. 1264.

S. 1264 Amendments, intended to be proposed by Senator Bush to bill S. 1264 (Magnuson), to amend the Act providing for a program to eradicate the dogfish shark on the Pacific coast in order to expand such a program; ordered to lie on the table and to be printed; introduced in Senate June 23. Would provide amendments to S. 1264 to expand the dogfish shark eradication to include a 1-million-dollar program for the eradication or control of starfish in Long Island Sound and adjacent waters.

The Senate on July 6 passed with amendments and cleared for the House S. 1264, to expand the program to eradicate the dogfish shark in Pacific coastal waters.

As passed by the Senate the dogfish shark eradication provisions were passed without amendment to the bill as reported from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce (S. Rept. No. 411). The Senate agreed to add as an amendment a new section to the bill providing for a 1-million-dollar program for the eradication or control of starfish and to amend the title of the legislation to read: "A bill to amend the Act providing for a program to eradicate the dogfish shark on the Pacific coast in order to expand such program, and to provide for the development and carrying out of an emergency program for the eradication of starfish in Long Island Sound and adjacent waters."

DUMPING RESTRICTIONS IN COASTAL WATERS: H. R. 8058 (Dorn), a bill to aid navigation and protect the fishing industry by prohibiting the dumping of certain materials in the coastal navigable waters of the United States; to the Committee on Public Works; introduced in House July 1. Provides amendments to the Oil Pollution Act of 1924, as amended, to prohibit the discharge of ferrous sulfate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oxide, or sulfuric acid into or upon the coastal navigable waters from any vessel, and for other purposes.

DUMPING RESTRICTIONS IN NEW YORK HARBOR AND ADJACENT WATERS: H. R. 8078 (Dorn), a bill to aid navigation and protect the fishing industry in waters adjacent to New York City by prohibiting the dumping of certain materials in such waters; to the Committee on Public Works; introduced in House July 1. Provides amendment to the Act entitled "An Act to prevent obstructive and injurious deposits within the harbor and adjacent waters of New York City, by dumping, or otherwise, and to punish and prevent such offenses," approved June 29, 1888, as amended (33 U. S. C., sec. 441).

Would prohibit the placing, discharging, or depositing by any process or in any manner of (1) refuse, dirt, ashes, cinders, mud, sand, dredgings, sludge, acid or any other matter of any kind, other than that flowing from streets, sewers, and passing therefrom in a liquid state, in the tidal waters of the harbor of New York, or its adjacent or tributary waters, or in those of Long Island Sound, within the limits which shall be prescribed by the supervisor of the harbor; or (2) of ferrous sulfate, ferric hydroxide, ferric oxide, or sulfuric acid, other than that flowing from streets, sewers, in waters with respect to which a permit for the discharge overboard of oil or water containing oil would not be granted by the supervisor of the harbor, is strictly forbidden. The bill further provides for penalties consisting of fines, imprisonment, or both for violation. One-half of any fine imposed shall be paid to the person or persons giving information leading to conviction.

FISHERIES ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1959: The Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 8 met in executive session in consideration of H. R. 5421, a bill to provide a program of assistance to correct inequities in the construction of fishing vessels and to enable the fishing industry of the United States to regain a favorable economic status, and for other purposes.

FISH HATCHERIES: The House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 9 ordered favorably reported to the House H. R. 2398, to provide for the establishment of a fish hatchery in northwestern Pennsylvania (H. Rept. No. 654).

FISHERY PRODUCTS INCLUDED IN FOOD-ALLOTMENT PROGRAM: Food Distribution Programs: Hearings June 4, 5, and 8, 1959, before a Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, 86th Congress, 1st Session on S. 489, S. 585, S. 663, S. 862, S. 1884, and S. 2098. (Bills to facilitate the distribution of surplus food products to needy families in the United States, to safeguard the health, efficiency, and morale of the American people, to promote the full use of agricultural resources, and for other purposes), 225 pp., printed. Contains purpose and provisions of bills, statements, reports, and recommendations of representatives of Government and industry; individual views and comments on legislation; and various tables and charts. S. 585 provides for inclusion of fish among items in "basic food-allotment" provisions of the program.

