



## International

### PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

#### HALIBUT REGULATIONS FOR 1960:

Fishing for halibut will begin May 1 in all North Pacific areas except in waters west of the Shumagin Islands, according to the recommendation of the International Pacific Halibut Commission to the governments of the United States and Canada. The 1960 regulations are almost the same as those in effect in 1959. In light of the scientific findings and discussions with the industry, the Commission is recommending to the two Governments the following regulations for the 1960 season:

Fishing areas shall be the same as in 1959: Area 1A--south of Heceta Head, Oreg.; Area 1B--between Heceta Head and Willapa Bay, Wash.; Area 2--between Willapa Bay and Cape Spencer, Alaska; Area 3A--between Cape Spencer and Shumagin Islands; Area 3B--waters west of Area 3A, including Bering Sea.

Opening date for halibut fishing in all areas except Area 3B shall be May 1 (at 6:00 a.m.).

Opening date for halibut fishing in Area 3B shall be at 6:00 a.m. April 1.

In Area 1A there shall be one fishing season, without catch limit, extending from May 1 to 6:00 a.m. October 16 or to the closure of Area 3A, whichever is later.

In Area 3A there shall be one fishing season, with a catch limit of 30 million pounds, commencing on May 1 and terminating at the time of attainment of the catch limit.

In Area 3B there shall be one fishing season, without catch limit, extending from April 1 to October 16 or to the closure of Area 3A, whichever is later.

In Area 2 there shall be two fishing seasons throughout the entire area.

In Area 2 the catch in the first season shall be limited to 26.5 million pounds. The second fishing season in Area 2 shall begin at 6:00 a.m. September 11, for a period of 7 days without catch limit.

In Area 1B there shall be two fishing seasons, identical in duration to those in Area 2, and without catch limits.

The grounds in Area 2 off Masset at the north end of Queen Charlotte Islands and off Timbered Islet off the west coast of Prince of Wales Island in southeastern Alaska, which were closed for a number of years prior to 1958, shall be open to fishing in 1960 as in 1959.

The Halibut Commission is responsible to Canada and the United States for the investigation and regulation of the halibut fishery of the northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea. Its specific function is the development of the stocks of halibut to levels that will permit the maximum sustained yield, and its decisions regarding regulations are based upon the findings of its scientific staff.

During the past 28 years of Commission management, there has been progressive improvement of the stocks and an increase in annual yield. The annual catch which had declined to 44 million pounds in 1931, the year before regu-

lation, has averaged more than 66 million pounds during each of the past four years. The 1959 catch of 71.5 million pounds was worth nearly \$13 million at the vessel level.

The International Pacific Halibut Commission concluded its Thirty-Sixth Annual Meeting late in February at its headquarters at the University of Washington, Seattle, with Chairman William M. Sprules of Ottawa, Ontario, presiding.

Other members of the Commission are Andrew W. Anderson of Washington, D. C., Vice Chairman, and Mattias Madsen and William A. Bates representing the United States; and Harold S. Helland and Richard Nelson representing Canada.

Andrew W. Anderson of Washington, D. C., was elected Chairman and Dr. William M. Sprules of Ottawa, Ontario, Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.

The Commission reviewed the past year's fishery and the research conducted by its scientific staff at its meeting. It dealt with administrative matters and approved a research program for 1960. In the course of its sessions the Commission conferred not only with its staff, but also with representatives of the halibut fishermen's, vessel owners' and dealers organizations, and with its Industry Advisory Group consisting of representatives of each of the foregoing segments of the industry. The scientific findings and all suggestions for regulations in 1960 were discussed at these meetings. In addition the Commission also conferred with representatives of the federal enforcement agencies of both countries regarding their plans for expansion of such activities on different sections of the Pacific Coast.

The Commission also announced that the 1961 Annual Meeting will take place at Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

Since in the past the United States and Canadian governments have accepted the recommendations of the Commission without changes, it is fairly certain that the 1960 regulations as recommended by the Commission will be approved by the two governments.

### FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

#### U. S. PROPOSALS FOR WORLD CONFERENCE ON TUNAS AND NUTRITIVE VALUE OF FISHERY PRODUCTS ACCEPTED:

The United States Delegation to the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference (held in Rome, October 31-November 20, 1959) reports that:

"The Conference recognized the value of holding world conferences in various fishery fields as a potent means of furthering the objectives of FAO; the reports of these conferences of experts formed the basis for creative action, and determined the direction that future activities should take.

## International (Contd.):

"Two major proposals by the United States Delegation were accepted and written into the report of the Conference. The first proposal, dealing with a world conference on the biology of tunas, was received favorably by all delegates, and the suggestion was made that the conference be held in Hawaii, because it is a major center for research of tunas, and has excellent facilities for a conference. In the absence of specific authority for the United States Delegation to issue an invitation, the time and place of this conference were left to the Director General to work out, in consultation with interested governments. The other proposal, dealing with a symposium on the nutritive value of fishery products, was also received favorably, and the Committee has requested the Director General to go into the possibility of organizing this symposium as a joint activity of the Fisheries and Nutrition Divisions, subject to the availability of funds."

## MARINE OILS

## ESTIMATED WORLD PRODUCTION, 1957-60:

World production of marine oils (includes whale and sperm whale oils and fish and fish-liver oils) in 1960 is expected to be about 3 percent above 1959 mainly because of a larger crop of whale oil from the 1959/60 Antarctic whaling season. Catch goals announced by the nations participating in Antarctic whaling total 17,500 blue-whale units, an increase of 2,200 units over 1958/59. The production of sperm oil this year is not expected to rise, since prices received for the 1959 production were relatively low.

Marine Oils	1960 <sup>1/</sup>	1959 <sup>2/</sup>	1958	1957
	. . . . . (1,000 Short Tons) . . . . .			
Whale . . . . .	440	415	435	440
Sperm whale . . . . .	125	125	135	110
Fish (including liver) . . . . .	500	490	470	485
Total . . . . .	1,065	1,030	1,040	1,035
<sup>1/</sup> Forecast.	<sup>2/</sup> Partly forecast.			

Fish oil production may be up slightly if the Norwegian winter and spring herring catch in 1960 recovers from the low levels of 1958-59. (Foreign Crops and Markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, January 28, 1960.)

## NORTH PACIFIC FUR SEAL COMMISSION

## THIRD ANNUAL MEETING:

The North Pacific Fur Seal Commission adjourned its third Annual Meeting on January 27, 1960. The meetings were marked by a spirit of cooperation among the four participating delegations from Canada, Japan, U. S. S. R., and the United States. Each country on the Commission is represented by a Commissioner and Advisers. The Commission, which was established under the provisions of the 1957 Interim Convention on Conservation of the North Pacific Fur Seals, signed at Washington on February 9, 1957, had opened its third Annual Meeting in Moscow on January 25.

The Commission has as its major responsibility investigation of the fur-seal resources of the North Pacific Ocean. The objective of this investigation is to determine the measures which will make possible the maximum sustainable yield from these resources, with due regard for their relation to the productivity of other living marine resources in the area. In accordance with plans developed by the Commission at its first and second meetings, research agencies of the four Governments are carrying on research at sea, while United States scientists carry on research on the breeding grounds on the Pribilof Islands in the Eastern Bering Sea, and Soviet scientists do similar work on the Commander Islands in the Western Bering Sea, and on Robben Island in the Okhotsk Sea. The investigations are concentrated on dynamics of the fur-seal populations, distribution and migration at sea, feeding habits, and harvesting methods.

In the course of its deliberation, the Commission reviewed the results of the 1959 scientific research programs of the four Member Governments--Canada, Japan, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and the United States--regarding the fur seals of the North Pacific Ocean.

It particularly noted the favorable growth of the Robben and Kommondorski herd and the progress being made on the Pribilof herd management program introduced in 1957 to develop the maximum sustainable yield from that herd. The 1959 research work revealed that young

## International (Contd.):

tagged seals from the Pribilof Islands occurred in some numbers on the Commander Islands. A few Pribilof tagged fur seals even went as far afield as Robben Island west of Sakhalin. The Commission also approved a coordinated plan for research during the 1960 season.

The Japanese Commissioner was elected Chairman of the Commission to serve through the next Annual Meeting and the U. S. S. R. Commissioner was elected Vice-Chairman.

It was agreed that the next Annual Meeting of the Commission would be held in Tokyo beginning January 30, 1961.

Investigations at sea will begin in early February 1960 on both sides of the Pacific. Investigations at the rookeries will begin in the early summer as the seals arrive at the end of their annual migration to the breeding ground.

Under the provisions of the Interim Convention, commercial harvesting of seals at sea is prohibited. All harvesting is done on the breeding grounds under the control of the United States on the Pribilof Islands, and under the control of the Soviet Government on Robben Island and the Commander Islands.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, February 1959, p. 46.

## ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION TO BE REORGANIZED

At the regular Ministerial Meeting of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation and also at special meetings held in Paris, January 12-14, 1960, an agreement was reached by the 20 Organization for European Economic Cooperation governments to replace the OEEC with a new organization in which the United States and Canada could participate as full members. Under the present organization, both are associate members.

Upon his return to Washington, Under Secretary of State Douglas Dillon, who represented the United States at the meetings, issued the following statement:

" . . . At these special meetings the 20 governments reached decisions which are of great potential importance for the future of economic cooperation in the Free World. Agreement was reached to work together for the establishment of a successor organization to the OEEC (Organization for European Economic Cooperation) in which the United States could participate as a full member and which would facilitate cooperation between the industrialized nations of the Free World in meeting the major economic problems which will face the world during the coming decade.

"As a result of the Paris decisions we also have reason to expect that a serious and successful effort will now be made to solve the problems of European trade connected with the European Economic Community, and the European Free Trade Association--the Six and the Seven. We have obtained assurances that any solution will take full account of the interests of the United States and other countries in accordance with the principles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"Also during the Paris meetings the governments of a number of capital exporting nations agreed to consult together on their efforts to provide development assistance to the less developed areas. This group will probably hold its first meeting in Washington in the near future."



## Australia

## GOOD CATCHES ON NEW SHRIMP GROUNDS REPORTED:

Australia's chartered exploratory fishing vessel Challenge towards the end of 1959 reported the discovery of a shrimp fishing area off Cape Moreton. A report from the Challenge, covering work during the third week of November 1959, says:

Shrimp were obtained in all depths between 20-32 fathoms, the most productive depths being 27-32 fathoms. In over 32 fathoms shrimp were obtained, but the ground carries large quantities of starfish.

## Australia (Contd.):

One drag on November 19 of 60 minutes yielded 70 pounds of king shrimp in a depth of 32 fathoms. Size range was from 3-9 inches and averaged 6-7 inches (heads on). Drags were made out to 80 fathoms but no shrimp were found.

The area tested extends at least 15 miles from northeast to northwest of Cape Moreton.

The Challenge later fished the area in company with 7 trawlers which had had difficulty in finding the ground. Catches for those vessels ranged from 400-700 pounds of king shrimp for the night. Some 170 pounds of king shrimp were taken by the Challenge using an American balloon trawl.

Leaving Cape Moreton, the Challenge trawled east of Moreton, Stradbroke, and South Stradbroke Islands in depths to 80 fathoms. Only a small quantity of shrimp was taken. The area showed reasonably good trawlable ground which could hold shrimp.

Between November 28 and December 8 the Challenge worked from Southport to Tweed Heads, Byron Bay, and Ballina.

The bottom between Southport and Tweed Heads seemed unsuitable for trawling, but off Ballina, in 44-45 fathoms, 15 pounds of king shrimp were obtained. It was the best show of king shrimp found in over 40 fathoms. It was intended to work the area at night. The ground appeared to be hard. (Australia Fisheries Newsletter, January 1960.)

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## RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF SOME FISHERY PRODUCTS REMOVED:

In another step towards normal world trading, Australia has removed restrictions on imports of fresh, chilled, and frozen fish from the dollar area. Australia makes the fourth country (others are Italy, United Kingdom, and France) which liberalized restrictions on the imports of some fishery products from the dollar area during 1959 or early 1960. In November 1959, Australia lifted restrictions on imports of fresh and frozen salmon.

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## SHRIMP INDUSTRY:

Although the Australian Government and the fishing industry are interested in expanding both the shrimp catch and exports, expansion of the shrimp industry has been slow. At an estimated catch level of 6.5 million pounds (heads on) in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, the landings would be down slightly from the preceding fiscal year total of 6.8 million pounds.

**Fishing Fleet:** There are about 150 vessels engaged full time in the Australian shrimp fishery. These vessels range in size from 30-60 feet in length with motors up to about 350 horsepower. During the peak shrimp fishing season, the fleet increases to about 200 vessels.

**Ex-Vessel Prices and Costs of Production for Export:** Prices being paid to the vessels for exportable sizes of shrimp (mostly 21-25 and 26-30 count) were from 39-42 U.S. cents a pound. Catches of shrimp are sold ungraded. Total costs for processing shrimp for export amount to about 23-24 cents a pound, including all costs to point of shipment other than storage at point of export. This latter cost, if incurred, would increase the total cost by 1 or 2 cents a pound. Additional costs to the distributor's level in the United States would include ocean freight, insurance, handling, storage, and broker's commission.

**Export Trade in Shrimp:** Australian statistics do not list the value of shrimp exports as those exports are combined with exports of other shellfish in the export statistics. The Australian Fisheries Division of the Department of Primary Industry estimates that exports for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1960, will be about 450,000 pounds of headless shrimp, or about 5 percent higher than the 1958/59 fiscal year exports of 427,000 pounds.

**Export Controls and Taxes:** There are no taxes or other export restrictions imposed on the shrimp exported from Australia. Under the Exports Regulations, shrimp must be processed in an establishment approved by the Government. The regulations prescribe certain sanitary requirements, freezing times, and maximum temperatures for freezing and storage. Inspectors for the Government insure compliance with the regulations.

Table 1 - Australia's Landings and Value of Heads-On Shrimp by Species, 1956/57-1958/59

Fiscal Year 1/	Species of Shrimp						Total	
	Green Tail	School	Tiger	King	Banana	Other	Quantity	Value 2/
	(1,000 Lbs.)							
1958/59 .....	680	2,092	679	2,280	974	46	6,751	943,000
1957/58 .....	832	970	627	1,539	647	37	4,647	796,618
1956/57 .....	693	1,476	303	1,780	793	30	5,076	851,423
1955/56 .....	511	2,070	336	2,092	1,138	-	6,148	763,267

1/Fiscal year July-June.

2/Australian pounds converted at rate of US\$2.24=1 £A.

Australia (Contd.):

Table 2 - Australia's Exports<sup>1/</sup> of Headless Shrimp, Fiscal Years 1956/57-1958/59

Country	1958/59	1957/58	1956/57
	(1,000 Lbs.)		
United States <sup>2/</sup> . . . . .	386	267	232
New Guinea . . . . .	35	23	54
Other . . . . .	6	7	22
Total . . . . .	427	297	308

<sup>1/</sup>Mostly king and banana shrimp.  
<sup>2/</sup>Includes Hawaii.

**Summary:** In view of the slow rate of expansion of the Australian shrimp fishery, it appears unlikely that shrimp exports to the United States will exceed the present level for some time in the future. (U. S. Embassy in Canberra, report dated December 11, 1959.)

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**TUNA FISHERY HAS GOOD SEASON:**

To December 10, 1959, one Australian firm with canneries had received about 1,600 metric tons of tuna. The catch for the season came in bursts and the firm used more tuna in a shorter time than ever before. The new clipper Estelle Star was believed to be the top boat. Tuna were apparently moving south, being taken off Cape Howe. Some yellowfin showed up in the Eden area--300 boxes taken in Lakes Entrance area. were about 15-lb. fish.

The tuna clippers Fairtuna and Tacoma returned to South Australia, reportedly with 20 tons of tuna. Some more of their tuna was held by another Australian firm (Sydney) which said they would merchandise it. An Australian firm was paying 5d. a pound (\$93 short ton) for tuna 15-80 pounds and 4d. a pound (\$75 ton) for other sizes for landings at Pt. Lincoln or Adelaide. (Australia Fisheries Newsletter, January 1960.)



