

OTHER FISHERY NOTES

Great Lakes Treaty

The United States and Canada signed, on April 2, at Washington, a treaty to provide for the development, protection, and conservation of the Great Lakes fisheries, a natural resource of mutual interest to the two countries. The treaty was signed on behalf of the United States by the Acting Secretary of State, the Honorable Dean Acheson, and on behalf of Canada by the Honorable Lester B. Pearson, Canadian Ambassador at Washington, and by the Honorable Francis Bridges, Minister of Fisheries.



In 1940, the United States and Canada established the International Board of Inquiry for the Great Lakes Fisheries to study the taking of fish in the Great Lakes and to make recommendations as to methods for preserving and developing these fisheries. The Board of Inquiry made extensive investigations, which included 29 public hearings, and in August 1942, sub-

mitted its report and recommendations to the Governments of the United States and Canada. It was apparent from the Board's report and from discussions and continuing study of the matter on the part of Federal, State, and Provincial officials that measures with respect to the fisheries of the Great Lakes could be made effective only through coordinated action of the governments concerned. Therefore, it was recommended that the United States and Canada enter into a treaty to provide for cooperation and joint action in conserving and developing the Great Lakes fisheries. In view of the successful conservation of fishery resources which has been achieved under treaties between the United States and Canada, it is believed that cooperation of the two countries with respect to the Great Lakes fisheries should have similarly successful results.



International Fishery Council

In a press release issued by the Overfishing Conference at London, England, and transmitted to the State Department on March 26, 1946, it was stated that "an international conference opened in London on March 25 to examine the question of overfishing and, if possible, to draw up some form of regulatory agreement among the nations concerned. Such an agreement is essential if the overfishing after the 1914-18 war, when the stocks of fish accumulated during the war years in the North Sea were rapidly depleted, is not to be repeated. The following countries were represented at the Conference:

Norway	Poland	Holland	France	Spain	Iceland
Sweden	Denmark	Belgium	Portugal	Eire	Great Britain

The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, which has for many years given attention to this problem, was also represented."



USDA Canned Fish Purchases

By March 1, the Department of Agriculture had completed its purchases of canned fish to fill all Government commitments for military and export use for 1945-46, according to The National Food Situation for February-March 1946. Out of the 1945-46 pack of 617 million pounds, imports of 30 million pounds, and beginning stocks of 60 million, over 400 million pounds have gone into civilian distribution, 60 to our armed forces and about 175 for export. Of the exports, UNRRA has received 60 million pounds, the United Kingdom and British Services about 80 million pounds, and others, 35 million pounds.

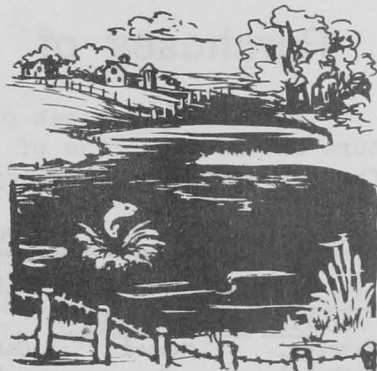


Farm Ponds

Farm ponds in the United States received almost $5\frac{1}{2}$ million young fish from hatcheries operated by the Fish and Wildlife Service during the past year, Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug announced on April 11.

Individual farm ponds totaling 9,529 were planted with largemouth black bass, bluegill sunfish, and ten other species of fish. The demand was 75 percent greater than for the previous year, and appears to be growing as the benefits of the farm pond become better known.

The Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service pointed out that these small ponds, mostly one to five acres in area, will produce from 200 to 300 pounds of fish per acre annually in the South if properly fertilized and fished. To assist in management of this enterprise, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Merchandise Mart Building, Chicago 54, Illinois, has available, for free distribution, the following publications:



- Fishery Leaflet No. 17 - The Construction of Farm Ponds
 Fishery Leaflet No. 27 - Farm Fish Ponds and their Management
 Fishery Leaflet No. 65 - An Outlet Gate for Farm Fish Ponds



Air Transport

A 44-page report on the transport of agricultural perishables by air has been published by the United States Department of Agriculture. This pamphlet, prepared in anticipation of postwar changes in marketing practices, is Miscellaneous Publication No. 585. It is available from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C., free of charge.



Oyster Hearing

A hearing on regulations on raw shucked oysters was held by the House of Representatives' Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries on July 16 and August 14, 1945; and January 15, 16, and 17, 1946. Part 2 of the report on the hearings has recently been issued. If copies of these reports are desired, they may be obtained by addressing a request to the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington 25, D. C.



Purchases of Fish by Department of Agriculture

February purchases of fishery products by the U. S. Department of Agriculture showed a decline of \$2,928,967 as compared with January. Total purchases from January 1 to February 28, 1946, were \$3,547,739.

Purchases of Fishery Products by USDA

Commodity	Unit	February 1946		January-February 1946	
		Quantity	F.O.B. Cost Dollars	Quantity	F.O.B. Cost Dollars
FISH AND SHELLFISH					
Herring, canned	Cases	-	-	-	-
Mackerel, "	"	450	2,194	4,662	22,728
Pilchards, "	"	63,650	234,488	140,220	517,055
Salmon, "	"	8,093	60,106	269,658	2,961,429
Sardines, "	"	2,754	12,598	9,929	46,527
Grand Total	"	74,947	309,386	424,469	3,547,739