FISHING VESSEL CONSTRUCTION SUBSIDIES: S. 2338 (Engle and Magnuson), a bill to provide a program to correct inequities in the construction of fishing vessels and to enable the fishing industry of the United States to regain a favorable economic and competitive status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; introduced in Senate July 7. Provides for a differential subsidy in the construction of new fishing vessels of up to 33½ percent, and in exceptional cases up to 50 percent. Would also provide authority to the Secretary of the Interior to acquire obsolete or inadequate fishing vessels in connection with construction of a new replacement vessel. Related to H. R. 5421 and bills previously introduced which, among other purposes, provide for fishing vessel construction subsidies.

The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries of the Senate Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce July 9 conducted hearings on S. 2338.

FISHING VESSEL MORTGAGE INSURANCE FUND ACT: S. 2342 (Magnuson, Smathers, and Engle), a bill creating a Federal Fishing Vessel Mortgage Insurance Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; introduced in Senate July 8. Would create a Federal Fishing Vessel Mortgage Insurance Fund which shall be used by the Secretary of the Interior as a revolving fund for the purpose of carrying out the ship mortgage provisions of title XI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, as it applies to fishing vessels under the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (70 S. T. 1120). Further provides that if at any time funds are not sufficient to pay any amount the Secretary of the Interior is required to pay on ship mortgage insurance on fishing vessels he may issue notes or other obligations to the Secretary of the Treasury as may be necessary.

FISH AND WILDLIFE AID THROUGH EQUIPMENT TRANSFER: H. R. 7730 (McIntire), a bill to amend section 203 of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to provide that surplus personal property of the United States may be donated to the States for the promotion of fish and wildlife management activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Operations; introduced in House June 15. Similar to H. R. 7190 and related bills previously introduced which provide for change in existing laws to include State Fish and Game Departments among State agencies eligible for receipt by transfer of surplus Federal Government property and equipment for use in furthering their wildlife conservation, restoration, and educational objectives.

Also H. R. 7904 (Derwinski) introduced in House June 23, and S. 2270 (Gruening) introduced in Senate June 24; to the respective House and Senate Committees on Government Operations. Similar to H. R. 7190 and related bills previously introduced.

Special Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Government Operations scheduled hearings to begin on July 29 on bills providing for expansion of the donable property program authorized under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, to other public agencies or organizations. Includes legislative bills which would include State Fish and Game Departments among agencies eligible for receipt by transfer of surplus Federal Government property and equipment for use in furthering wildlife conservation, restoration, and educational objectives.

FISH AND WILDLIFE COOPERATIVE TRAINING UNITS: The Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries held hearings July 1 on H. R. 5814 and related bills providing for cooperative unit programs of research, education, and demonstration between the Federal Government, colleges and universities, the several States and Territories, and private organizations, and for other purposes.

FOOD MARKETING: The Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission on June 29 transmitted to the Congress, pursuant to law, an interim report on "Economic Inquiry into Food Marketing" (with accompanying papers); referred to the respective House and Senate Committees on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

GULF COAST FLORIDA SHRIMP BOAT HARBORS SURVEYS: A letter from the Secretary of the Army was presented in the House on June 23, transmitting a letter from the Chief of Engineers, Department of the Army, dated May 29, 1959, submitting a report, together with accompanying papers and illustrations, on a review of reports on and surveys of Gulf Coast shrimp boat harbors in Florida, requested by resolutions of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, House of Representatives, and from the Committee on Public Works, U. S. Senate, adopted June 28, 1946, and February 14, 1950. Also submitted in response to five other congressional authorizations listed in the report (H. Doc. No. 183); referred to the Committee on Public Works.

IMPORTS OF POLLUTED SHELLFISH PROHIBITED: H. R. 7754 (Colmer), a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for certain investigations and studies by the Surgeon General of the United States; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; introduced in House June 16. Provides for investigations and studies of sanitation control maintained by foreign countries relating to harvesting and preparation of shellfish for the purpose of determining whether such controls meet the minimum standards prescribed for shellfish shipped in interstate commerce in the United States. Imports of shellfish from countries which fail to meet the minimum sanitary controls would be prohibited. The Surgeon General would promulgate regulations, establish procedures relating to sanitary control, and make available the names of foreign countries which comply with prescribed standards.