**Brazil**

**NEW SHORE-BASED WHALING STATION ESTABLISHED:**

A new Brazilian land-based whaling station is being installed in the northern part of the State of Rio de Janeiro, about 500 miles north of the whaling station at Imbituba, in the State of Santa Catarina. The station will operate from May to November, or during the same periods as

other Brazilian land-based whaling stations. According to information received from the International Whaling Commission in London, the estimated production of the new station will be 390 blue-whale units, derived from minke and sperm whales.



**British Guiana**

**EXPANSION OF SHRIMP FISHERY CAUSES CONCERN:**

During the latter part of 1959 an increasing amount of attention was given by United States and Venezuela shrimp fishermen to the establishment of operations in British Guiana.

At the present time there is a corporation in British Guiana that operates two vessels, and in addition accepts the catches of approximately 27 additional vessels (principally from Florida and Texas) fishing off British Guiana.

During the past 10 months this corporation has forwarded to the United States market 1.1 million pounds of frozen shrimp valued at about US\$500,000.

There are strong indications that a number of additional trawlers that have operated out of Venezuela are now seriously interested in moving to new grounds because of various difficulties with the Venezuelan Government and merchants regarding their operations.

There are applications for permission to fish out of British Guiana originating from this Venezuelan group for about 12 additional trawlers, and it also appears that more trawlers are gradually coming in from Florida, probably about 20 vessels.

The Department of Fisheries of British Guiana is extremely concerned that this influx of vessels could well cause a serious situation because of the large number of very young fish caught during shrimp fishing and because the fish are discarded thereby creating a serious waste of potential fish in British Guiana waters. Special concern is also caused by the shrimp vessels catching a large quantity of young red snappers which

### British Guiana (Contd.):

are an important source of food and income to that country.

Fishing vessels operating out of British Guiana come under local regulations which require owners or masters to accept Government personnel to accompany vessels on voyages whereby technicians can observe at first hand methods and operations, and more particularly evaluate the proportion of fish being discarded from shrimp catches. (United States Embassy in Georgetown, February 2, 1960.)



### British North Borneo

#### TUNA FISHING COMPANY ESTABLISHED BY JAPANESE:

A Japanese company has decided to establish a joint tuna fishing company in British North Borneo with its base on a small island 60 miles east of Tawau. In February 1960 the Japanese company's freezer ship Guiyo Maru (3,800 tons) was expected to sail for Borneo. In the beginning, five skipjack boats will be used to catch an estimated 8,000 tons a year. The cannery, which will be set-up in conjunction with the fishing operation, is expected to pack 100,000 cases the first year. The capital of the new company will be some \$638,889. (Fisheries Economic News, January 30, 1960.)



### Cameroun<sup>1/</sup>

#### NEW NATION HAS PROMISING FISHERIES RESOURCES:

The fishing industry has just recently begun to be exploited in Cameroun. In spite of a relatively limited coast line (about 186 miles), Cameroun's maritime fishing industry looks quite promising, for the country is well endowed with numerous salt-water lagoons and the

<sup>1/</sup>Became an independent state January 1, 1960, and is located in the Gulf of Guinea. Formerly was part of French Equatorial Africa and a United Nations Trusteeship under French rule.

huge estuary of the Wouri River at Douala. By the end of November 1959 exports had already amounted to 422 tons.

Fishing in Cameroun is practiced by about 1,500 natives composing two distinct groups, those who work for European-owned fishing companies and independent fishermen. The former fish by trawling, mostly for a type of sea perch called "Otolithes." Other fish caught in Cameroun waters are sole, catfish, dolphin, shark, ray, gurnard, hogfish, mullet, conger eel, spiny lobster, shrimp, crab, tuna, barracuda, seapike, and carp. The independent fishermen use pirogues and fish with hand lines and cast net.

More fish is being eaten locally in the south of Cameroun each year, which is usually dried and smoked before being marketed. The fresh fish market is primarily controlled by the European-owned companies.

It is believed that as Cameroun turns more and more to its own resources, now that it is independent, one of the industries which will expand is the fishing industry. (United States Embassy in Yaounde, February 15, 1960.)



### Canada

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA FISH MEAL PLANTS CLOSED DUE TO POOR MARKET:

In mid-December 1959, the independently-operated fish meal and oil plants in British Columbia announced that they would not reopen their plants following the Christmas holidays due to the depressed world market for fish meal and oil. As of the end of January this year, the reduction plants remained closed with the exception of one fishermen's cooperative in Prince Rupert.

The usual spring opening of the 1959 herring fishing season in British Columbia was delayed until early October due to a dispute between the plant operators and the fishermen's union over the ex-vessel price for herring to be used for reduction. The fishermen's union had demanded a 14.6-percent increase over the 1958 price of \$13 a ton. The fish meal and oil plants rejected this offer and the union finally accepted a two-year contract at the 1958 ex-vessel price. Herring fishing began on October 6, 1959. In spite of the short fishing season, landings of herring through December 19, 1959, amounted to 166,251 tons as compared with 174,576 tons landed during the normal-length season of 1958 up to that same date.

Spokesmen for the British Columbia herring reduction industry in replying to protests by the fishermen's union point out that when the original contract was signed (probably 1958 or earlier), herring meal was selling at about \$162 a

Canada (Contd.):

ton and that when the shutdown was announced in mid-December 1959, prices had dropped to about \$115 a ton. During that period world oil prices also declined. The spokesmen attributed the drop in prices for fish meal and oil to the sharp increase in fish meal production by Peru, the bumper crop of fish meal and oil produced in South and South-West Africa, plus increased use of vegetable oils. The British Columbia producers claim that they cannot compete with the low-priced fish meal from Peru (about \$110 a ton f.o.b. U.S. port in January 1960). In rebuttal to statements by the fish meal and oil plant spokesmen, the union has accused the companies of "inefficient production methods" and also the Canadian Government of failure to broaden the market for herring. The company spokesmen claim that high production and labor costs prohibit British Columbia from producing canned, pickled, and smoked herring products.

The British Columbia fishermen were reported to be looking for aid from the Provincial and Federal Governments to pressure the plant operators to resume production as well as to consider granting a subsidy to permit economic operation.

In the 1959 season through December 19, British Columbia plants produced 30,031 tons of fish meal and 4,328,220 Imperial gallons of fish oil as compared to 31,337 tons of fish meal and 3,955,508 gallons of fish oil through the same date in 1958. (United States Consul in Vancouver, January 22, 1960.)

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**BRITISH COLUMBIA SHUCKED OYSTER PRODUCTION HIGHER IN 1959:**

The British Columbia shucked oyster production in 1959 amounted to 74,632 Imperial gallons (89,558 U. S. gallons), higher by 18.8 percent than the 1958 production of 62,834 gallons. Prices to producers in December 1959 were as follows for Imperial measures: half-pints, C\$0.33-0.40; pints, \$0.65-0.80; quarts, \$1.00-1.65; gallons, \$4.00-5.25.

Table 1 - British Columbia's Oyster Meats Production, 1958-59

Year	Imperial Measures					Total Gallons
	Half-Pints	Pints	Quarts	Gallons	Other	
1959	390,837	13,158	24,849	38,845	3,503	74,632
1958	313,889	21,414	18,492	32,675	3,241	62,834

Note: Imperial gallon = 1,2003 U. S. gallons.

Retail prices in Vancouver on January 15, 1960, were C\$0.52-0.55 for an Imperial half-pint container.

Note: Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, March 1959, p. 61.



**Chile**

**"LANGOSTINO" INDUSTRY:**

The most important shellfish landed in Chile is the "langostino," or salt-water crawfish (*Galathea monodon*). This shellfish is not closely related to either the shrimp or spiny lobster, but is considered by the United States fishery trade to be a "spiny lobster-type meat" and is classified as such in U. S. Customs records.

The "langostinos" are caught in depths ranging from 50 to 100 fathoms, and the fishing season is from May to December. Landings of about 12.6 million pounds in 1956 increased to 25.1 million pounds in 1957, and to 28.3 million pounds in 1958.

The fishermen receive 65 U. S. cents a case of 13 kilos, or about 2.27 U. S. cents a pound for the whole "langostinos." Observers state that the recovery from whole "langostinos" in terms of the cooked, peeled, and deveined tail portion exported to the United States is only about 15 percent.

Exports to the United States of the cooked, peeled, and deveined "langostino tails" began in 1955 (about 5,000 pounds) and climbed to 441,423 pounds in 1956, and were almost 1 million pounds in both 1957 and 1958, according to U. S. Customs records.

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**SHRIMP INDUSTRY:**

Most of Chile's shrimp catch is made in cold deep water (100 fathoms or more) and are sold in Chile as "camarones." The shrimp run about 120 to the pound heads off and are caught usually from May to December. According to estimates, the landings in 1959 amounted to about 750,000 pounds, or about 11 percent lower than the 842,000 pounds reported for 1958. Landings both in 1958 and 1959 were about three times the landings made in 1956 and 1957.

As of December 1959, 15 vessels were reported to be engaged in the shrimp fishery. These shrimp fishing vessels, of 20-50 metric tons hold capacity, range in size from 44 to 80 feet in length and are powered by 100 to 300 German-made Diesel engines.

## Chile (Contd.):

Shrimp processing plants purchase heads-on shrimp from the vessels at \$1.10 per case of 15 kilos (about 3.33 U. S. cents a pound). Based on a headless shrimp cost of about 10 U. S. cents a pound, other costs of deveining, cooking, freezing, packaging, and transportation bring production costs up to about 42 U. S. cents a pound.

Exports from 1956-59 were all to the United States and amounted to 163,636 pounds in 1958, 45,340 pounds in 1957, and 84,027 pounds in 1956, according to U. S. Customs records.

The 1959 budget of the Corporacion de Fomento de la Produccion (Government Development Corporation) included US\$500,000 for use in facilitating the purchase of fishing boats. In October 1959, the Government announced that the Ministry of Agriculture would import motors and fishing equipment to be sold on credit to fisheries cooperatives in the Provinces of Tarapaca and Antofagasta. The Government hopes to extend credit to other fisheries districts in the future. A United States citizen proposes to establish a shipyard at Iquique for building fishing vessels of native wood. The proposed vessels will be combination trawler-purse seiners about 66 feet in length with a hold capacity of 100 tons.

There are no taxes on shrimp exports, but the processing companies are taxed. A letter of credit is required to obtain an export license. Inspections for quality are made at the plant and the point of shipment. (United States Embassy in Santiago, December 17, 1959.)



## Cuba

#### GOVERNMENT ASSUMES CONTROL OF FISHING COOPERATIVES:

In a brief Resolution published in the Cuban Official Gazette No. 9 of January 14, 1960, the INRA (National Agrarian Reform Institute) formally assumed control over all the Cuban fishing cooperatives.

This confirms previous reports that the INRA intended to enter more actively into the fisheries field. However, no official announcement has been made concerning the reported possibility that the National Fisheries Institute (Instituto Nacional de la Pesca) would be completely absorbed by the Fisheries Department of the INRA.

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#### RESOLUTION ESTABLISHES MAXIMUM PRICES FOR MANY FISH AND SHELLFISH:

The Cuban Ministry of Commerce Resolution No. 3, which appeared in Official Gazette No. 6 of January 11, 1960, established maximum prices to the public on a number of listed fish and shellfish products.

The National Fisheries Institute (Instituto Nacional de la Pesca) of the Cuban Maritime Development Office previously had established a new ceiling price to be paid to fishermen of US\$12 per case of 60 pounds for whole spiny lobster or for 20 pounds of spiny lobster tails, which was to become effective retroactively to June 15, 1959. This decision, published in Official Gazette No. 207 of November 2, 1959, is being hotly contested by the spiny lobster packing plant owners who may be obliged thereby to pay the difference between the new price of \$12 per case and the formerly-agreed price of \$11.50 per case, retroactively to June 15, 1959.

The stated purpose of these pricing regulations are said to be to improve the economic position of the Cuban fishermen as a class. The regulations militate quite definitely against the packing plant owners. The Cuban Government claims that the consuming public will also benefit from these pricing measures.

Recently the INRA (National Agrarian Reform Institute) was reported to have expropriated approximately 300 fishing vessels in Las Villas Province. The INRA is proceeding to establish fishermen's cooperatives and is operating ice plants and "peoples stores" in that area. The INRA is also reported to have intervened several packing firms in Manzanillo, Oriente, which will henceforth be op-

## Cuba (Contd.):

erated as cooperatives. A boatyard in Manzanillo is also reported to have launched the first fishing boat constructed for the INRA.

The INRA apparently has not yet felt it expedient to attempt to expropriate fishing concerns in the Habana area where it might be expected that the INRA would encounter considerable resistance, especially on the part of the Habana fishing fleet skippers who display no intentions of willingness to turn over their privately-owned boats to any cooperative fishing organizations. INRA has reportedly paid in cash for all the fishing facilities it has thus far expropriated, the United States Embassy in Habana reported on January 18, 1960.

Note: See Commercial Fisheries Review, December 1959, p. 76.



## Denmark

## EXPERIMENTS ON FRESH FISH SHIPMENTS PLANNED:

Two fish exporters located in Esbjerg, Denmark, have been selected by the Danish Ministry of Fisheries to carry out experimental shipments of various kinds of fresh fish to France and Italy. The project is being financed by a grant of 25,000 kroner (US\$3,621), and will be supervised by experts from the Ministry's research laboratory.

The project is comprehensive, and will include tests of various packing materials, insulation materials, and market researches of the demand for the fresh fish in the area to which they are shipped. The shipments will take place over a period of several months so that the effect of air temperature on the fish can also be taken into account. The first shipment is scheduled to go to Boulogne, France, states a United States Embassy dispatch from Copenhagen dated January 29, 1960.



## Egypt

## EQUIPMENT FOR NEW SARDINE CANNING PLANT RECEIVED:

According to press reports from Egypt, the Japanese equipment for the sardine canning plant to be set up at Damietta arrived early in February at Port Said. The reports state that the cost of setting up the new canning plant will be about 100,000 Egyptian pounds (about US\$284,000 at official exchange rate) and that the plant will be in operation in September 1960. The canned sardines produced by the plant are destined for export, the United States Consul at Port Said reported on February 2, 1960.



## French West Africa

## TUNA FISHERY TRENDS, DECEMBER 1959:

The 1959/60 tuna fishing season off French West Africa began on November 1, 1959, one month earlier than in 1958. This will be the fifth tuna fishing season in that area and landings are expected to be up sharply from the 1958/59 season.

A Senegalese delegation, headed by the Director of Cabinet of the Minister of Rural Economy, participated on September 30, 1959, in the Paris meeting of the Tuna-Fish Interprofessional Committee. It submitted the 1959/60 season's program which involves a catch of 16,000 metric tons of tuna (about 7,000 tons landed in 1958/59 season) and which was agreed to according to official sources. Of that quantity, 7,500 tons are to be processed in the 5 local canneries (against 4,500 tons in 1958/59), 2,500 will be frozen in the Dakar area and shipped to French mainland canneries, and 6,000 tons are due to be frozen in Dakar for sale in foreign markets. In connection with the latter, the Minister of Rural Economy mentioned in a press interview late in November that a United States tuna canning firm had made "extremely interested proposals regarding the United States market. . .with a possibility of offering an outlet for as much as 10,000 tons annually." He also referred to a contract for the supply of 3,000 tons of tuna which had been placed

### French West Africa (Contd.):

by Italy, which groups the tuna clippers of France and Senegal.

The possibility of substantially expanding the tuna canning facilities in the Dakar area has been under consideration. A mission of three top executives, two representing France's fishing interests and the third the Caisse Centrale de Credits Cooperatifs pour la Peche, came to Dakar in October to study the possibility of establishing a tuna cannery with a capacity of 1,000 metric tons a month. If this project materializes, Dakar would have the largest such factory in French West Africa and, reportedly, of all the European Economic Community (EEC) countries.

The 1959/60 16,000-ton tuna catch quota reportedly represents half of the expected total for the area. The Senegalese Government is most anxious to develop the tuna resources, the United States Consul at Dakar reported on December 17, 1959.



### German Federal Republic

#### FOUR STERN-FISHING TRAWLERS ORDERED BY FISHING COMPANY:

West Germany's largest ocean fishing company has contracted with Bremerhaven shipyards for seven Diesel-powered trawlers. Four of the new vessels will be of the stern-fishing type. Two of the stern-fishing trawlers will be about 219.8 feet in length with a 36.1-foot beam. Both of these vessels will be equipped for freezing fish and for fish meal production.

