



COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVIEW



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

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COVER: Balloons--a new approach to fish spotting. Shown is a hot-air balloon, 50 feet in diameter, being inflated from the deck of the albacore troller Yaqui Queen during tests off California in early 1965. Manned ascents were made with the balloon to a height of 500 feet--where visibility extends for 30 miles. The balloon was tethered to the Yaqui Queen by a 5/8-inch nylon line. The tests showed that the operation of a tethered hot-air balloon from a vessel at sea is safe and practical under a wide range of working conditions. Improvements in the design of the balloon are needed, however, so that it can be towed by a vessel without hindering its speed. (Note: Additional information about the balloon test may be obtained from the Tuna Resources Laboratory, U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, La Jolla, Calif. Also see Commercial Fisheries Review, May 1965 p. 18.)

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OCEANOGRAPHY STUDENTS TRAIN ABOARD
U. S. BUREAU OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
RESEARCH VESSEL

The U. S. Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass., has been cooperating with the Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute in the training of students in marine technology. Courses in marine engineering, navigation, and oceanography at the Vocational Institute require experience at sea on a training vessel. The Bureau's laboratory agreed to accept a limited number of students on certain research cruises to afford them an opportunity to fulfill the experience requirement. Students selected for the cruise will be assigned to the engine-room, the deck, and the oceanography laboratory, depending on the course involved. Two students were aboard the Laboratory research vessel Albatross IV during February 1965, serving as assistants on the scientific party during the North Atlantic winter groundfish survey.



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