INSECTICIDES EFFECT UPON FISH AND WILDLIFE: The Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries held hearings July 1 on H. R. 5813 and related bills dealing with the effect of insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, and other pesticides upon fish and wildlife and for other purposes.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS: The President on June 23, 1959, signed into law H. R. 5915, fiscal 1960 appropriations for the Department of the Interior, and related agencies (P. L. 8660). Included are funds for the Fish and Wildlife Service and its two Bureaus.

INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF FISH: The House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 9 ordered favorably reported to the House H. R. 5854, a bill to clarify a provision in the Black Bass Act relating to the interstate transportation of fish, and for other purposes (H. R. 653). Provides a technical amendment to the Black Bass Act clarifying that only shipment of legally taken fish is covered by the Act.

LAND TRANSFER: S. 2211 (Butler), a bill to provide for the conveyance to the State of Maryland of a tract of land located on the campus of the

University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, which was previously donated by the State of Maryland to the United States; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; introduced in Senate June 18. Involves Federal lands exclusive of that portion on which the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Technological Laboratory is located.

MARINE MAMMALS PROTECTION ON HIGH SEAS: H. R. 8164 (Saylor), a bill for the protection of marine mammals on the high seas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; introduced in House July 9. Provides for protection of walrus, polar bear, and sea otter on the high seas for conservation, management, and other purposes.

OCEANOGRAPHY: S. Res. 136 (Magnuson, Engle, and Jackson) relative to research on oceanography and the report of the Committee on Oceanography to the President; to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; introduced in Senate June 22, 1959.

Whereas expanded studies of the oceans and the ocean bottoms at all depths are vital to defense against enemy submarines, to the operation of our own submarines with maximum efficiency, to the rehabilitation of our commercial fisheries and utilization of other present or potential ocean resources, to facilitating commerce and navigation, and to expand our scientific knowledge of the waters covering 71 per centum of the earth's surface, life within these waters, and phenomena which affects climate and weather; and

Whereas several other nations, particularly the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, are presently conducting oceanic studies of unprecedented magnitude on a worldwide basis, utilizing larger, more numerous, and more modern ships and more scientific and supporting personnel than ever before; and

Whereas a Committee on Oceanography, comprised of eminent scientists from universities and nongovernmental institutions, appointed by the National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, has prepared a report outlining objectives and recommending a comprehensive program of oceanographic research to be carried out at nominal cost over a period of ten years; and

Whereas the Office of Naval Research of the Department of the Navy, observing that there has been no effort to improve the Nation's research fleet in the past fifteen years, and that there is need for more oceanographic scientists, laboratories, specially designed ships and shore facilities, has prepared a report recommending a ten-year, long-range program for oceanographic research which has been approved by the Chief of Naval Operations; and

Whereas the Coast and Geodetic Survey of the Department of Commerce, directed by statute to conduct hydrographic surveys, seismological investigations, magnetic and gravimetric observations, and other scientific operations, but restricted generally to coastal waters and limited in its work in these waters by obsolescence of its research ships, has drawn up plans to rehabilitate its scientific vessels and broaden the area in which it can operate, subject to departmental and Bureau of the Budget approval; and

Whereas the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior, faced with a drastic diminution of a valuable food supply and resource and an actual decline of ships and facilities for fisheries exploration and research at a time when Soviet Russia, Communist China, Japan, and many other nations are expanding fisheries research intensively, has a plan, which still waits departmental and budget approval, to replace its present small and overage vessels over a ten-year period: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate--

(1) commends the report of the Committee on Oceanography to the President, the Bureau of the Budget, and to the heads of the five departments and nine agencies which would participate in the ten-year program of oceanographic research recommended by the Committee, for their study and consideration with a view to overcoming this Nation's lag in this scientific field, and urges their support of a comprehensive plan that will assure the United States permanent leadership in oceanographic research;