The other two stern-fishing trawlers, reportedly, will differ significantly in construction and method of operation from the usual type of stern-fishing trawler. The other three conventional trawlers will be built for the herring fishery. All seven vessels will be placed in service in 1960 and 1961. (Fiskets Gang, January 14, 1960, Norwegian trade paper.)



### Greece

#### AGREEMENT REACHED WITH PORTUGAL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TWO FACTORYSHIPS:

The Greek Government announced late in 1959 that an agreement had been reached with Portugal for the construction of two factoryships. The vessels will be 84 meters (about 256 feet in length) and will be paid for from the proceeds of 5,200 metric tons of Greek tobacco sold to Portugal. The vessels are to be sold to two Greek fishing companies on very liberal terms. The value of each factoryship is estimated to be about US\$1,850,000. The contract with the Greek fishing companies calls for repayment of the loans in eight annual installments.

The contract terms, which call for very little actual capital outlay on the part of two Greek fishing companies who will operate the vessels, has been the cause of some criticism on the part of the Greek fishing industry. (Aleia, December 17, 1959.)

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#### FROZEN FISH PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS INCREASE:

The four Greek fishing vessels that fished off the Northwest African Coast (Mauritania) during 1959 landed 3,900 metric tons of frozen fish. In addition, frozen fish imports of 2,269 tons (valued at US\$645,000) from January-June 1959 were up by 449 tons from the 1,820 tons (valued at US\$468,000) imported in 1958. For the whole of 1959, it is estimated that frozen fish imports will total 5,000 tons, valued at US\$1,500,000.

In 1960 it is estimated that 10 vessels under construction in foreign shipyards will be added to the fleet. With these additions to the fleet of vessels equipped for freezing fish at sea, landings of frozen fish in 1960 are expected to be about 12,000 tons and by 1961 should reach 18,000 tons.

Some Greek fishing firms find the expansion of the landings and imports of frozen fish a cause of worry. These firms have requested the Government to postpone new ship building and curtail imports, the Greek fishing periodical, Aleia reported in the December 1959 issue.



## Haiti

### NEW TAX ON IMPORTED FISHERY PRODUCTS:

A new Haitian tax of 5 percent on the c.i.f. value of imported luxury foodstuffs, including practically all fishery products except fresh and salt fish, became effective on January 27, 1960. The fishery products subject to the new tax are as follows: Tariff Item No. 12433: salmon, simply prepared and preserved in cans; No. 12434: cod fish, herring, aiglefin (haddock), mackerel, tuna with or without sauce or oil, and salmon packed in sauce or oil; 12434A: kippered herring (smoked herring in boxes without oil added); No. 12435: sardines and similar fish, with or without oil; No. 12436: anchovies and anchovy paste; No. 12437: caviar, fish eggs, and fish paste; No. 12438: oysters and shrimp in cans; No. 12439: other fish, scallops, and seafood products, preserved.

Most luxury-type foods imported into Haiti are also subject to a general luxury tax of 4-6 percent, depending on the product. Information on the fishery products against which this tax is levied is not available. (United States Embassy at Port-Au-Prince, February 9, 1960.)



## Honduras

### SHRIMP INDUSTRY:

**Production:** Prior to 1958 shrimp landings in Honduras amounted to about 50,000 pounds. In 1958, Honduras, along with other Central American countries, experienced a mild boom and landings in that year were probably close to 900,000 pounds. However, in 1959 the trend was reversed due to (1) unfavorable legislation which curtailed the operations of foreign vessels (mostly United States) and (2) the drop in United States shrimp prices. Maximum potential is between 1-3 million pounds of headless shrimp a year, half white and half pink.

The size of the shrimp is reported to average about 26-30 count per pound (headless), and very few under 15-count shrimp are caught. Two species dominate the catches--white shrimp (*Penaeus schmitti*) and pink shrimp (*Penaeus duorarum*).

**Fishing Fleet:** As of mid-October 1959, there were only eight active shrimp trawlers fishing for shrimp in Honduras. A freezer ship, which had been operating with a fleet of five trawlers, grounded and sank, and several trawlers were laid up for repairs. All of the vessels are powered with Diesel engines and range in length from 30 to 70 feet. No shrimp fishing vessels are being built in Honduras. Further additions to the fleet at the present time are doubtful due to restrictive laws, and the high cost of production.

**Costs of Production:** For independent vessels, costs (based on 1958 figures) of producing shrimp for export are estimated to be about 51.5 U. S. cents. These costs are as follows: ex-vessel price, 32.5 cents; freezing and grading, 7.0 cents; cases and cartons, 3.0 cents; unloading or permit charges, 5.0 cents; and export taxes, 4.0 cents. In addition, cost of ocean freight to the United States is about 3.5 cents a pound, and other costs incurred to the point of distribution in the United States includes unloading, storage, and commission. These costs help to explain the sharp drop in exports in 1959.

**Shore Facilities For Processing Shrimp:** There are two freezers located in Honduras. One plant is located on the Island of Guanaja and the second on Caratasca Lagoon. Another freezing facility was the freezer ship which was lost by sinking. Ice costs about \$12.50 a ton and Diesel fuel 20 U. S. cents a gallon.

**Exports and Taxes:** No reliable figures on shrimp exports are available from Honduras. According to United States Customs figures, imports of shrimp from Honduras jumped from none in 1957 to about 836,000 pounds in 1958, and then declined to 271,000 pounds in 1959.

Prior to September 1959 export taxes amounted to 10 percent on a valuation of 1.5 lempiras a pound (about 75 U. S. cents) plus an additional tax of 10 centavos a 100 kilos. Currently export taxes amount to 10 percent on an export price of 80 centavos (40 U. S. cents a pound) plus the 10 centavos a 100 kilos mentioned above. This amounts to slightly over 4 U. S. cents a pound, the United States Embassy at Mexico reported on December 14, 1959.



## Iceland

### CONVENTION PROPOSES INCLUSION OF COASTAL SHELF IN TERRITORIAL FISHING LIMITS:

A national Fisheries Convention was held in Reykjavik, Iceland, the week of February 7, 1960, with delegates representing the seamen, fishing boat owners, and fish processors. This convention issued a resolution to the effect that Iceland's "entire coastal shelf shall be within the fishing jurisdiction limits" and it is Iceland's "duty and right to decide conservation measures for the fish stocks on the coastal shelf. . . ."

In the opening speech it was mentioned that the catch per fisherman has increased 20 times since 1905. In 1959 the fish catch per working fisherman came to 100 metric tons. (United States Embassy at Reykjavik, February 19, 1960.)

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### FISHERIES TRENDS, JANUARY 1960:

On January 14, 1960, the Icelandic Federation of Labor announced that the negotiations committee for the Seamen's Union had recommended to the participating unions that wages and terms for

Iceland (Contd.):

fishermen on the motorboat fleet temporarily remain the same as those for 1959.

At a meeting of the Reykjavik Municipal Fisheries Board on January 4 it was announced that the Municipal Fish Packing Center would join the Freezing Plants Corporation for frozen fish export purposes.

Since the Municipality purchased the fish packing center from the State last summer it has almost doubled the center's capacity. It continued to use the same agents abroad for selling its frozen fish products.

The decision to join the Freezing Plants Corporation increases the latter's share of the frozen fish export market from about 81-85 percent. The remainder is sold by the Federation of Iceland Cooperative Societies.

With the opening of the winter cod season, Icelandic trawler owners are faced with a severe shortage of fishermen. This shortage is primarily due to the Faroese Fishermen's Union refusing to permit their members to work on Icelandic vessels until assurances were obtained that they would not suffer as a result of the rumored currency devaluation and would not have to pay Icelandic taxes. However on January 21 a telegram was received from this Union that three representatives would arrive in Reykjavik on January 26 to talk terms with the Union of Iceland Fishing Vessels Owners. The importance of the Faroese for manning the Icelandic fishing fleet is seen from the fact that last year 880 foreign seamen, mostly Faroese, out of 6,000 crew members manned vessels of the fishing fleet. (United States Embassy at Reykjavik, January 25, 1960.)

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#### FISHERY LANDINGS IN 1959 BREAK RECORD:

Preliminary estimates on the landings of fishery products in Iceland of 623,000 metric tons make 1959 the best year in history. This amount exceeds

the very good landings made in 1958 by 42,000 tons. The record landings made in 1959 were due primarily to the good herring catch, which exceeded the 1958 landings of that species by 76,000 tons.

Although the over-all 1959 herring fishery was excellent, the South Coast season which ended on January 12, 1960, was disappointing in the landings of large herring suitable for salting. In 1958, the South Coast fishery yielded 107,000 barrels of salted herring as compared with 51,488 barrels during the 1959 season. The 1959 production of salt herring was not sufficient to meet the commitments on advance contracts of 58,000 barrels. (United States Embassy at Reykjavik, January 25, 1960.)

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#### VESSEL OWNERS FAIL TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH FAROESE FISHERMEN:

Negotiations have been broken off between the Federation of Icelandic Fisheries Owners and the Chairman of the Faroese Seamen's Union, regarding terms of employment for about 800 Faroese fishermen who would serve on Icelandic fishing vessels between February and May or June of this year.

Although there were differences over a number of issues, the chief issue maintained by both the Icelandic vessel owners and the Iceland Seamen's Union is that Faroese seamen must not receive better wages than those paid to Icelandic fishermen. The Faroese Union demanded that Faroese fishermen receive 1,500 Danish kronur a month (about US\$217) as minimum wages. Last year Faroese fishermen were authorized to send home approximately 1,060 Danish kronur a month (US\$154).

On February 5 it was announced that the Faroese Fishermen's Union intended to sue the Union of Icelandic Fishing Vessel Owners for pay still due certain Faroese fishermen. The Icelandic vessel owners' group replied that it was surprised at this move since it would not be held financially responsible for the unfortunate failure of a few vessel owners to properly pay wages.

The impasse in negotiations face Faroese with unemployment and a number

## Iceland (Contd.):

of Icelandic trawler owners with shortages of fishermen. On February 2, a leading fish producer in Iceland suggested compulsory service as a solution for the fishing fleet's manpower problem. (United States Embassy at Reykjavik, February 8, 1960.)



## Iran

SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRENDS,  
DECEMBER 1959:

As of late 1959 there was only one shrimp fishing company active in the Iranian shrimp fishery. This firm, which is controlled by a New York City importing firm, is reported to have nine Diesel-powered shrimp trawlers. These vessels are 65 feet long with a displacement of about 50 tons. The 1,000-ton freezer ship, which was due to arrive in Iran about September 1959, broke down in the Mediterranean and until ready to begin operations in the Persian Gulf, shrimp fishing has been limited to two vessels. A second Iranian fishing company, formerly engaged in fishing for shrimp and other fish, no longer lands shrimp.

No official statistics on the shrimp landings are maintained, but some data on exports are available. According to the customs data, exports of shellfish in 1958 were made to Italy (117 metric tons, valued at US\$94,000), to the United States (82 tons, valued at \$92,000), and to Oman (17 tons, valued at \$4,000). According to United States Customs records, exports to the United States in 1959 increased sharply to 740,000 pounds.



## Ireland

CUSTOMS DUTY ON MARINE  
OILS INCREASED:

Effective December 11, 1959, Ireland's Department of Industry and Commerce increased the customs duties on refined vegetable, fish, and marine ani-

mal fats and oils 50 percent (full) and 33½ percent (preferential--United Kingdom and Canada) ad valorem. The previous rate was a flat 33½ percent ad valorem. (United States Embassy reported from Dublin, January 13, 1960.)



## Italy

FISH FREEZING AND  
STORAGE FACILITIES:

The refrigeration of Italian fishery products is carried out in ice-refrigerated spaces with a capacity of 25,000 cubic meters. Fast-freezing is carried out on six ships provided with freezing equipment and in six shore-freezing plants. The storage capacity of cold-storage warehouses operated in port areas is large enough to allow the storing of frozen imported fish.

During transportation, refrigerated products are usually kept at temperatures ranging from 2° C. to 3° C. (35.6° to 46.4° F.), while frozen products, either slowly or rapidly frozen, are kept at temperatures ranging from -10° C. to -7° C. (14° to 19.4° F.). Deep-frozen products are usually kept at -20° C. to -18° C. (-4° to -0.4° F.). (United States Embassy in Rome, January 12, 1960.)



## Japan

WINTER ALBACORE FISHERY  
TRENDS, JANUARY 1960:

Since the beginning of the year, there have been signs that the beginning of winter albacore fishing was close at hand. Small quantities of hook-and-line fish, some 1,000 metric tons in all, were landed in January at Ishinomaki, Onagawa, Nakaminato, Yaizu, and Shimizu. In addition, some 500 tons of long-line albacore were landed at Katsuura, in the central part of Honshu, and Shimizu.

The hook-and-line fishing in January was in the vicinity of 144° E. longitude and 36°30' N. latitude, where about 50 vessels were said to be operating. The

Japan (Contd.):

long-line fishing was around 152° E. longitude and 30° N. latitude. Hook-and-line albacore weigh 37-40 pounds each on the average and almost all of them are being bought for canning purposes. Long-line albacore are divided about equally between the canners and freezers. (Suisan Tsushin, January 20, 1960.)

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PORT OF SHIMIZU BOOMING WITH WINTER ALBACORE AND INDIAN OCEAN TUNA:

Since mid-February landings of winter albacore at the port of Shimizu have been good and from 2,000-3,000 large albacore (between 24-33 pounds each) were landed every day and were bought by the canners. These winter albacore were landed by about 35 boats from Kushikino, Kagoshima Prefecture, which reported good fishing and are now based at Shimizu. These fish from nearby waters were sold at the high price which has prevailed since the end of 1959. At the same time, tuna boats were coming in from the Indian Ocean one after another. According to their reports, this year three times as many boats are fishing in that area, but catches appear to be good.

The port of Shimizu also received landings every day of Indian Ocean bluefin. In December 1959 there were landings of 131 tons of Indian Ocean bluefin and albacore by four boats from Mie and Kagoshima Prefectures, and the bluefin sold for 533 to 3,850 yen per 10 kg. (US\$148-1,069 a metric ton), the southern albacore at 850-950 yen (\$236-264 a ton), and local albacore at 910-1,050 yen (\$253-292 a ton).

The Japanese vessel No. 2 Wako Maru (260 tons gross), which is famous for big landings of Indian Ocean tuna, sailed December 26, fished for 9 days, from January 13 to 21, caught 116 to 342 Indian Ocean bluefin each day, and made a quick trip back with 80 metric tons of tuna.

The fishing took place at 23°-26° S., 101°-107° E. in surface water temperatures of 21°-22° C. (69.8°-71.6° F.).

Although there are three times as many boats fishing in that area as last year, catches are good, with all boats taking 4 to 10 tons a day. It is anticipated therefore that landings of Indian bluefin will continue at a good level for some time. (Nippon Suisan Shimbun, February 17, 1960.)

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ATLANTIC ALBACORE SEASON ENDS WITH ONLY 5,000 TONS:

Fishing conditions early this year in the Atlantic tuna fisheries as operated by about 35 Japanese long-line vessels are described in the Japanese periodical Suisan Tsushin. The reported decline in the hooked rate had occurred, it seems, particularly in the fishing of Atlantic albacore.

Albacore fishing off Brazil had shown a sharply increased catch for some time since the end of November 1959 and a forecast was made in December that 15,000 tons would be caught by the end of the season early this year. But by January 27, 1960, only 5,000 tons or so had been caught and the end of the albacore season came earlier than expected.

In place of albacore, yellowfin fishing off the Gold Coast of Africa has developed. A good fishing pace was reported--12 to 20 tons a day per vessel--with a rate-of-catch equal to that of two years ago. The yellowfin being caught in the area are smaller than the type suitable for export to the United States, but most of the fishing vessels have sales contracts with such European countries as Italy and Yugoslavia.

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REGULATIONS FOR TRANSSHIPMENT OF FROZEN YELLOWFIN TUNA EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES IN 1960:

The shipboard freezers' section of the yellowfin tuna committee of the Japanese Export Tuna Freezers' Association met on February 22 to work out a final plan for regulating transshipment exports of frozen yellowfin tuna (mostly from the Atlantic) to the United States during the 1960 export year. In form the regulations will not be greatly different from last year's, but in substance there will

## Japan (Contd.):

be a considerable revision. The main points are as follows:

1. It is likely that the restriction of 2 trips per year per vessel will be removed. If this materializes, it is possible that medium-sized tuna vessels will begin regular operations out of the base at Freetown in Sierra Leone, West Africa. This will mean a change of the Atlantic tuna fishery from a simple distant-water operation to a foreign-based type of fishery.