(2) commends the programs of the several agencies for rehabilitating their research facilities and enlarging their oceanographic activities to the President and the Bureau of the Budget for like study and consideration with the object of developing a well-balanced and coordinated expansion of scientific effort in this vital field;

(3) concurs in the recommendations of the Committee on Oceanography that--

(a) basic oceanographic research be immediately expanded and at least doubled within the next ten years;

(b) in the field of applied research fisheries exploration be intensified, migratory patterns investigated, greater attention given to genetics of fish and other marine organisms, biological surveys augmented utilizing new devices, a program on diseases and other toxic effects in the marine environment established, comprehensive studies made of the economic and legal aspects of commercial fisheries, especially in relation to other industries, and research stimulated on the nature of organisms in the sea on which marine life of commercial or sports value feeds;

(c) training of more oceanographic scientists in private educational and research institutions be encouraged and facilitated by the National Science Foundation and the Office of Education with the object of doubling the number of oceanographers at the doctor of philosophy level during the next ten years;

(d) systematic ocean-wide and ocean-deep surveys be conducted by the Coast and Geodetic Survey and Hydrographic Office, Bureau of Navigation, Department of the Navy, to develop much broader knowledge of depths, salinity, temperature, current velocity, wave motion, magnetism and biological activity;

(e) research fleets of the various agencies and institutions engaged in basic or applied oceanographic research, of which most of the vessels are old and obsolete, be replaced by modern ships adapted to ocean-wide scientific studies and furnished with advanced scientific equipment, and that the number of ships be increased 90 per centum within the next ten years;

(f) shore facilities commensurate with an expanded program of basic research be constructed in order to derive maximum knowledge from observations and collections made at sea;

(g) development and utilization of deep-diving manned submersibles be expedited to facilitate maximum accomplishments in both basic and applied oceanographic research at all depths;

(h) mineral research be undertaken on the ocean floor with a view to present or ultimate utilization of the untapped resources that lie beneath the ocean; and

(i) extensive scientific investigations be made on the effects of radioactivity in the oceans including the genetic effects of radiation upon marine organisms, the inorganic transfer of radioactive elements from seawater to the sediments, and the circulation and mixing processes which control the dispersion of introduced contaminants in coastal and estuarine environments and in the open ocean;

(4) recommends that in order to coordinate the programs of the various agencies some method of interagency cooperation should be developed, possibly through an Oceanographic Research Board or Commission; and

(5) recommends that cooperation between the United States and other nations in oceanographic research and exchange of data should be considered on a carefully supervised and reciprocal basis.

OYSTER INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE: H. R. 8060 (Glenn), a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make loans to certain producers of oysters, and for other purposes. Also identical bills H. R. 8064 (Johnson of Maryland), H. R. 8065 (McDowell), and H. R. 8079 (Downing); all to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; all introduced in House July 1. The bills authorize the Secretary of Interior to make loans to oyster producers in any area where excessive mortality of oysters has endangered the economic stability of the oyster industry, and caused a need for credit among producers, which is not readily available from private or public sources on reasonable terms. It provides for a rate of interest not to exceed 3 percent and on such general terms as the Secretary shall prescribe for any area. The bills also provide that the Secretary may acquire oyster brood stock, which possesses some resistance to causative agent of such mortality, and furnish the oyster producers in such area, resultant seed oysters for the propagation of new oysters, which will not be subject to such excessive mortality.

PACIFIC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION:
The Chairman of the Pacific Marine Fisheries

Commission transmitted to the Congress, pursuant to law, a report of that Commission for the year 1958 (with accompanying papers); presented in the House June 26, referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; presented in the Senate June 29, referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

PRICE DISCRIMINATION ENFORCEMENT OF ORDERS: The House Committee on the Judiciary on June 25 ordered favorably reported S. 726, an act to amend section 11 of the Clayton Act to provide for the more expeditious enforcement of cease and desist orders issued thereunder, and for other purposes; with amendment (H. Rept. No. 580); referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

House Report No. 580, Finality of Clayton Act Orders (June 26, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the House Committee on the Judiciary together with individual comments to accompany S. 726), 22 pp., printed. The report presents the purpose of the bill as amended, reasons for the legislation, sectional analysis, and changes in existing law. The appendix contains recommendations of several Government departments and individual comments.