2. Hitherto the regulation of transshipments of tuna to the United States was aimed only at Atlantic operations, but beginning with the new export year, Indian Ocean and Pacific Ocean operations will also come under regulation. This means, in actuality, the recognition of transshipment exports from the Indian Ocean, and brings up the possibility of a broad change in the pattern of operations in the Indian Ocean. However, transshipments from the Pacific will probably be prevented by the new system of designating transshipment ports.

3. It is not yet finally settled, but plans are under examination for revising the method of calculating the annual limit on total number of trips for transshipment (100 to 120 trips), so that trips on which the vessel is not loaded to capacity, or trips by medium-sized vessels, will not be counted simply as one trip but will be prorated; for example, as one-half a trip. (Suisan Tsushin, February 22, 1960.)

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EXPORT QUOTA TO U. S. FOR  
FROZEN TUNA LOINS AND  
ALBACORE DISCUSSED:

The Japan Frozen Foods Exporters Association tentatively decided early in February that for 1960 the export quota to the United States directly from Japan for frozen tuna loins will be 4,000 short tons, and frozen albacore tuna 30,000 tons.

The 1959 quotas were 3,000 tons for loins and 30,000 tons for albacore. (Suisan Tsushin, February 4, 1960.)

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CANNED TUNA IN OIL  
EXPORTS DOUBLE:

Japanese exports of tuna canned in oil from April to December 1959 amounted to 1,136,000 actual cases, or nearly double the 599,000 cases exported during the same period of the preceding year, according to a compilation by the Export Tuna Cannery Association. Of this total, white meat accounted for 156,000 cases (115,000 the year before) and light meat for 980,000 cases (484,000 cases the preceding year).

Exports in actual cases from April-December 1959 went to (1958 figures in parentheses): Germany 344,772 (188,828), Canada 103,864 (86,852), United Kingdom 102,457 (40,791), Saudi Arabia 88,428 (44,907), Belgium 79,325 (49,289), Lebanon 78,608 (22,105), Netherlands 68,998 (47,913), Syria 66,130 (1,179); Total (omitting smaller markets)--1,136,863 cases (599,886).

Total exports for the calendar year 1959 were 1,346,792 cases. Very little tuna canned in oil is exported to the United States. (Suisan Tsushin, February 20, 1960.)

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PRICE CUT FOR CANNED LIGHT  
MEAT TUNA IN BRINE DISCUSSED:

The Japanese Tuna Cannery Association early in February held its directors' meeting and discussed a price cut for canned light meat tuna in brine for export to the United States. The exporters' side of the Association asked for a price cut because of weak market conditions. It was decided to leave the matter to the discretion of the president of the packers association and the president of the sales company.

The general opinion was that a cut of 30¢ a case on light meat, on the basis of the present price of \$7.30 f.o.b., may be sufficient, but the president of the sales company stated that he thought a 50¢ reduction was necessary. If the cut of 50¢ a case is accepted, the new price on light meat will be \$6.80 a case f.o.b. Also, the sales company reported that it expected to put up 200,000 cases of light meat on the first sale in February. (Fisheries Economic News, February 4, 1960.)

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Japan (Contd.):

METHOD OF DETERMINING FRESHNESS OF TUNA DEVELOPED:

Studies of the deoxidizing enzymes in fish have produced a new method of determining the freshness of tuna. These studies have revealed for the first time the reason for the existence of the dark lateral muscle tissue in such migratory fish as tuna.

The migratory fish are much more active than the sedentary fish, and in them the dark lateral muscle tissue performs the same functions as the liver in compensating for this additional activity. When the fish dies, the action of the enzymes decreases. From the degree of this decrease the amount of time the fish has been dead can be determined and this can be used in measuring the freshness of the fish.

It is reported that measurements by this method can be made in about five minutes, and it is expected that it will be used in the future for determining the freshness of frozen tuna for export.

Assistant Professor Fukuda of the Fisheries Department of Miyazaki University has received a doctor's degree for his studies which led to this method of determining the freshness of tuna. (Suisan Tsushin, February 20, 1960.)

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TUNA RESEARCH CONFERENCE:

The 1960 Tuna Research Conference, sponsored by the Nankai Regional Fisheries Laboratory of the Japanese Fisheries Agency, was held from February 2-4, 1960, at Kochi. About 60 tuna research biologists from universities and laboratories all over the country were in attendance. The purpose of the conference was an exchange of data on the tuna research done by the various research agencies during 1959, in order to establish a basis for future development of the fisheries. (Nippon Suisan Shimbum, February 5, 1960.)

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NO CALIFORNIA OFFICE TO BE SET UP BY JAPANESE FROZEN TUNA JOINT SALES COMPANY:

Late in December 1959, a Japanese periodical reported that the Japanese

frozen tuna export industry was planning to set up an office in California of the Japanese Frozen Tuna Joint Sales Company. The United States legal counsel and advisor of the Japan Export Frozen Tuna Products Association and Japan Frozen Food Exporters Association reports that no office will be established in California.

The original report indicated that the Japanese frozen tuna export industry planned to establish an office of the Joint Sales Company in California, in order to improve the conditions for delivery of frozen tuna to the United States and to strengthen the Japanese inspection system. The Japanese producers had been considering the establishment of an office in California for some time, but the idea was dropped during the process of setting up the new joint sales organization.

The trading companies opposed setting up an office in California for the Joint Sales Company, as it would benefit the producers as opposed to the traders, and they argued that it would be better to utilize the existing offices of the trading companies more effectively. (Suisan Keizai, December 24, 1959.)

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FISH MEAL FACTORYSHIPS PREPARE FOR NEW BERING SEA FISHING SEASON:

The three Japanese companies that are operating fish-meal factoryships in the Bering Sea this year hastened preparations to have their vessels sail in mid-April. In particular, the company which has bought the Renshin Maru and which also has the Kinyo Maru (which operated last year) hoped to get both fleets ready to sail from Hakodate by April 10, because of demands from the Bureau of Animal Husbandry and the Federation of Purchasing Cooperatives for 5,000 metric tons of fish meal by mid-May.

Earlier, at the request of the Bureau of Animal Husbandry, the Japanese Fisheries Agency had approved the importation of 20,000 tons of fish meal annually. This was done in order to stimulate the producers of saury meal in northern Honshu and Hokkaido, who were holding their product off the market for speculative reasons. Now one of the compa-

## Japan (Contd.):

nies operating fish-meal factoryships has decided to try to supply 5,000 tons of meal by mid-May (or 3,000 tons, depending on circumstances) in order to hold the imports down to as low a level as possible and at the same time to meet the request of the Federation of Purchasing Cooperatives and stimulate the saury meal producers to turn loose their stocks.

Production plans for the Kinyo Maru and Renshin Maru fleets total 26,000 tons of fish meal. Last year the Kinyo Maru sailed April 15 and spent a week in test operations after reaching the fishing grounds, so in actuality she will be about 10 days earlier in beginning operations this year. (Suisan Tsushin, February 22, 1960.)

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TRAINING SHIP TO SURVEY FISH  
MEAL PROSPECTS OFF  
CANADIAN WEST COAST:

The Japanese training ship Kano Maru (152 tons gross) of the Uetsu Prefectural Fisheries High School, Ishikawa, Prefecture, has been tentatively chartered to a Japanese fishing company to act as a fish-meal survey ship off the west coast of Canada beginning in April 1960. Up to now this vessel has worked as a survey ship in the salmon fishery for the Japanese Fisheries Agency, but with a yearly charter fee of 5 million yen (US\$13,900), there has been a loss of around 640,000 yen (\$1,800), in addition to docking charges and other costs.

Under the provisional charter with the Japanese fishing company, its income will be about 9 million yen (\$25,000). The charter will be finalized after approval by the Prefectural Legislature. The committee which operates the vessel is hoping that not only will financial losses be ended, but that training of students in new fishing and processing methods will become possible under the new arrangement. (Suisan Keizai, February 25, 1960.)

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USE OF FISH-MEAL FACTORYSHIPS  
OFF SOUTH AMERICA AND  
AFRICA STUDIED:

A large Japanese company is planning to send one of its directors to Peru, Equador, and Angola to study possibilities of operating its fish-meal factoryships (Kinyo Maru and Renshin Maru) off those countries when they are not engaged in fish-meal operations in Japanese waters.

The company intends to participate in joint enterprises with those countries by sending the Renshin Maru to Peru and Equador. Those countries are asking for technical assistance in meal manufacturing. The Kinyo Maru would be sent to Angola. The factoryships would collect catches from fishing boats operating off those countries and process fish meal and oil, which would be sold to local operators. (Suisan Tsushin, January 20, 1960.)

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SALMON STUDY TEAM TO VISIT  
THE UNITED STATES:

According to an officer of the Japan Salmon Resources Conservation Association, plans are being made for a party of six Japanese fishery experts to visit the United States from July 27-September 25 under the auspices of the Japan Productivity Center.

The objective of the trip will be to study techniques and policies for the conservation and propagation of salmon, with emphasis on hatching and rearing, protection of the fish during their life in streams, and improvement of physical environmental conditions in fresh waters where salmon occur.

The party will be headed by the Vice-President of Japan's largest salmon fishing company and will include the former Director of the Japanese Fisheries Agency, the Vice-President of the Inland Waters Fisheries Federation, a representative of the Promotion Section of the Fisheries Agency, and one member each from the fisheries departments of Gifu and Iwate Prefectures. The itinerary and schedule are being worked out in co-

Japan (Contd.):

operation with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U. S. Operations Mission to Japan. (United States Embassy in Tokyo, February 12, 1960.)

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#### SOME PROGRESS IN REDUCING SALMON FISHERY FLEET:

Because of the severe cut in Japan's high-seas salmon-catch quota that resulted from last year's Soviet-Japanese fisheries conference, and the strong possibility that the quota will be reduced even further at the current conference at Moscow, the Japanese Government has been trying since late last year to bring about a reduction in the size of the salmon fleet. Favorable fishing conditions and an increase in the price of canned salmon in 1959 made it possible for 16 motherships and 460 fishing boats to operate profitably under the reduced catch quota, but the industry has recognized that to keep this great fleet fishing would risk serious losses if fishing conditions or world market conditions should take an unfavorable turn.

The Japanese Fisheries Agency has run into strong conflicts of interest and political pressures in its task, and progress has been very slow. The large companies which operate the motherships, while recognizing the necessity of a cutback, have been unable to compromise on the proportion by which each company's fleet is to be cut. The fishing boat owners have demanded as their price for quitting the fishery the granting of tuna-fishing licenses and ample financial assistance for making the changeover from salmon to tuna fishing. This proposition has been fiercely resisted by tuna-boat owners, who want no additional competition in their business. Earlier offers by the Fisheries Agency to help the displaced salmon fishermen enter the developing Bering Sea fishmeal factoryship fleets have evidently been spurned, as the loss of an opportunity to take part in the lucrative salmon fishery could hardly be compensated by permission to engage in an untried enterprise which seems unlikely to be able to hold even its domestic market against the competition of Peruvian fish meal.

On February 18 the Japan Salmon Fishing Federation, representing the fishing boat owners' groups, finally decided to accept the Government's plan for a withdrawal of 50 boats from the fishery. The owners of these boats are to be given licenses that will enable them to fish for tuna nine months out of the year. No decision has been made as to compensation that each owner may receive, although their Federation is talking in terms of ¥4 million (US\$11,000) from the Government to assist in outfitting for tuna fishing and ¥2.5 million (US\$6,900) monetary compensation from the salmon industry. On February 20 the mothership-operating companies decided that, of the 50 boats to be retired, 19 would come from one fishing company's fleets, 16 from another fishing company and its subsidiaries, and 8 from a third company. A decision as to how many motherships each of the large companies is to retire will be postponed until later. (United States Embassy, Tokyo, February 26, 1960.)

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#### SQUID LANDINGS IN 1959 NEAR RECORD:

According to the Products Section of the Hokkaido Fisheries Department, Hokkaido's squid landings for 1959 reached 265,000 metric tons, the highest since 1954. Up to the end of the war the Hokkaido squid catch never exceeded 70,000-80,000 tons, but then the "squid boom" began, with catches of 135,000 tons in 1947, 208,000 tons in 1948, 232,000 tons in 1949, 290,000 tons in 1950, 310,000 tons in 1951, 264,000 tons in 1952, 234,000 tons in 1953, and 266,000 tons in 1954. From 1955 on for several years the catches dropped to about 140,000-180,000 tons, but they appear to be increasing again.

The amount of squid shipped fresh out of Hokkaido in 1959 was 19,433 tons, an increase of 4,500 tons over the preceding year.

Fresh squid consumption within Hokkaido was 12,500 tons, up 4,400 tons over 1958. Per capita consumption in Hokkaido was 2.5 kilograms (5.5 pounds); 146,861 tons were used for drying; 60,774 tons were frozen; and 24,758 tons were used for salting, smoking, canning,

## Japan (Contd.):

etc., making a total of 232,394 metric tons of squid that were processed in Hokkaido. (Nippon Suisan Shimbun, February 5, 1960.)

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EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT FISHING:

In March at Geneva a conference on the Law of the Sea will be held to decide the area of the territorial seas and to establish other rules governing relations between coastal and maritime states. The Japanese Fisheries Agency is gathering data on the effects of a 6 plus 6 plan (6 miles for territorial waters and an additional 6 miles for fishery jurisdiction) as well as the criteria that would be used if rights established within the past 5 years in the zone of exclusive fisheries jurisdiction were recognized, according to a news release in the Japanese periodical Suisan Keizai, February 21, 1960.

In view of the various responsible sections of the Fisheries Agency, if the conference should settle on the total 12 miles of territorial waters and fisheries zone of the United States proposal: (1) the Japanese catch of whales in the Aleutian area would be decreased by 80-90 percent for sperm whales and by 20-30 percent for baleen whales (compared with past production); (2) the catch of sedentary or shoal skipjack around islands of the tropical Pacific would be reduced by about 30 percent; (3) even though the Rhee Line were to be erased, if in turn a zone of exclusive fishing rights were established around Saishu Island 12 miles offshore, it would have a serious effect on the mackerel fishery; (4) it would also be disadvantageous for the fishery off the Chinese coast in the South China Sea; (5) the fishing grounds of the trawl fishery in distant waters would be narrowed. Of these various problem points, that of the North Pacific whale fishery is considered the most serious, and the important thing is to ensure recognition for historical rights, according to the periodical.

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U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR INVITED TO INSPECT OYSTER GROUNDS:

It was expected that an inspector from the U. S. Public Health Service (perhaps accompanied by a bacteriologist) would spend about one month, beginning late in March, inspecting oyster grounds of Hiroshima Bay and the processing procedures for packing frozen oysters. There were no plans to have the inspector survey any areas outside of Hiroshima.

The United States inspector was invited in connection with the revision of Hiroshima's prefectural ordinance on oyster sanitation. After the revision, oysters from other than designated areas within Hiroshima Prefecture cannot be exported. The inspector's visit to Japan and the revision of the prefectural ordinance were promoted by a Japanese fishing company which is building a new oyster packing plant at Hiroshima. The plant is expected to pack frozen oysters.

The Japanese company explained that the inspector's objectives were limited to areas within Hiroshima Prefecture. (Suisan Tsushin, February 25, 1960.)



**Republic of Korea**

EXPORTS OF FISHERY PRODUCTS HIGHEST IN SIX YEARS:

The Korean Office of Marine Affairs has announced that Korean fisheries exports in 1959 totaled 7,602 metric tons, valued at US\$4.2 million. The figures represent 53 percent of the export target as to quantity and 65 percent as to value of the original export goal for the year.

In spite of the trade suspension with Japan on June 15, 1959, fisheries exports increased by more than \$490,000 over the previous year and the 1959 total was the highest in value since 1953.

Fisheries products were exported to 12 countries, with Japan the leading purchaser (76 percent of total), followed by Southeast Asian nations, and the United States. Major export items were dried

### Republic of Korea (Contd.):

cuttlefish, laver, and fresh and live fish in order of value.

Fishery products represent the best potential source for expending Korean export earnings. The 1959 development is encouraging, but the trade suspension between Korea and Japan is still an impediment to further expansion of fisheries output, the United States Embassy in Seoul reported on February 12, 1960.