The House on July 6 passed S. 726, to provide for the more expeditious enforcement of cease-and-desist orders issued under the Clayton Act (amended). The legislation implements the enforcement procedures of the Clayton Act by making applicable the present Federal Trade Commission Act enforcement provisions against price discrimination, tying arrangements, mergers, and interlocking directorates.

Finality of Clayton Act Orders (Hearings, May 27 and 28, 1959, before the Antitrust Subcommittee No. 5 for use by the Committee on the Judiciary, United States House of Representatives, 86th Congress, 1st Session, on H. R. 432, H. R. 297, H. R. 6049, and S. 726, bills to amend section 11 of the Clayton Act to provide for the more expeditious enforcement of cease and desist orders issued thereunder, and for other purposes), 108 pp., printed. Contains text of the several legislative bills; testimony presented by Government and private industry representatives; certain Departmental, Commission, and Committee reports; and various statements submitted for the record. Also included is the document entitled, "The Merger Movement in Retail Food Distribution, 1955-58," a four-year study of the trend toward centralized power in America's major distributive industry, published by the National Association of Retail Grocers.

Senate on July 7 concurred in House amendments to S. 726, to amend section 11 of the Clayton Act so as to provide for the more expeditious enforcement of cease-and-desist orders issued thereunder, which action would have cleared the bill for the President. On July 8 the Senate reconsidered its action of July 7 in concurring in House amendments to S. 726, agreed to House amendments to the bill, with amendments, and returned the bill to the House. The legislation would implement the enforcement procedures of the Clayton Act by making applicable the present Federal Trade Commission Act enforcement provisions

against price discrimination, tying arrangements, mergers, and interlocking directorates.

PRICE DISCRIMINATION FUNCTIONAL DISCOUNTS: The Antitrust Subcommittee of the House Committee on the Judiciary conducted hearings June 25 and 26 on H. R. 848, H. R. 927, H. R. 2788, H. R. 2868, and H. R. 4530, to amend the Robinson-Patman Act so as to provide for the mandatory nature of functional discounts under certain circumstances, and for other purposes. The legislation is designed to supplement existing laws relating to price discrimination and for other purposes.

RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY ACTIVITIES: The desirability of the acquisition by the Post Office Department of equipment, facilities, and operations of the Railway Express Agency is under consideration. The Senate Post Office and Civil Service Commission announced hearings on the subject under S. Res. 8.

Senator Olin D. Johnston of South Carolina, Chairman of the Committee on June 18 sent the following telegram to the President of the Railway Express Agency:

"In compliance with your request hearing set for June 22nd under Senate Resolution 8 to consider advisability of the Post Office Department acquiring equipment and facilities of Railway Express Agency is being postponed to Tuesday, July 7th. Committee considers matter of great urgency. Cannot postpone beyond this date. Should railroads decide to discontinue Railway Express Agency, plans must be formulated to provide for adequate transportation of small packages by appropriate Government agency and to absorb employees of Railway Express Agency."

Senator Johnston also released the telegram received by him on June 12 from the President of the Railway Express Agency, requesting deferment of the hearings:

"Have advice of hearing set for June 22 under Senate Resolution 8 to consider advisability of having Post Office Department acquire equipment and facilities of Railway Express Agency. The Agency's management has laid a plan of reorganization before its Board of Directors. This will have intensive study of a special Board Committee prior to consideration at the next Board meeting on July 2. If approved, it will then be submitted to the 178 contract railroads for action. Accordingly, we urge that the June 22 hearing be deferred until after July 31. Please advise."

The Senator had previously announced on June 12 that the Committee would begin hearings on June 22.