### Malaya

#### JAPANESE VESSEL LANDS FIRST TRIP OF TUNA:

The Koshin Maru No. 5, the first Japanese tuna fishing vessel to be sent to sea by a joint Malayan-Japanese fish canning firm, returned to Penang on February 10, 1960, from its initial trip in the Indian Ocean with a catch of 47 metric tons. The catch was 7 tons over the quota for the trip. Very little of the catch was expected to be sold locally. The greater part is to be canned or frozen for export.

Upon hearing of the success of the first trip, the company's managing director stated that the company did not intend to compete with any offshore fishing operations by Chinese and Malay fishermen in the Malayan Federation. The Minister of Agriculture stated that his ministry would see to it that the livelihood of the offshore fishermen, already near the bottom of the income scale, was not thrown out of balance.

The Minister announced that the Malayan-Japanese company, the Government, and the fishing cooperatives were developing a plan for the training of selected local fishermen in deep-sea operations, the United States Embassy in Kuala Lumpur reported on February 15, 1960.



### Mexico

#### JAPANESE FISHING VESSELS ARRIVE AT ACAPULCO:

On January 17, 1960, two former Japanese fishing vessels with Japanese crews arrived at the Mexican west coast port of Acapulco. It is reported that the two vessels (now named the Yolanda and the Cecilia) are to be used in the training of Mexican fishermen and to aid the Government and the fishing industry in its program to provide plentiful and inexpensive fish for Mexico. The vessels were received by the Director of Fisheries and representatives of one of the large fishing firms.

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#### SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRENDS, FEBRUARY 1960:

The Guaymas shrimp fleet on Mexico's west coast of about 150 boats as of mid-February had been tied up since mid-January. Only cooperative-owned boats (reported to be about 20) were fishing. The boat owners claim they could not profitably fish for the sizes of shrimp found off Guaymas at the prices they must pay the cooperatives. As of mid-February an agreement had not yet been reached on the proposal to limit bonus payments to large shrimp. The Guaymas fleet had been catching mostly small-sized brown shrimp.

The west coast Mazatlan and Salina Cruz shrimp vessels, which have been catching larger shrimp, continued to fish and catches were reported good. Some Salina Cruz boats landed as much as 8 or 9 tons of headless shrimp during a 12-day trip.

The east coast Carmen-Campeche area landing-per-boat during January improved somewhat over December. Carmen landings averaged about one metric ton of headless shrimp per trip and those for Campeche about 1.2 tons. About 60 percent of the Carmen landings were 30 count and under per pound whereas about 80 percent of the Campeche landings were under 30 count. Carmen landings ran about 50 percent pink, 35 percent white, and 15 percent brown shrimp. Campeche landings were about 90 percent pink and 10 percent white.

Mexico (Contd.):

shrimp, with but a smattering of brown shrimp.

During the last week in January ex-vessel prices in U. S. cents a pound for headless brown shrimp at Salina Cruz and Carmen were: under 15 count, Salina Cruz 47 and Carmen 58; 15-20 count, Salina Cruz 45 and Carmen 53; 21-25 count, Salina Cruz 33 and Carmen 43; and 26-30 count, Salina Cruz 27 and Carmen 38. Ex-vessel prices for smaller than 30 count shrimp at Salina Cruz were 25 cents for 31-40 count, 20 cents for 41-50 count, and 15 cents for over 51 count; and at Carmen, 34 cents for 31-35 count, 29 cents for 36-40 count, 24 cents for 41-50 count, and 17 cents for 51-65 count. White shrimp prices at Salina Cruz were about 2 cents a pound higher, but most of the landings there were made up of brown shrimp.

The Mexican Chamber of Fisheries, the cooperatives, and Government officials are each undertaking cost surveys in preparation for contract negotiations which are scheduled for signature in May, the United States Embassy at Mexico City reported on February 12, 1960.



Morocco

CANNED SARDINE PRODUCTION QUOTA ESTABLISHED:

At a meeting on February 13, 1960, of a committee including Moroccan Government and fish canning industry representatives, the quota for the production of canned sardines was established at 1,900,000 cases of 100 cans each for the 1960/61 season beginning in June 1960. Since 200,000 cases remain to be packed out of the present season's quota of 1,300,000 cases, the real limit is 2,100,000 cases. This quota is not considered restrictive since this number of cases can be packed only if the catch is very good. The canners were assured by the Government representatives that the regular 600,000 cases of Moroccan sardines would be admitted into France free of duty.



Netherlands

PROFITS FROM ANTARCTIC WHALING FOR 1958/59 SEASON HIGHER:

The management of the Netherlands Antarctic Whaling Company reports that the results for the 1958/59 fiscal year (July 1-June 30) appear to be favorable enough to warrant a cut in the Government subsidy which will be only 1.9 million (US\$503,300) as compared to 3.7 million guilders (\$980,100) for the preceding fiscal year. Total income amounted to 18 million guilders (\$4,768,200) as compared to 17.2 million guilders (\$4,556,300) for fiscal year 1957/58. Operation costs dropped from 12.7 million guilders to 11.8 million guilders (\$3,364,200 to 3,125,800). Since guarantee payments were first made in the 1951/52 fiscal year, the Government has paid the company a total of 34.4 million guilders (\$9,112,600). The management proposes to pay an unchanged six percent dividend.

Table 1 - Netherland's Production of Whale Products by the Factoryship William Barendsz, Seasons 1957/58 and 1958/59

Product	1958/59	1957/58
	. . . . (Metric Tons) . . .	
Whale oil . . . . .	18,663	17,295
Sperm oil . . . . .	2,295	2,126
Whale meal . . . . .	3,698	2,302
Vitamin oil . . . . .	12	15
Whale bones . . . . .	38	43
Sperm whale teeth . . . .	0.711	0.625

The whale oil was sold at an average price of 769.23 guilders (\$210.92) per ton. Sperm oil brought an average price of 591.65 guilders (\$156.73) per ton and whale meal 597.43 guilders (\$158.26) per ton. The other products were also sold. The total value of the entire production by the factoryship Willem Barendsz was 17,987,025 guilders (\$4,764,800) as compared to 17,050,957 guilders (\$4,516,800) during the preceding year.

The Company reports that the new refrigerating plant of the Willem Barendsz is able to process about 1,500 metric tons of whale meat per season. The production of whale meat in the 1959/1960 and the 1960/1961 seasons has already been sold in advance. The management is planning to expand the

## Netherlands (Contd.):

frozen whale meat output which is reported to yield satisfactory prices, the United States Embassy at Amsterdam reported on February 15, 1960.



## New Zealand

## CANNERY EXPECTS TO BUY TUNA FROM JAPANESE VESSELS:

A Japanese group early this year received from a New Zealand canning company an inquiry requesting the group to send a number of Japanese tuna long-line vessels to operate in the mid-southern area of the Pacific Ocean so that they could provide the New Zealand company with tuna. The company is reportedly building a sizable canning plant at Rarotonga, Cook Island (part of New Zealand). The cannery is expected to start packing vegetables, fruits, and fish, particularly tuna, in April. The company indicated that the canned tuna would be consumed in New Zealand.



## Nicaragua

## SHRIMP INDUSTRY:

Production of shrimp (headless, dried, and peeled and deveined) in Nicaragua increased from about 110,000 pounds (product weight) in 1956 to about 716,000 pounds in 1958. The production in 1959 (based on figures for first eight months of 1959) should be close to 1 million pounds, according to estimates made by the Nicaraguan Ministry of Economy.

Table 1 - Nicaragua's Shrimp Landings, 1956-58 and Jan.-Aug. 1958-59

	Jan.-Aug.		1958	1957	1956
	1959	1958			
Quantity (1,000 lbs.) . .	507	353	716	115	110
Ex-vessel value (US\$1,000) . .	215	165	340	47	40
Ex-vessel value (U.S. cents/lb.)	42.4	46.7	47.5	40.1	36.4

There are no statistics on the catch by species, but observers estimate that close to 95 percent of the catch is white shrimp (*Penaeus schmitti*). Most of the balance is believed to be brown shrimp (*Penaeus aztecus*) with very small quantities of pink shrimp (*Penaeus duorarum*). Most of the production for 1958 and 1959 was headless shrimp for export. The principal fishing season is from August through March.

The active shrimp fishing fleet as of December 7, 1959, consisted of 5 shrimp trawlers and a trawler-freezership (104 feet in length). Two additional vessels were available, but were hauled out for repairs. There is also a 104-foot re-

frigerator vessel that is used for transporting ice and frozen shrimp. All these vessels are Diesel-powered and range from 52 to 69 feet in length. In addition, there are a number of dugout canoes that fish for shrimp with cast nets in Pearl Lagoon. Most of the fishing is around Cape Gracias a Dios, and occasionally pink shrimp is caught near Punta Mico.

As of December 1959 there were two firms operating shrimp trawlers and producing shrimp for export. One of these firms has a processing plant under construction at El Bluff, and plans call for a freezing capacity of 35,000 pounds in six hours. This firm has seven shrimp vessels available and is reported to be contracting for additional vessels from Costa Rica and Panama. Plans call for a fleet of 60 vessels in the future. The second firm operates the trawler-freezership as an independent operation. Nicaragua's potential shrimp production by trawlers only is about 750,000 to 1,500,000 pounds of headless shrimp a year.

Costs of producing shrimp for export are unknown. The firm with the plans for expansion is offering independent vessels 23 U.S. cents a pound under the New York wholesale selling price. Actual fishing costs for independent vessels are not known since none had started to operate as of December 1959. Crew shares would be less than in Panama, but ice and Diesel fuel would be higher. Over-all costs of producing shrimp for export would be increased by exchange control, which amounts to 2-8 U.S. cents a pound and ocean freight to Cristobal, where shrimp are stored for export to the United States, is about 2 U.S. cents a pound.

It is estimated that about 75 percent of the shrimp landed are 21-30 count a pound, about 5 percent under 20 count, and the remaining 20 percent over 30 count.

Actual exports of shrimp are unknown as the shrimp exports are combined in the official records with other shellfish and turtles. Exports to the United States are mostly frozen shrimp and live turtles, plus small quantities of spiny lobster tails. Exports are shipped on consignment to New York brokers.

Table 2 - Nicaragua's Exports of Shellfish, 1957-58 and Jan.-Aug. 1959

Country of Destination	Jan.-Aug. 1959		1958		1957	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value
	1,000 Lbs.	US\$ 1,000	1,000 Lbs.	US\$ 1,000	1,000 Lbs.	US\$ 1,000
United States	340.0	150.4	604.0	315.7	-	-
Panama . . . .	15.0	5.3	6.0	3.6	1.5	0.7
Other . . . .	0.2	0.2	-	-	1.3	0.6
Total . . .	355.2	155.9	610.0	319.3	2.8	1.3

Note: According to U. S. customs records, Nicaragua exported 277,588 pounds of shrimp in 1958 and 213,000 pounds of shrimp in 1959. Balance of exports to U. S. from Nicaragua is mostly live turtles.

There are no export taxes on shrimp, but export permits are required and there is currency control. For currency purposes shrimp is valued at 35 U.S. cents a pound. The official rate of exchange is 7 cordobas to US\$1. The free rate for dollars fluctuates between 7.15-7.60 cordobas. In order to obtain an export permit, dollars in the amount of 35 cents a pound of shrimp must be obtained on the free market and deposited with the National Bank which returns the money at the official rate of 7 cordobas to US\$1. This is equivalent to an export tax of 2 to 8 cents a pound.

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## SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRENDS, THIRD QUARTER 1959:

Exports of frozen shrimp from Nicaragua during the third quarter of 1959 amounted to about 98,000 pounds, valued at US\$32,236, or lower by about 7,000 pounds in quantity and \$14,080 in value

## Nicaragua (Contd.):

as compared with the second quarter of 1959. Nearly all the third quarter exports were to the United States.

Domestic consumption of shrimp is reported to be increasing gradually and the French-owned Caribbean Coast processing plant at Bluefields is vigorously seeking outlets both in the domestic market and in foreign markets. The plant, only partially completed, is operating at a capacity of 5 metric tons a day. When completed by mid-1960 it will have a capacity of 30 tons a day.

A Panama-based company has been granted a 10-year concession to fish for shrimp off Nicaragua's Caribbean coast. As of mid-February 1960 no effort has been made towards exploiting this concession. (The United States Embassy at Managua reported on February 16, 1960.)



## Norway

#### FISHERY LANDINGS INCREASED IN 1959:

Landings of fish and shellfish by Norwegian fishermen in 1959 amounted to 1,369,665 metric tons, or about 130,800 tons greater than the landings in 1958. The ex-vessel value of the landings was Kr.664.7 million (US\$93.1 million), higher by about Kr.82.4 million (US\$11.5 million) than the ex-vessel value for 1958. The landings in 1958 were the lowest since 1949.

The cod and herring fisheries are still the mainstays of the Norwegian fisheries, especially the herring fishery which, however, has shown great variations in landings through the last four years. But landings of species other than herring and cod increased during the 1956-1959 period both in quantity and ex-vessel value. Therefore, alternatives to the risky winter herring fisheries have appeared.

The value of deep-water shrimp catches increased in 1959 by more than 9 million kroner (US\$1.3 million), and the Norway eel pout fishery in the North

Sea--for the first time recorded in Norwegian fishery statistics--yielded about 20,000 tons, at the same time as a further increase of the sand eel fishery took place. Thus fish meal and oil factories in the southernmost districts had supplies of raw material other than herring. The herring fisheries have seen a promising development of a trawl fishery.

Squid fishing in Northern Norway, which suddenly gained importance in the 1958 statistics with landings of nearly 10,000 tons, dropped in 1959. The saithe or coalfish landings reached 90,000 tons.

Future development of the Norwegian fisheries was discussed eagerly in 1959. In spite of opposition it is to be expected that the Norwegian deep-sea fishing fleet will tend to increase in number and size of vessels, and engage further in fishing in distant waters. (The Fishing News, vol. 6, April 1959.)

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#### EXPERIMENTS WITH FLOATING TRAWLS IN WINTER HERRING FISHERY:

During the 1960 winter herring fishery, the Norwegian research vessel Thor Iverson was scheduled to try out "floating trawls" for the first time in that fishery. The experiments are being made off the west coast of Norway. (News of Norway, January 7, 1960.)

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#### WINTER HERRING FISHERY STARTS LATE:

The Norwegian winter herring fishery commenced on February 2, 1960, the latest recorded starting date for this vital fishery which accounts for a major part of the total annual Norwegian fish landings. As of the above date in 1959, over one million hectoliters (102,500 short tons) of herring had been landed, but bad weather during much of the remainder of the 1959 season caused the fishery to fail for the second year in succession.

Catches during the first few days of this season have been disappointingly small and while there still remains some hope for a fair season, the herring fish-

## Norway (Contd.):

ermen fear that unless large catches are taken soon, the fishery may fail again in 1960.

Taking into account the reduction in the herring stocks and the tendency of the shoals to approach the coast farther north where the fishing conditions are more adverse, the Government's estimate for the 1960 winter herring catch, which was made well before the start of the season, is only five million hectoliters (512,500 short tons) or 500,000 hectoliters (51,250 short tons) greater than the catch last year. In 1956, a record 12.3 million hectoliters (1,260,750 short tons) of herring were taken.

The winter herring fishery off the Sunnmøre coast of West Norway traditionally ends February 15. According to all calculations, the herring should have reached coastal waters by then. But, though the whole fishing fleet tried its luck on the banks, catches remained distressingly small. Nor was there much herring 25 nautical miles at sea, reported some of the biggest purse-seiners.

Fishery specialists aboard the Norwegian ocean research vessel G. O. Sars, which first located huge herring shoals at a distance of some 145 nautical miles off West Norway, expected the main influx to reach coastal spawning grounds. Even so, prospects for a good catch of the fat winter herring would seem rather dim. As of February 3 total landings amounted to less than 18,000 metric tons, with a first-hand value of about Kr. 500,000 (US\$70,000). At the same time last year, Norwegian fishermen had brought ashore nearly 120,000 tons which represented a value of about Kr. 25,000,000 (\$3.5 million).