SALMON IMPORT RESTRICTIONS: Joint Memorial of the State of California Legislative Assembly presented to the House June 16, and to the Senate June 17. The memorial urges the President and the Congress of the United States to take necessary actions to bring about a treaty between the United States, Canada, Japan, and Russia to properly protect the fish resources of the North Pacific Ocean; referred to the respective House and Senate Committees on Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

SHIP MORTGAGE INSURANCE AMENDMENTS OF 1959: The House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on June 30 ordered favorably reported S. 1434, an Act to amend Title XI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, with respect to insurance of ship mortgages, and for other purposes; without amendment (H. Rept. No. 631); referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union. Provides that the prospective owner of a vessel be permitted to delay placing a mortgage on the vessel until some time after it has been delivered by the shipbuilder, without losing privilege of having the mortgage insured. Would permit the prospective owner to save on interest charges, and would reduce the period of time during which the Secretary of Commerce is under risk with respect to the mortgage.

House Report No. 631, an amendment to the Merchant Marine Act with respect to insurance of ship mortgages (July 1, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, to accompany S. 1434), 8 pp., printed. Contains provisions of the bill, legislative background, reports favoring the legislation, and changes in existing law.

The Subcommittee on Merchant Marine of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 9 held hearings on H. R. 2241 and related bills, to amend title XI of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936, in order to provide mortgage and loan insurance for the construction, reconstruction, or reconditioning of vessels in shipyards in the continental United States.

SMALL BUSINESS AID FOR FIRMS AFFECTED BY FOREIGN TRADE POLICY: The Subcommittee on Small Business of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency conducted hearings June 22, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 7, and 8, on pending small business legislation including S. 1609, to provide assistance to small business concerns adversely affected by foreign trade policy, and for other purposes.

SMALL BUSINESS INVESTMENT ACT OF 1958 AMENDMENTS: S. 2139 (Saltonstall), a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking and Currency; introduced in Senate June 9. The bill provides certain amendments for improving the small business investment program to meet the needs of small business for equity capital and long-term loans. Would provide banking subsidiaries of bank holding companies with greater latitude in investing in small business investment companies. Certain restrictions regarding the formation of investment companies would be eliminated as would restrictions which require equity capital be provided only through the medium of convertible debentures. The bill further eliminates the requirement that a small business concern must purchase a certain amount of a small business investment company's stock in order to obtain equity capital from the investment company. Included are a number of amendments and changes of clarifying nature, and for other purposes.

Also H. R. 7691 (Moore) introduced in House June 11, H. R. 7706 (McDowell) introduced in House June 12, H. R. 7751 (Bass of New Hampshire) introduced in House June 16, H. R. 8096 (Evins)

introduced in House July 6, and H. R. 8114 (Dwyer) introduced in House July 7; to the Committee on Banking and Currency. Similar to S. 979 and related bills previously introduced which provide certain amendments for improving the small business investment program to better meet the needs of small business, and for other purposes.

Subcommittee on Small Business of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency conducted hearings on June 22, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 7, and 8, on small business legislation including S. 2139, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

SMALL BUSINESS TAX RELIEF: H. R. 7704 (McDowell), a bill to provide a program of tax adjustment for small business and for persons engaged in small business; introduced in House June 12; also H. R. 7651 (Lafore) introduced in House June 10, H. R. 7959 (Riehlman) introduced in House June 24, H. R. 8011 (Multer) introduced in House June 29, and H. R. 8090 (Alger) introduced in House July 6; all to the Committee on Ways and Means. Similar to H. R. 2 and related bills previously introduced which provide for tax adjustment in the interest of small business.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAX EXEMPTION PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN FISHING ACTIVITIES: S. 2126 (Eastland), a bill to exclude from coverage under the insurance system established by title II of the Social Security Act service performed by individuals in connection with certain fishing and related activities; to the Committee on Finance; introduced in Senate June 5. Also H. R. 8094 (Colmer); to the Committee on Ways and Means; introduced in House July 6.

STATE DEPARTMENT APPROPRIATIONS: The Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on appropriations on June 19, favorably reported to the full committee H. R. 7343, fiscal 1960 appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice, Judiciary, and related agencies. Included under the State Department are funds for the international fisheries commissions to enable the United States to meet its obligations in connection with participation in eight such commissions pursuant to treaties or conventions, and implementing Acts of Congress.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations on June 22 ordered favorably reported to the Senate H. R. 7343, with amendments (S. Rept. 424).