The fleet of some 2,500 small and large fishing craft, with crews totaling almost 20,000, waited impatiently in and around the port of Aalesund for about three weeks. Most of the vessels were kept in constant readiness to take off for the fishing grounds on a minute's notice from research vessels. About 150 more nylon purse-seines are in use this year, bringing the total to

nearly 250. Each nylon net costs from Kr. 95,000 to Kr. 120,000 (\$13,000-16,800), of which 20 percent is subsidized by the State. While nylon nets are much stronger than those made of cotton they also cost a great deal more.

The herring have been approaching the Sunnmøre coast at a somewhat slower pace than in former years, due to a cold water front stretching far out into the Norwegian Sea. And they have been moving at a depth far beyond the reach of purse-seiners, though that may change in the warmer water found on the spawning grounds.

According to oceanographer Finn Devold, Norwegian fisherman would be well advised to spread their activities over a longer part of the coast. For, judging from all indications, the exceptionally large concentration of winter herring off the Sunnmøre coast is likely to be a thing of the past. For some years to come, he predicted, the herring will probably show up all along the west coast, from Møre to the Röst bank in North Norway.

Greater participation in the North Sea fat herring fishery has been urged as a means of diversifying activities. Right now, large catches are being made only a couple hours' time from the southwestern port of Egersund. For various reasons, only a few Norwegian vessels are taking part.

One of the advocates of larger participation in the North Sea is the Norwegian Fisheries Minister. In a recent interview he said more purse-seiners should give the North Sea a try, rather than staking all on the coastal winter herring fishery. If the latter were to fail for the third year in a row, seiners would be hard put to pay for their costly equipment, he stressed.

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#### 1960 FAT HERRING FISHING SEASON ENDS:

Although some herring appeared off the west coast of Norway on February 2, 1960, the main winter herring shoals did not arrive until ten days later. Due to the extremely late arrival, the "large" or "fat" herring season was extended by

## Norway (Contd.):

one week to February 21 and came to an end at midnight or February 23. This is of much significance to the fishermen as the Government-controlled ex-vessel price for the herring is three kroner (about 42 U. S. cents) higher per hectoliter (about 205 pounds) during the "winter" or "fat" herring season than during the "spring" herring season which follows. The lower price is paid when it has been determined that the fat content of the herring has gone below a certain point.



On the herring fishing grounds off the west coast of Norway. Photo shows about 180 tons of herring concentrated in the bag section of a large purse seine which has been tied up to the fishing vessel. Fish are now ready for brailing on board the vessel.

As of February 17, only 1.1 million hectoliters (225.5 million pounds) or about 102,286 metric tons of large herring had been landed. Total landings up to the end of the winter "large" herring fishery were only 2 million hectoliters, or about 185,975 tons, the lowest since 1934. In 1959, the "large" herring fishery yielded about 413,850 tons, and was up to about 70,000 tons in 1957. The "fat" herring fishery season in 1958 was a near failure,

with only about 241,000 tons landed. Thus the 1960 "large" herring fishery for the third successive year has been a failure.

It was felt unlikely that combined landings of "large" and "spring" herring would exceed 3.5 million hectoliters, or 325,000 tons.

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#### FISH FREEZING AND FILLETING ORGANIZATION INCREASED SALES TO UNITED STATES IN FISCAL YEAR 1958/59:

The Norwegian joint sales organization for some 30 fish freezing and filleting firms in Norway accounts for about 85 percent of the total Norwegian production of frozen fish fillets.

The total production of frozen fish by firms selling through the Organization amounted to 19,750 metric tons for fiscal year 1958/59 (July 1-June 30), or about the same as in the preceding fiscal year. Exports in fiscal year 1958/59 totaled 17,400 metric tons, valued at 56.8 million kroner (about US\$8 million), as compared with 17,750 metric tons, valued at 51.9 million kroner (US\$7.3 million), in fiscal year 1957/58.

The volume of exports to the United States, the Organization's principal market, increased substantially from 2,090 tons in 1957/58 to 7,408 tons in 1958/59. This was the most significant development with respect to the Organization's export sales and, according to the annual report of the Organization, the United States market has definitely become more favorable for Norwegian exports than it has been for many years.

The report states that the sales of the Organization have been limited by the uneven supplies of fish and the consequent frequent poor utilization of the plant's total capacity. Another factor which affects the sales of the frozen fish fillets is the price of the raw fish. In this connection, the report speaks strongly against the policy of the fishermen's marketing association of setting higher ex-vessel prices for fish sold to the freezing and filleting industry than to the other fish-processing industries.

The Organization does not expect any substantial increase in sales to come

## Norway (Contd.):

from Norway's affiliation with the European Free Trade Association and warns that the competition will continue to be very strong. It feels instead that, apart from the United States, the United Kingdom, and Sweden, the best prospects for increasing sales of frozen fillets are in the Common Market countries, and for this reason declares that it is very important for the industry that the countries of the "Outer Seven" reach an accommodation with the "Inner Six." (The United States Embassy at Oslo reported on January 13, 1960.)

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#### STERN-FISHING TYPE TRAWLERS BEING BUILT:

An Aalesund, Norway, fishing company has contracted for two 77-foot stern trawlers, according to a report in Fiskaren (January 20, 1960), a Norwegian fishery trade paper. They are the first of their type to be built in Norway and much is expected of them. Construction of the first one already is under way and it is expected to be delivered in April or May. The second will be completed by the end of the year. They will be equipped with 360-hp. high-speed Diesel engines and have accommodations for ten men. The vessels will have the most modern equipment, but no freezers, because they are designed primarily for coastal trawl fishing.

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#### TRADE AGREEMENT WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA INCLUDES FISHERY PRODUCTS:

Norway and Czechoslovakia have concluded a new protocol to the basic trade agreement of March 20, 1947. The new protocol lists fishery in other commodities (together with quotas) which Norway will exchange with Czechoslovakia during 1960. The following fishery products and quotas are listed for export from Norway to Czechoslovakia: (1) fish oils, refined and for technical use, 5,000 metric tons; (2) medicinal cod-liver oil, 800 tons; (3) fresh, frozen, and salt herring, 14,000 tons; (4) fish fillets, 2,500 tons; (5) miscellaneous fish products,

including mackerel and tuna, 1,000 tons; (6) canned fish valued at N.kr. 3 million (US\$420,000); (7) fish meal, 2,000 tons; and (8) pearl essence valued at N.kr. 500,000 (US\$70,000). No fishery products are listed for export from Czechoslovakia to Norway.

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#### TUNA LANDINGS CONTINUE TO DROP:

Norway's tuna landings in 1959 continued to drop. Total 1959 tuna landings amounted to only 2,500 metric tons, worth 4,725,000 Norwegian kroner (US\$661,500), as against landings of 2,850 tons in the previous year and as much as 10,300 tons in the 1955 season. (The Fishing News, January 29, 1960.)



#### Pakistan

#### SHRIMP INDUSTRY TRENDS OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1959:

The Pakistan shrimp catch the last quarter of 1959 at times was so large that the freezing plants were glutted and facilities for drying and curing were unable to absorb the excess. As a result, there was a sharp drop in prices of shrimp. Since about six additional trawlers had gone into operation during the quarter, the Government suspended for a while the operation of its trawlers so as not to compound the difficulties by bringing in additional shrimp.

In the first quarter of 1960 it is expected that the freezing plant located within the area of the fish harbor at Karachi will be put into operation and thus will increase the freezing capacity by 15 tons daily. The shrimp drying and curing areas are also being expanded. During the first quarter of 1960, however, at least six more trawlers will be added to the fleet. (United States Embassy, Karachi, January 22, 1960.)

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#### FISHERIES TRENDS, FEBRUARY 1960:

The first fish freezing, processing, and canning plant in East Pakistan was scheduled to start operations on Febru-

Pakistan (Contd.):

ary 27, 1960. This plant, operated by a fish preservation and marketing corporation and located at Chalna, is heralded as another foreign exchange earner.

New tuna fishing grounds have been discovered in the Bay of Bengal, but their potential has not been fully determined, the United States Embassy in Karachi reported in a February 25, 1960, dispatch.



Peru

EXPORTS OF FISH MEAL AND FISH OIL UP SHARPLY IN 1959:

Peru's fish meal and fish oil industry continued to expand output rapidly in 1959, producing an estimated 285,000 short tons of fish meal and 19,500 tons of fish oils. The 1959 output of fish meal was more than double the 135,000 tons produced in 1958, and fish oil production was up 70 percent. Relatively good demand kept fish meal prices high during 1957 and 1958, and encouraged expansion of the industry.

Item and Country	1959	1958 <sup>1/</sup>	1957	1956	1955
(Short Tons)					
<b>Fish meal:</b>					
United States . . . . .	-	30,590	18,126	7,012	9,193
Germany, West . . . . .	-	29,378	12,649	2,759	2,331
Netherlands . . . . .	-	36,295	29,900	17,901	6,082
United Kingdom . . . . .	-	11,917	1,435	-	518
Other . . . . .	-	8,418	5,841	6,465	2,507
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>2/270,000</b>	<b>116,598</b>	<b>67,951</b>	<b>34,137</b>	<b>20,631</b>
<b>Fish oil:</b>					
Germany, West . . . . .	-	593	1,284	991	-
Italy . . . . .	-	602	222	-	-
Netherlands . . . . .	-	616	2,476	840	99
Norway . . . . .	-	-	646	-	-
Other . . . . .	-	-	154	60	2
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>3/ 18,000</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>1,891</b>	<b>101</b>

<sup>1/</sup>Preliminary.  
<sup>2/</sup>Estimated exports Jan.-Sept. totaled 202,922 tons, against 84,564 tons Jan.-Sept. 1958.  
<sup>3/</sup>Estimated exports Jan.-Sept. totaled 15,227 tons, against 1,650 tons Jan.-Sept. 1958.

Most of the fish meal is exported, and exports in 1959 were estimated at 270,000 short tons--more than double the volume of 1958. Exports of fish oil in 1959 may reach 18,000 short tons, compared with only 1,811 tons in 1958. The marked increase in fish oil exports

is attributed to a change in the cost of production rate used to compute the export tax. The rate was revised upward from 460 soles (about US\$16.60) per ton to 3,000 soles (about US\$108) thus sharply reducing the export tax. The 460 soles rate had been in effect for the last 15 years. (Foreign Crops and Markets, U. S. Department of Agriculture, February 1, 1960.)

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FISH MEAL AND OIL INDUSTRY:

**Number and Location of Reduction Plants:** About 63 plants produce fish meal in Peru at the present time. They are located at a number of ports along the Peruvian coast, including the following: Callao (19), Chimbote (17), Paita (4), Huacho (6), Huarney (7), and one or two each in Ilo, Casma, Supe, Chancay, Samanco, and Pisco. Plants vary in size from modern establishments capable of producing 40 metric tons of fish meal per hour during a 20-hour working day to small plants using primitive methods, which produce a few tons per day. It is estimated that about 40 of the 63 reduction plants produce fish oil as a byproduct of the fish meal process.

**Production and Proportion of Product to Raw Material:** The latest data available on production of fish utilized by the reduction plants are for 1958. These data show that 737,019 metric tons of anchovies were landed in that year, and that 126,909 metric tons of fish meal and 10,271 tons of fish oil were produced. Proportions vary according to the size of fish, but as a general rule, one metric ton of fish meal requires 5-1/2 to 6 tons of anchovies. The average oil yield is 1-1/2 to 2-1/2 percent, but may reach 5 percent. No fish solubles are produced.

Domestic consumption of fish meal, which has increased considerably in the past two years, is now about 10,000 tons per year. Thus, 1959 fish meal production may run over 280,000 tons. In November 1959 a trade representative looked for the continuation of the 1959 level in 1960, although a subsequent estimate, made in January 1960, placed this year's production at 300,000 metric tons. Fish oil production for 1959 is expected to show a 70-percent increase.

**Value of Each Plant:** A moderate-sized plant producing 500 to 800 metric tons of fish meal per day costs an estimated 5 million soles (US\$183,000), of which 3 million soles (US\$110,000) are for plant, machinery, and equipment, and 2 million soles (US\$73,000) for fishing vessels.

**Cost of Production:** The figures generally quoted by producers of fish meal on production costs have been US\$87 to \$90 per metric ton, and it has even been suggested that efficient producers might be able to show a profit at production costs of \$82 to \$84 per metric ton. However, in mid-January a trade representative stated categorically that the cost of production now is just about \$90, which leaves no margin of profit for producers at the prices being quoted for fish meal, \$80 to \$90 per metric ton, f.o.b. Peruvian ports. Those prices include export taxes and other export charges.

The present production cost figure on which the export tax is based, which was established in April 1956, is the equivalent of \$64.33 per metric ton. The export tax is 10 percent of the difference between the officially-fixed production cost and the price in the United States (Pacific Coast), less freight and insurance. There is an additional 10 percent ad valorem tax (payable on the excess) on all export products, applicable when the export price exceeds by 25 percent the officially-fixed production cost.

The Peruvian fish meal industry is asking the Peruvian Government to appoint a special committee to study the industry to find ways of aiding it in view of declining world prices. Relief in the situation might take the form of a higher official production cost figure, which would reduce export taxes.

**Protein Content:** The bulk of Peruvian fish meal, which is intended for export, has a protein content of 65 to

## Peru (Contd.):

70 percent; export requirements of the trade call for 65 percent minimum protein content. Inferior grades are produced from fish residue and machete, which vary from 60 to 65 percent in protein content.

Fishing Fleets, Ex-vessel Prices, and Crew Shares: As of December 31, 1958, some 3,200 domestic vessels, probably about 75 percent of them unpowered, were reported to be en-

fish meal exports dropped to about 15 percent from 26-27 percent in 1957 and 1958.

Fish oil exports were also up sharply in the January-November 1959 period as compared with both 1958 and 1957. This increase was due to higher production and also to the change made in the established cost of production rate from 460 soles (US\$16.81) to a new rate of 3,000 soles (US\$110) per ton. The old rate, established about 15 years ago, resulted in excessive export taxes.

Table 1 - Peru's Exports of Fish Meal and Oil, 1957-59 (Total Exports and Exports to U. S.)

	Total Exports			Exports to United States			Percent of Total
	Quantity	Value		Quantity	Value		
	Metric Tons	1,000 Soles	US\$ 1,000	Metric Tons	1,000 Soles	US\$ 1,000	
<u>Fish Meal:</u>							
1959 (11 mos.) . . . . .	247,701	1/	1/	36,982	1/	1/	14.9
1958 . . . . .	105,777	271,100	9,909	27,751	69,800	2,551	26.3
1957 . . . . .	61,645	135,000	4,954	16,444	36,100	1,319	26.6
<u>Fish Oil: 2/</u>							
1959 (11 mos.) . . . . .	15,373	1/	1/	-	-	-	-
1958 . . . . .	1,643	4,500	164	-	-	-	-
1957 . . . . .	4,338	11,400	417	-	-	-	-

1/Values unavailable. 2/No exports to United States.  
 Note: (1) Values converted at rate of 27.36 soles equal US\$1.  
 (2) Important markets for Peruvian fish meal in 1959: Netherlands (37 percent), Germany (25 percent), United Kingdom (11 percent), and Belgium (8 percent).

gaged in fishing in Peruvian waters. In addition, 122 foreign fishing vessels, said to be American, were engaged in fishing operations. Of these, some 97 were licensed to take fish abroad, and 25 were working under the Peruvian flag for local fishing companies. About 45 percent of the tonnage of fishing vessels is thought to be engaged in anchovy fishing. The actual number is not known. Vessels in greatest demand for anchovy fishing, according to shipbuilders, are of 50-ton capacity, although larger ones up to 150 tons are in service and more are being built.

The number of men in each crew varies with the size of the vessel: 40- to 60-ton boats average 9 to 10 crew members; 70- to 90-ton boats, 13-14 crew members.

In mid-November 1959, plants were paying 230 soles (US\$8.41) per metric ton for anchovies at Callao and 250 soles (US\$9.14) per ton at Chimbote.

Wages paid fishermen engaged in anchovy fishing are said to be greater by far than those received by workers in any other employment in Peru. They are paid according to tonnage of the catch, the sum of 90 soles (US\$3.29) per ton being the current rate. It is divided among master of the vessel and crew, the former's share being 1-1/2 times that of individual members. Since a vessel may make two daily trips carrying upwards of 50 tons each trip, each man can make up to 1,000 soles (US\$36.55) per day.

Anchovy Landings and Fishing Season: The anchovy catch in 1958 is reported to have been 737,019 metric tons. Since fish meal production for 1959 is expected to be more than double that of 1958, an anchovy catch of close to 1.75 million tons seems likely. The fishing season extends from October to May.

Fish Meal and Oil Exports: Fish meal exports for January-September 1959 were 184,090 tons, compared with 76,716 tons in the same period of 1958. An estimate for the 1959 total fish meal exports is now 270,000 tons, compared with 105,777 tons in 1958.

From 1957 to 1959 (data for first 11 months) exports of fish meal by Peru increased over 300 percent. With the increase in fish meal production, exports to countries other than the United States jumped sharply and accounted for 81 percent of the total exports for the first eleven months of 1959. During that period the United States share of Peru's

Marketing Prospects: As of mid-January, fish meal prices f.o.b. Peruvian ports ranged between US\$80 and \$90 a metric ton. Despite the low prices, representatives of the fish meal and oil industry are confident of the future and state that there is a strong demand for fish meal in Europe. Recent price trends (January 1960) have shown signs of recovery from the late 1959 low level. These trade representatives state that about 70 percent of the anticipated production of fish meal for 1960 has been contracted for and unsold stocks are low. In addition, they claim that all production as of early 1960 had been sold on contracts for future delivery. (United States Embassy in Lima, January 12, 1960.)

Note: Peruvian soles converted at 27.36 soles equal US\$1.

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## FISHERIES TRENDS, JANUARY 1960:

The Peruvian fish meal industry has under consideration a proposal for financing, at a cost of 24 million soles (about US\$866,000), a new harbor near Callao exclusively for the handling of anchovies for that industry. Most of the fish meal companies favor the proposal and would be willing to participate in financing the new harbor if the port can be administered by representatives of the fish meal companies.

A new plant for smoking fish was due to be activated by the end of January this year. Under the name of "Hornos del Peru," the plant is expected to have an initial capacity of 500 kilos (1,100 pounds) daily, which can be expanded if demand increases. Reportedly, the smoked fish

## Peru (Contd.):

product will sell at 12.5 soles a kilo (about 20.5 U. S. cents a pound) as compared with an average price of 25 soles a kilo (41 U. S. cents a pound) for imported smoked fish. (The United States Embassy in Lima reported on January 25, 1960.)

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FISH MEAL PRICES ADVANCED  
IN LATE FEBRUARY:

In mid-February this year the Manager of the Peruvian National Fisheries Society stated that fish meal buyers were offering US\$73-75 a ton f.o.b. Peruvian ports, with no sellers. During the third week of February, buyers offered \$78-80 a ton. Reports of low fish meal production in Norway this season (said to be only five weeks long) appear to be responsible for the higher foreign offerings, some of which have come even from Norway.

There have been no developments recently in the organization of an association of Peruvian fish meal producers. The Manager of the Society seems to believe that it will not materialize at least for the present. Fish meal plants of Lima and Callao are temporarily prohibited from using four varieties of edible fish (bonito, machete, caballa, and lorna) in their reduction process. The prohibition extends for four months from February 12, the United States Embassy in Lima reported on February 24, 1960.

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JAPANESE RESEARCH  
VESSEL VISITS PERU:

The Umitaka Maru, school-vessel of the Fisheries University of Takio, has been making a voyage of scientific and oceanographic investigations, including studies of Peruvian coastal waters. During the voyage, members of the Peruvian National Counsel of Hydrobiological Investigations were aboard. A primary purpose of the visit to Peru was the study of Peruvian fish meal production, with a view of obtaining information to aid in improving Japan's output of that product, the United States Embassy in Lima reported on January 5, 1960.

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**Philippines**REPARATIONS COMMISSION  
REAWARDS JAPANESE-BUILT  
FLOATING FISH CANNERIES:

The Philippine's Reparations Commission announced on February 18, 1960, that the Japanese-built floating fish canneries and their complement of six fishing boats had been reawarded in separate lots to three different corporations. The boats originally had been awarded to the Estancia (Iloilo) Farrers Cooperative Marketing Association which had not used the boats and had no plans to use them. A packing corporation was awarded the following items: (1) a cannery costing P404,000 (\$202,000), which will be stripped off one of the vessels; (2) three fishing boats with a total cost of P860,175 (\$430,087); and (3) the P114,000 (\$57,000) can manufacturing plant. The vessel which is to be stripped of its cannery equipment was awarded to a shipping company for P1,747,622 (\$872,066). A fishery enterprise was awarded the following items: (1) one floating cannery for P2,151,622 (\$1,073,603); and (2) three fishing boats with a total of P860,174 (\$430,087). (The United States Embassy in Manila reported on February 19, 1960.)

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SHRIMP FISHERY:

According to the most recent statistics available on the landings of shrimp in the Philippines, the catch amounted to about 5.5 million pounds in 1957 and about 8.2 million pounds in 1956. In addition, considerable quantities of shrimp are caught by fishermen engaged in subsistence or personal use fishing which are not included in the statistics.

Practically all of the shrimp caught and landed in the Philippines is consumed within the country. In 1957 the Philippines exported only about 19,000 pounds, valued at US\$2,845, and in 1956 about 7,000 pounds, valued at \$1,254.

In the Philippines no vessels are known to be engaged exclusively in shrimp fishing, but shrimp are taken along with other fish and shellfish. Most of the catch is sold fresh with the balance usually preserved with salt. (The United States Embassy in Manila reported on December 9, 1959.)



## Poland

### FISHING INDUSTRY ACHIEVES 1959 PRODUCTION TARGET:

The Polish State-owned fishing fleet, operating in the North Sea and in the Baltic, achieved its target of 110,000 metric tons for 1959 early in December, according to Polish Marine News, published by the Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade in Warsaw.

The 1959 target for the Polish fishing industry was 146,659 tons of fish--110,000 tons by the State-owned enterprises, 19,668 tons by the cooperatives, and 16,791 tons by private fishermen. The landings for the State-owned enterprises were planned to be 15.9 percent higher than those of 1958.

During the first half of the year the cod landings from the Baltic fishing grounds were 11,000 tons lower than planned, while prolonged storms in October and November made it impossible to achieve the normal good results noted during the herring fishing seasons on the North Sea grounds in the past. However, due to the shortening of the time of repairs to the vessels, the putting into service of the mothership Pulaski, and the establishment of a base at the port of Sunderland during the best herring fishing season (where a total of 3,650 tons of salted herring was landed), the target of landing 110,000 tons of fish by the State-owned enterprises was reached on December 4. The value of the fish landed was higher by 4.5 percent than planned.

Species	1959 <sup>1/</sup>	1958
	.. (Metric Tons) ..	
Cod . . . . .	19,996	25,051
Herring (North Sea) . . . . .	68,735	55,322
Herring (Baltic) . . . . .	8,793	9,488
Sprats . . . . .	7,902	2,769
Salmon . . . . .	25	20
Mackerel . . . . .	3,861	1,796
Flat fish . . . . .	130	180
Other salt-water fish . . . . .	570	265
Total . . . . .	110,012	94,891
1/Up to December 4.		

The report continues, "The deep-sea fishery was influenced by the actual requirements of the market and for this reason the landings of salted herring for the home market amounted to 95 percent

of the total landings, the remaining 5 percent being white fish and mackerel. The deep-sea fleet in practice fishes herring from April to November, fishing in the remaining 4 months having been discontinued."

During the period from January up to the end of November the State-owned fishing flotilla consisted of 39 large trawlers, 15 trawlers, 50 drifter trawlers, 3 drifters, 74 cutters, 154 56-foot cutters, and 14 49-foot cutters.

To organize fishing all the year round, as well as to increase the landings from distant waters, the existing fishing fleet is being modernized and up-to-date factory trawlers are being built.

To increase the operating range of the coal burning steam-trawlers they are being reconstructed into fuel-oil burners; to improve safety conditions on the North Sea grounds, the vessels are being equipped with radar. The first factory-trawler will be handed over by the Gdansk shipyard in 1960. Thus the distant-water fishing fleet will be able to supply large quantities of fresh and frozen fish for the home market in the near future. (The Fishing News, January 29, 1960.)



## Portugal

### CANNED FISH EXPORTS, JANUARY-OCTOBER 1959:

Portugal's exports of canned fish during January-October 1959 amounted to 60,966 metric tons (3,327,000 cases), valued at US\$31.3 million as compared with 53,725 tons, valued at US\$28.6 million for the same period in 1958. Sardines in olive oil exported during the first ten months of 1959 amounted to 45,415 tons, valued at US\$22.0 million.

Species	Metric Tons	US\$ 1,000
Sardines in olive oil . . . . .	45,415	22,033
Sardine & sardinelike fish in brine . . . . .	1,303	268
Tuna & tunalike fish in olive oil . . . . .	3,410	2,382
Anchovy fillets . . . . .	5,367	3,933
Mackerel in olive oil . . . . .	3,064	1,531
Other fish . . . . .	2,407	1,163
Total . . . . .	60,966	31,310

Portugal (Contd.):

During January-October 1959, the leading canned fish buyer was Germany with 13,465 tons (valued at US\$6.8 million), followed by Italy with 8,814 tons (valued at US\$5.0 million), United States with 5,752 tons (valued at US\$3.9 million), Great Britain with 5,601 tons (valued at US\$2.6 million), and France with 3,843 tons (valued at US\$2.0 million). Exports to the United States included 2,162 tons of anchovies, 822 tons of tuna, 2,564 tons of sardines, and 38 tons of mackerel. (Conservas de Peixe, December 1959.)

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CANNED FISH PACK,  
JANUARY-OCTOBER 1959:

The total pack of canned fish for January-October 1959 amounted to 48,147 metric tons as compared with 46,580 tons for the same period in 1958. Canned sardines in oil (36,790 tons) accounted for

Portuguese Canned Fish Pack, January-October 1959		
Product	Metric Tons <sup>1/</sup>	1,000 Cases
<b>In Olive Oil:</b>		
Sardines . . . . .	36,790	1,936
Sardinelike fish . . . . .	562	29
Anchovy fillets . . . . .	4,711	471
Tuna . . . . .	4,295	154
Mackerel . . . . .	563	22
Other species . . . . .	1,226	65
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>48,147</b>	<b>2,677</b>

<sup>1/</sup>Net weight.

76.4 percent of the January-October 1959 total pack, up by 17.9 percent from the pack of 31,198 tons for the same period of 1958, the December 1959 Conservas de Peixe reports.



Spain

VIGO FISHERIES TRENDS,  
OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1959:

**Fish Exchange:** Fish landings for the fourth quarter of 1959 totaled 23,280 metric tons, an increase of 1,644 tons over the third quarter and 453 tons over the fourth quarter of 1958.

The total value of the catch for the fourth quarter calculated in U. S. dollars (at 60 pesetas to the dollar) was \$3,197,017 as compared with \$3,723,000 for the third quarter of 1959 and \$4,409,039 for the fourth quarter of 1958 (calculated at the 1958 official rate of exchange of 42 pesetas to the dollar).

The increase in landings for the fourth quarter of 1959 as compared with the same quarter of 1958 is attributed to the very successful sardine season, which more than compensated for the poor over-all landings in December because of bad weather. The sardine landings for the fourth quarter totaled 11,186 tons, almost double the 5,860 tons landed in the fourth quarter of 1958. The sardine catch for the third quarter of 1959 was 5,574 tons. Other important species landed in the fourth quarter of 1959 were small hake, horse mackerel, and pomfret, the latter increasing from 759 tons in the final quarter of 1958 to 1,757 tons in October-December 1959.

Landings of the highly-favored hake dropped from 259 tons in the fourth quarter of 1958 to 119 tons in the corresponding quarter of 1959, with the average price per kilo rising from 45.73 pesetas to 63.30 (45.4 to 47.8 U.S. cents a pound).

The average price per kilo at the Exchange for the total catch was 8.33 pesetas (6.3 U.S. cents a pound) in the fourth quarter of 1959 as compared with 10.32 pesetas (7.8 U.S. cents a pound) for the third quarter and 8.11 pesetas (8.8 U.S. cents a pound) for the fourth quarter of 1958. The spread between the average price in the third and fourth quarters was due to the scarcity of the high-priced albacore and the higher landings of the low-priced sardines in the fourth quarter of 1959.

Preliminary estimates for the 1959 landings at Vigo give a total of 77,264 metric tons, with a value of 790,920,000 pesetas (US\$15,508,000 at average rate of 51 pesetas to US\$1), an increase over the 1958 total of some 13,000 metric tons and 173,979,000 pesetas (US\$3,411,000). The 1959 increase, due largely to the increased sardine catch, reversed a trend in recent years of declining landings at Vigo.

**Fish Canning and Processing:** The fish canning industry purchased 3,766 tons of fresh fish from the Vigo Fish Exchange during the fourth quarter of 1959, as compared with 6,575 tons for the third quarter, and 5,260 tons for the fourth quarter of 1958. For 1959, the total purchased by the canning industry was 12,583 tons, slightly under the 12,807 tons purchased in 1958.

Other processors, including smokers, driers, and fish-meal plants purchased 5,569 tons during the fourth quarter of 1959, in contrast with 3,467 tons during the third quarter and 3,568 tons during the fourth quarter of 1958. The total for 1959 was 14,386 tons, more than double the 6,672 tons purchased from the Exchange during 1958.

Canning activity fell off during the fourth quarter, and was lower than the activity of the final quarter of 1958 largely due to the shortage of sardines of a quality suitable for canning. Although the sardine catch was unusually large during the quarter, it was, for the most part, small size fish purchased by the fish-meal factories. It was the abundance of small sardines at very low prices throughout the late summer and the fall of 1959 that was largely responsible for the greatly increased purchases by "other processors."

**Exports:** Although the canners have had a very successful year in the export market, sales to the domestic market are reported to be down. While no figures are available to substantiate these reports, it has been estimated by a reliable source that shipments of canned fish to the large consuming centers of Madrid and Barcelona during October-December 1959 were down 60 percent from the corresponding period of 1958.

No figures on canned fish exports for 1959 from the northwest region are available. However, an official of the Ministry of Commerce believes the total volume of exports will be double that for 1958. Of significant importance were increased exports of canned albacore tuna to the United States. One of the largest Vigo canners stated that his exports to the United States (almost entirely albacore) were five times greater in volume than in 1958, and asserted that he could easily double the 1959 figure if albacore catches are more plentiful in 1960.

The canners' optimism over the future of the export market is dependent upon a continued and increasing supply of fish. While the devaluation of the peseta and the liberalization of tinplate importations have virtually eliminated, for the time being at least, the perennial problems of noncompet-

## Spain (Contd.):

itive prices and tinplate shortages, the major problem of an inadequate fishing fleet will probably prevent the canning industry from utilizing its full capacity for export for some time to come.

**Cod Market:** In the middle of December 1959, the Commissariat of Supply and Transportation published an order (Boletín Oficial del Estado, Dec. 15, 1959) canceling all controls on the prices of cod, for all sizes and species. Previously, only prices on large cod (an estimated 20 percent of the total catch) were free.

The cod industry has long sought the end of government controls on the price of cod. It remains to be seen whether import competition or consumer resistance will be effective in keeping cod prices down. In view of the reportedly poor catches by the Spanish cod fleet in recent months, it is likely that the large cod companies will attempt to raise their prices.



## Sweden

### HERRING LANDINGS HIGHER IN 1959:

Landings of herring by Swedish fishermen at home and abroad in 1959 are estimated at about 115,000 metric tons, a considerable increase as compared with the 97,000 metric tons landed in 1958. Landings in foreign ports accounted for the larger part of the increase. In Danish ports, Swedish fishermen landed herring and other fish totaling 69,000 tons as compared with 61,900 tons in 1958. The value of the landings in Danish ports in 1959 was 31,033,000 crowns (US\$5,996,700) as compared with 26,631,000 crowns (US\$5,146,000) in 1958. Of the landings in Danish ports in 1959, food fish other than herring accounted for a very small portion. Industrial fish, however, made up about one-third of the landings, or about 20,000 tons, valued at 3,948,000 crowns (US\$762,900). In 1958, the industrial fish landed in Danish ports totaled 14,000 tons valued at 2,309,000 crowns (US\$446,200).