Senate Report No. 424, Departments of State and Justice, the Judiciary, and related agencies, appropriation bill 1960 (June 22, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the Senate Committee on Appropriations to accompany H. R. 7343), 20 pp., printed. Contains amount of bill as passed House, Committee recommendations, and comparison with amount of 1959 appropriations and 1960 budget estimates. For the international fisheries commissions, the Senate Committee recommended the same amount as provided by the House, \$1,725,000--an increase of \$61,300 over the 1959 fiscal year appropriations to meet increased pay costs, but \$29,000 below the amount of the budget request.

The Senate on June 23 passed with amendments H. R. 7343. The Senate insisted on its amendments,

asked for conference with the House, and appointed conferees.

The House disagreed to Senate Amendments to H. R. 7343, on June 29 agreed to a conference with the Senate, and appointed conferees.

The Senate and House Conferees, on July 30 filed a conference report on H. R. 7343, making appropriations for the Departments of State and Justice, the Judiciary, and related agencies for fiscal year 1960 (H. Rept. 620).

House Report No. 620, Departments of State and Justice, the Judiciary, and related agencies appropriation bill, 1960 (June 30, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Conference Report of the Joint Senate and House Committee of Conferees, to accompany H. R. 7343), 7 pp., printed. Lists the recommendations made by the Conference Committee to the respective Houses on the disagreeing votes on the amendments of the Senate to the bill. The report also contains an explanation of the effect of actions agreed upon and recommended by the Committee. For the International Fisheries Commissions the Committee recommended the same amount as provided by both the House and Senate--\$1,725,000, an increase of \$61,300 over the 1959 fiscal year appropriation to meet increased pay costs, but \$29,000 below the amount requested in the budget estimate.

House agreed to conference report on July 1 and receded and concurred on certain Senate amendments. The Senate on the same date agreed to conference report concurring to certain House amendments to Senate amendments clearing H. R. 7343 for the President.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS, 1960: H. R. 7978 (Thomas), a bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, and for other purposes; to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union; introduced in House June 26.

House Report No. 579, Supplemental Appropriation Bill 1960 (June 26, 1959, 86th Congress, 1st Session, Report of the House Committee on Appropriations, to accompany H. R. 7978), 13 pp., printed. Provides supplemental appropriations for certain agencies and departments. Includes \$10.5 million for the State of Alaska as limited assistance during the transitional period from territorial status to help finance functions formerly performed by the Federal Government; \$850,000 for studies to be carried out in fiscal year 1959-1960 by the National Outdoor Recreation Review Commission in conducting its nation-wide inventory and evaluation of outdoor recreation assets; \$660,000 for the River Basin Study Commission for South Carolina-Georgia-Alabama-Florida; and \$720,000 for the River Basin Study Commission for Texas.

Supplemental Appropriation, 1960: Hearings before the Subcommittee on Deficiencies, House Committee on Appropriations, 86th Congress, 1st Session, on Supplemental Appropriation Bill, 1960 (providing funds for certain agencies, commissions, departments, and other purposes), 317 pp., printed. Contains budget estimates and testimony presented by agencies and departments of Government. Included are funds pursuant to legislative authorization for transitional grants to Alaska; for

the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission; and for certain River Basin Study Commissions.

House on June 29 passed H. R. 7978, making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 1960 for certain departments and agencies of Government; referred to the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations held hearings July 13, 14, 16 and 17 on H. R. 7978, supplemental appropriations for fiscal 1960. Included are funds pursuant to legislative authorization for transitional grants to Alaska (Public Law 86-70); for the National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission; and for certain River Basin Study Commissions.

TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM: The President on June 25, pursuant to law, transmitted to the Senate the third annual report on the operation of the trade agreements program, with accompanying message (S. Doc. No. 31); referred to the Committee on Finance.

TRADE AGREEMENT ACT AMENDMENTS: H. R. 7863 (Dent), a bill to provide that the authority to enter into foreign trade agreements shall expire on June 30, 1960, and to provide that the Congress may disapprove any foreign trade agreement proposed to be entered into during the 1-year period beginning on July 1, 1959; to the Committee on Ways and Means; introduced in House June 19. Somewhat similar to H. R. 670 and related bills previously introduced which would provide for changes in the Trade Agreements Act, and for other purposes.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF IN DEPRESSED AREAS: H. J. Res. 423 (Oliver), a House Joint Resolution to provide for a special research inquiry into the causes of chronic unemployment in economically depressed areas, and for other purposes; introduced in House June 10; also H. J. Res. 434 (Anderson of Montana) introduced in House June 23; both to the Committee on Government Operations. Provides authority for the Council of Economic Advisers to the President to conduct an official study or investigation to determine what remedial measures might be undertaken to counteract the growth of chronic unemployment resulting from technological advance in industry, and for other purposes. Similar to H. J. Res. 411 previously introduced.

UNEMPLOYMENT TAX EXEMPTION PROVISIONS FOR CERTAIN FISHING ACTIVITIES: H. R. 8095 (Colmer), a bill to provide that the tax imposed by the Federal Unemployment Tax shall not apply with respect to service performed by individuals in connection with certain fishing and related activities; to the Committee on Ways and Means; introduced in House July 6. Similar to S. 2125 previously introduced.

WAGES: The Secretary of Labor transmitted to the Congress a draft of proposed legislation to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, to provide more effective procedures for enforcing the provisions of the act (with accompanying papers); presented in the House July 1, referred to the Committee on Education and Labor; presented in the Senate July 7, referred to the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare.

The Subcommittee on Labor of the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare met in executive session July 9 on S. 1046 and other bills to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act, so as to extend coverage under the Act, increase the minimum hourly wages, and for other purposes.

WAGE LAW ENFORCEMENT OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS: H. R. 8059 (Frelinghuysen), a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, to provide more effective procedures for enforcing the provisions of the Act; introduced

in House July 1; referred to the Committee on Education and Labor. Provides for amendment of existing law to strengthen enforcement provisions in regards to payment of minimum wages and overtime compensation.

WATER CONSERVATION ACT OF 1959: The House committee on Public Works on July 9-10 conducted hearings on H. R. 8, to promote and establish policy and procedure for the development of water resources of lakes, rivers, and streams.



DIVERS REPORT REEFS ATTRACT NEW FISH LIFE

Artificial ocean reefs are beginning to accomplish just what was expected of them. They were established in an effort to attract marine life to former underwater barren areas, thus providing additional sport to anglers.

At Paradise Cove, where old car bodies were placed on the bottom, 18 species of fish were counted during check up dives by California biologists. Most common were kelp bass, sargo, and several kinds of perch, including rubberlip, pile, black, barred, shiner, walleye, and rainbow. There now are a fair number of sheepshead and one cabezon was seen for the first time.

At Redondo Beach-Palos Verdes, where junked streetcars were placed, 11 species of fish were observed, most of them inside the cars. They were: kelp and sand bass, halfmoon, blacksmith, two kinds of blenny, sand dab, sheepshead, angel shark, and an unidentified flatfish.

Loitering near by was a school of bonito and three lobsters apparently were trying to decide whether to settle down in the new "housing tract."

At Monterey Oil Island-Seal Beach, large numbers of fish--24 species in all--were counted. Oil crews reported excellent fishing.

A dive was made off Corona del Mar to check the need for a possible future reef. However, because there were many rocks on the sand bottom and the area appeared to be naturally good habitat, no artificial development seems necessary.

At the Richfield Oil Island-Rincon, lingcod and sand bass were noted for the first time and larger numbers of large rubberlip perch were seen than on previous dives.

The Standard-Humble Oil Platform-Summerland area had lingcod, cabezon, and three species of rockfish for the first time. Jack mackerel were numerous.

The Carlisle report said commercial fishing and cannery interests as well as sportsmen have shown considerable interest in the project and have pledged their support. (Outdoor California, January 1959.)