Direct landings of herring in West German ports by Swedish fishermen, which in 1958 dropped considerably, amounting to only about 25 percent of the landings in 1957, increased in 1959 by almost 500 percent and totaled 7,384 tons, valued at 4,248,000 crowns (US\$820,900). In addition, 500 tons of other fish valued at 288,000 crowns (US\$55,700) were landed in West German ports. The total landings of herring and other fish in West German ports in 1958 amounted to

1,576 tons, valued at 1,163,000 crowns (US\$224,700).

Swedish direct landings of herring in Great Britain, however, continued the downward trend from 1958 and amounted in 1959 to 1,733 tons valued at 852,000 crowns (US\$164,600). In addition, 147 tons of other fish valued at 88,000 crowns (US\$17,000) were landed in British ports. The total landings in 1958 amounted to 2,600 tons, valued at 1,573,000 crowns (US\$304,000).

Data on the total value of Sweden's landings of fishery products is unavailable. But a considerable increase in value as compared with 1958 is expected. The value of the landings in foreign ports in 1959 exceeded the 1958 value by about 7,000,000 crowns (US\$1,352,700). In addition, the turnover in 1959 at the major fish auctions on the Swedish west coast was larger than in 1958. (The United States Embassy in Goteborg reported on February 18, 1960.)



## Thailand

### SHRIMP INDUSTRY:

The shrimp fishing industry in Thailand consists of many small enterprises scattered along the coast and also inland for fresh-water shrimp. Most of the catch, which is estimated to have averaged about 10,370 metric tons annually for 1956-58, is consumed in Thailand. Small quantities of both fresh, frozen, or dried shrimp are exported (exports varied between 10 tons in 1956 to about 40 tons in 1958 for all types). In 1958, export of frozen shrimp (less than 200 pounds) to the United States was started on an experimental basis. In 1959, according to estimates, frozen shrimp exports to the United States from the Port of Bangkok rose to 23.9 tons, valued at about US\$29,868.

Late in 1959 there were three companies exporting shrimp from the Bangkok area. All three firms used the cold-storage facilities of the semi-Government-owned and operated Cold Storage Organization in Bangkok. Only one of the firms (Japanese) handling and processing shrimp for export has specialized equipment for shrimp fishing.

Most of the shrimp catch is made during the dry season, although shrimp stocks are believed to be available throughout the year. The catch is confined largely to coastal waters, especially in the southern part of Thailand where the largest quantities are caught.

**Thailand (Contd.):**

In 1957, powered vessels 5 net tons and under totaled 482 and vessels over 5 net tons amounted to 273 for a total tonnage of 5,688. Mechanized fishing vessels increased sharply in number and tonnage in 1958 consisted of 647 vessels of 5 net tons and under and 943 vessels over 5 net tons for a total tonnage of 18,318. In addition, in 1958 there were 601 vessels without power averaging about 6 tons in size. No vessels are used exclusively for shrimp fishing, and a fair portion of the annual shrimp catch is taken by stationary fishing gear, such as bag nets. The Thai Department of Fisheries has a program to provide loans at low interest rates for fishermen to purchase fishing gear and motors. Most of the fishing enterprises are family undertakings, and more and more of the vessels are being mechanized.

Prices paid for shrimp at the auction held by the Fish Marketing Organization in Bangkok from January-September 1959 averaged 42.5 U. S. cents a pound for large shrimp and 24.7 U. S. cents a pound for small shrimp. The price range for large shrimp was from 38.9 to 49.7 (January) and from 21.6 to 26.1 (July) U. S. cents a pound for small shrimp.

Costs of processing shrimp for export based on purchase prices ranging between 30 and 48 U. S. cents a pound are as follows: processing, US\$5.71 a ton; cold-storage, first month \$39 a ton, second month \$32 a ton; transportation to harbor, \$23.80 a ton. Total costs to point of shipment ranged from 33.6 to 50.8 U. S. cents a pound. (United States Embassy in Bangkok, December 22, 1959.)

Note: Values converted at rate of 21 Bahts equal US\$1.

**Tunisia****FISHERIES EXPANSION  
PROMOTED BY GOVERNMENT:**

The Tunisian Government-supported Office National des Peches (ONP) continued to expand its activities during the final quarter of 1959, including acquisition of the important tuna fishery and cannery of Sidi Daoud, the "Societe des Madragues Tunisiennes." This French company, according to the Director of ONP, had been given a concession to exploit the major tuna fishing areas until 1990. In 1958, the company's rights in the Monastir area were taken away by order of the President of Tunisia because of its failure to exploit that sector of its concession. Purchase of the Sidi Daoud Company and acquisition of the extensive tuna fishing rights has been presented by the ONP as an opportunity to expand tuna production to meet domestic demand and

to give more employment to Tunisians by keeping the Sidi Daoud fishery open for all or most of the year. It is proposed that production be increased in fishing areas formerly used but abandoned in recent years, commencing with Cap Zebib in 1960, and by employing a 30 meter (98.4 foot) vessel (expected to be completed by the end of 1960) to fish for tuna in the winter months when the fish are not found close to land.

The ONP, already enjoying a virtual monopoly in the relatively profitable lake (or lagoon) fishing and operating some seven trawlers, also moved ahead with plans to build a modern sardine cannery at Sousse. It has also made important progress in its declared goal of establishing a "chain of cold" from the site of the catch to the consumer. Refrigerated trucks are already in operation from the major fishery at El-Biban in the south to Tunis; on January 14 a complex of four refrigerated storage rooms was opened in Tunis Central Market with a capacity of between 20-25 tons. The ONP Director has described the new facility both as a protection to the consumer's health and a facility to control the price of fish. By releasing from cold storage only enough fish to meet consumer demand, it is possible to avoid glutting the market and a subsequent drop in prices. (United States Embassy in Tunis reported on February 4, 1960.)

**Union of South Africa****FISH MEAL PRODUCERS SEEK  
AGREEMENT WITH PERU:**

The emergence of Peru as a major fish meal producer has been a source of concern to the South African fish meal and oil industry. Peruvian production is now estimated to be in excess of 200,000 long tons a year and is expected to increase to about 300,000 tons in 1960. The impact of Peruvian production on the world market for fish meal is evidenced by the fact that prices in the United Kingdom have dropped from £57-12-0 (US\$161.28) to £43-2-0 (\$120.68) per long ton in the past four months. This trend has in fact become

## Union of South Africa (Contd.):

so disturbing that two representatives of South African fish meal producers visited Peru seeking a marketing, pricing, and production agreement with the Peruvian industry. South African production of fish meal in 1958 amounted to 102,579 tons of which 89,253 tons were exported. Both South Africa and South-West Africa had record catches of pilchards in 1959. (United States Embassy in Pretoria reported on January 25, 1960.)



## U.S.S.R.

EXPANSION OF FISHING FLEETS CONTINUES:

The latest addition to the Soviet Union's Baltic fishing fleet is the mothership Svjatogor, which was operating in the Atlantic in December 1959, according to a report in the Soviet publication Vodnyj Transport of December 1959. The vessel is equipped with a helicopter and, in addition to its primary objectives, serves as a base ship for fishing vessels and fishermen, reports on the weather, and scouts for fish schools. The mothership uses the helicopter to deliver mail to the fishing vessels from ships coming from Russian home ports.

The herring factoryship Lamut, of 4,982 gross tons, has been built for the Soviet Union by a Japanese shipyard. The new vessel is part of a larger order placed with Japanese shipyards, which also includes two vessels for tuna fishing, the Dnepr and Dnestr, and another factoryship for the herring fishery, the Nicholai Isaenko.

The Lamut has a production capacity of 120 metric tons of herring per 24 hours and is equipped for both salting and freezing herring or other species. This vessel is well equipped for the comfort of the crew. It has a surgical clinic with an x-ray room, and recreation space with piano, movies, library, and other conveniences. The vessel is 110 meters long over-all, 16 meters in breadth, 9 meters deep, is equipped with a 3,360-hp. engine, and had a maximum speed of 14.6 knots

on its trial trip. (Fiskets Gang, January 21, 1960.)

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FISHING FLEET OPERATING OFF ALASKA:

A Russian fishing fleet was reported operating in the North Pacific off Alaska in full force about a month earlier than usual. At least 50 Russian trawlers and 10 refrigerator and support ships were spotted in the area late in January off the southeast coast of Nunivak Island which is north of Bristol Bay and not far from the Yukon River. The fleet apparently is equipped for bottom fishing for such species as cod, flounder, and sole. Stern-type trawlers were sighted in the fleet.

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LARGE FLEET OF VESSELS FISHING FOR HERRING OFF FAROE ISLANDS:

The Soviet Union's fishing fleet has been averaging a catch of 1,450 metric tons of herring a day off the Faroe Islands recently, according to a report in a Swedish fisheries publication (January 10, 1960). It is estimated that 300-400 Russian vessels are fishing off the Faroe Islands. They are led by almost a score of supply and motherships of about 7,000-8,000 tons each, and tankers. The tankers regularly obtain fresh water in the port of Thorshavn, Faroe Islands, usually 1,000 tons at a time. One of the Russian motherships is equipped with a helicopter. (Fiskets Gang, January 28, 1960.)



## United Kingdom

CONTRACT FOR FISH AT FIXED PRICES FOR FREEZING:

A contract for the purchase of supplies of fresh fish valued at £450,000 (US\$1,260,000) was due to be signed late in January 1960 by a large Grimsby, England, processor of quick-frozen fish and other foods. The fish, to be delivered from February 1960 to the end of July 1960, will be obtained from Grimsby and Hull distant-water trawler owners. Un-

United Kingdom (Contd.):

der the contract about £3 (US\$8.40) a kit of 140 pounds (6 U. S. cents a pound) will be paid for fish received. The contract amounts to about 10,000 metric tons.

Another contract for the bulk purchase of fish valued at £1 million (US\$2,800,000) was recently signed by another large Grimsby fishing and processing company. It is understood that a third Grimsby packaged fish firm is negotiating for the purchase of 980,000 pounds of fish at a fixed price.

In 1959 for the first time, fish was sold by trawler owners at fixed prices rather than by auction, as was the custom in the past. The present contracts tend to indicate that as the fish-freezing trade continues to develop, the practice of selling fish under contract at fixed prices is growing.

One of the large packers of quick-frozen fish and other products states that a smaller series of contracts of this nature in 1959 were successful. The firm claims that the agreement will produce dual benefits in the way of high-quality fish at steady prices for the consumer, and a stable market for the trawler owners and their crews. Another important aspect of the signing of the contracts is that the processor is able to quick-freeze as much fish as possible while it is in season. (United States Embassy in London reported on January 22, 1960.)

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"SILVER COD" FOR 1959  
AWARDED TO HULL VESSEL:

The 1959 "Silver Cod" trophy for 1959 has been awarded to the Hull distant-water trawler Falstaff. In 330 days

Landings by Eight Leading British Vessels in Silver Cod Competition			
Vessel	Days at Sea	Landings	
		Kits (140 Lbs.)	1,000 Lbs.
<u>Falstaff</u> . . . .	330	39,695	5,557
<u>Arctic Ranger</u> .	333	37,490	5,249
<u>Prince Charles</u>	336	35,709	4,999
<u>Cape Trafalgar</u>	336	34,933	4,891
<u>Marbella</u> . . .	331	34,818	4,875
<u>Kirkella</u> . . .	334	34,769	4,868
<u>Caesar</u> . . . .	343	34,181	4,785
<u>Northern Eagle</u>	333	33,365	4,671

at sea this vessel landed a total of 39,695 kits or about 5.6 million pounds of fish. The first seven of the eight high-liner vessels for 1959 were from Hull, which is England's main fishing port for large distant-water trawlers.



Unloading a fishing trawler at Grimsby, England. Note movable winch on dock and gang planks on which baskets are pushed down to dock.

The skipper of the Falstaff stated that the vessel's speed was a great advantage in winning the award for 1959. He also stated that the Falstaff was a very seaworthy vessel, which enabled the vessel to fish in weather when less able vessels were forced to cease fishing. (The Fishing News, January 22, 1960.)



Viet-Nam

SHRIMP INDUSTRY:

The average annual catch of shrimp for 1956-1959 is estimated by the Viet-Nam Directorate of Fisheries at 5,000 metric tons. There are no data concerning the species and value of shrimp taken. At the January 1960 average ex-vessel price of 27.5 piasters per kilogram, an annual catch of 5,000 metric tons would be worth 137,500,000 piasters, or US\$3,928,571 at the official rate of exchange of 35 piasters per U. S. dollar.

The Directorate of Fisheries estimates that there are more than 2,000 boats engaged in fishing for shrimp at one time or another during the year. The boats vary in size, but are mostly very small craft powered by sail and oars. A few fishing boats now have gasoline engines.

There are presently no construction programs for shrimp fishing vessels. A new Vietnamese firm organized to catch, freeze, and export shrimp, plans to have five Japanese-built vessels, of 75 to 150 tons, with Diesel power, by the end of 1960. This firm is only now beginning commercial operations. Initial production is expected to be about 800,000 pounds a month. Exports, at least at first, will be made only to the United States. According to reports, the first shipment of frozen shrimp to the United States will be made early in 1960.

Ex-vessel prices for shrimp in Saigon in January 1960 were 30-35 piasters per kilogram (about 38.9-45.4 U. S. cents a pound at official rate of exchange) for large shrimp

## Viet-Nam (Contd.):

and 20-25 piasters per kilogram (25.9-32.4 U. S. cents a pound) for small shrimp. Shrimp are sold only by size, never according to species.

Since 1956 small quantities of dried shrimp have been exported from Viet-Nam. The current market price for dried shrimp exported to Hong Kong and Singapore is 24.14 piasters per kilogram or about 31.3 U. S. cents a pound. Exports of dried shrimp from 1956-59 averaged about 37.5 metric tons per year with about 67.7 percent exported to Hong Kong, 26.7 percent to Singapore, and about 10.7 percent to other destinations.

There are no current export controls (except as part of general licensing of all exports) or taxes on exports of fresh shrimp. Dried shrimp must pay an export tax of 5 percent ad valorem. Earnings of foreign exchange from exports of shrimp must, as is true of all exports, be exchanged for piasters, 65 percent at the official rate of 35 piasters per dollar, and 35 percent at the free rate of approximately 72 piasters per dollar.

The relatively small annual shrimp landings made from Vietnamese waters are not an indication of the available supply. Most shrimp are now caught in shallow coastal waters, bays, and rivers mouths. Deep-water fishing grounds for shrimp have been located at several places off the coast, and it appears that there is a plentiful supply of two or three large species. (United States Embassy in Saigon, January 11, 1960.)

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#### EXPORT OF FROZEN SHRIMP TO UNITED STATES STARTED:

On January 24, 1960, a new Vietnamese shrimp fishing and processing company made its first shipment of quick-frozen shrimp to the United States.

The shipment (due in New York about March 10) of ten metric tons, packed 5-pounds to the carton, was expected to bring about 70 U. S. cents a pound in New York. Less freight charges, the shipment should net the new firm about US\$13,628. For the near future, the company hopes to ship about 30 tons a month. The company's freezing capacity is 60 tons a month, but it is still plagued with difficulties in securing adequate supplies of raw shrimp. At 30 tons a month, foreign exchange earnings for Viet-Nam would approach US\$500,000 a year. The company's present intention is to sell the entire production in the United States.

The company is now actively seeking two special shrimp trawlers from Florida or Japan to improve raw shrimp landings. It has also recently sent a sample shipment to New York of special shrimp, found near Soo-Trang on the southern mouth of the Mekong. These shrimp, believed to be unique, have tails 6-8 inches in length. The New York importer's response to the sample was said to be enthusiastic. As an added inducement, the heads (carapaces) are said to be marketable locally for soups. (United States Embassy in Saigon, February 1, 1960.)



#### CORRECTION

In the article entitled "Report of the Tenth Session of the FAO Conference," the paragraph beginning at the bottom of the second column of page 52 (February 1960 issue of Commercial Fisheries Review) should have read:

Two major proposals by the U. S. Delegation for world conferences were accepted and written into the report of the Technical Committee. The first proposal, dealing with a world conference on the tunas and related species, was received favorably by all delegates; the suggestion was made that the conference be held in Hawaii, because it is a major center for research on tunas, and has excellent facilities for a conference. The other proposal, dealing with a symposium on the nutritive value of fishery products, was also received favorably, and the Committee requested the Director-General to go into the possibility of organizing this symposium as a joint activity of the Fisheries and Nutrition Divisions, subject to the availability of funds.