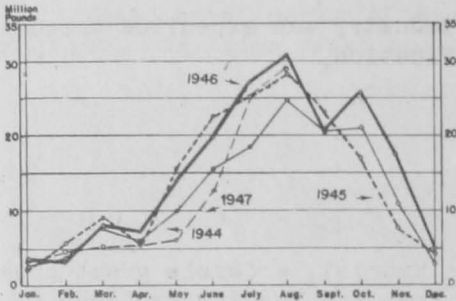


FRESH AND FROZEN FISH

New England

MAINE LANDINGS: Maine fishermen landed 28,284,000 pounds of fishery products, valued at \$1,843,432, during August bringing the total for the first eight months of the year to 92,086,000 pounds, valued at \$6,547,701, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 372. This represents a decrease of 19 percent in volume and 20 percent in value as compared with the landings during the first eight months of 1946, which totaled 114,165,000 pounds, valued at \$8,169,464.

LANDINGS AT MAINE PORTS, 1944-47
By months



\$1,081,775, accounted for 59 percent of the total amount received by Maine fishermen for their catch of fishery products during the month.

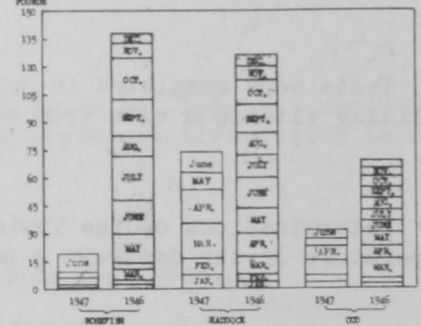
During August, landings at Portland amounted to 4,261,000 pounds, valued at \$129,603 to the fishermen.

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MASSACHUSETTS LANDINGS: Landings of fish and shellfish at the ports of Boston, Gloucester, New Bedford, Provincetown, and other Cape Cod ports during June amounted to 51,081,000 pounds, valued at \$2,856,237 to the fishermen, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 371. These landings brought the total for the first 6 months of 1947 to 191,200,000 pounds, valued at \$14,243,301.

Landings at Boston during the first 6 months of 1947 amounted to 102,478,000 pounds--an increase of 108 percent over the same period in 1946, while receipts at Gloucester, which amounted to 43,357,000 pounds were 56 percent below the landings in the first half of 1946. Labor difficulties at Boston in 1946, and the curtailment of landings at Gloucester during the current year because of price declines were responsible for the variation in landings at these ports.

Landings of Rosefish, Haddock, and Cod at Massachusetts Ports, 1946 and 1947



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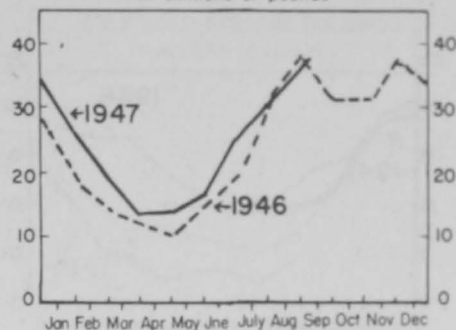
COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Holdings of frozen fish and shellfish in New England warehouses totaled 36,468,000 pounds on September 1, according to the Service's Boston Market News Office. This area is divided into three sections: Boston, Gloucester, and "other than Boston and Gloucester." The holdings for the three sections were 18,617,000, 9,303,000, and 8,548,000 pounds, respectively.

Compared with the national holdings, New England's represent 24 percent of the total. The holdings for the area increased 28 percent over its total on Au-

gust 1, while the national holdings increased but 15 percent. As a producing area, it was to be expected that during the summer period of high fish production relatively large increases in holdings would occur.

Although the holdings in this area are greater, there is a more even distribution of them than was the case last year. In 1946, it was necessary to curtail some of the fishing operations at Gloucester because the warehouses there were almost filled to capacity.

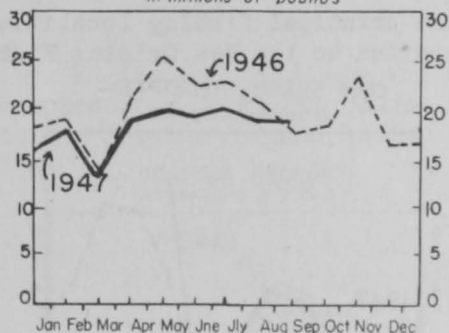
COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NEW ENG.
in millions of pounds



Middle Atlantic

NEW YORK CITY ARRIVALS: Receipts of fish and shellfish at the New York Fulton Market during August 1947 totaled 18,002,000 pounds, according to the Service's local Market News Office. This amount represents a decrease of about 200,000 pounds under total receipts for July 1947. Total receipts for August 1946 amounted to a little more than 17½ million pounds. Approximately 61 percent of the total for August 1947 was fish, and the remainder was shellfish.

NEW YORK CITY RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



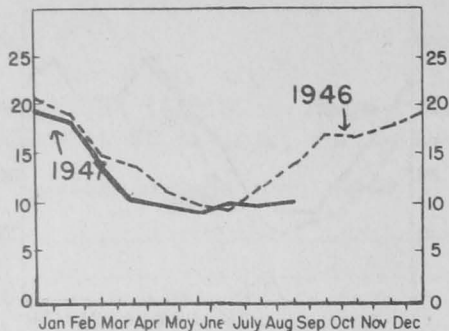
The more important species included scup, mackerel, flounder, cod, haddock, whiting, yellow-tail, halibut, and salmon. Leading items in the shellfish group were hard clams, shrimp, sea scallops, lobsters, hard and soft crabs, and squid.

The market was generally sluggish for the entire month due in part to continuous hot and humid weather. All species of salt-water fish in good supply sold at prices close to or lower than the former OPA ceiling prices, while sales of a few species, such as scup, small mackerel, and whiting, barely covered the cost of boxes, ice, and transportation. The market for larger grades of hard clams was weak with many sales made at low prices for planting. Shrimp prices continued high for the jumbo and medium sizes, but averaged lower than those received during July. The demand for small shrimp was very light and quantities of small and medium shrimp were frozen during the month.

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NEW YORK CITY COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS: Cold-storage holdings of frozen fish and shellfish in the New York metropolitan area on August 28 were 8,958,000 pounds, 11 percent greater than the total of 8,088,000 pounds held on July 31, 1947, and 31 percent less than the 12,985,000 pounds in storage on August 29, 1946, according to the New York Fishery Market News Office. The six leading salt-water items were salmon, mackerel, halibut, cod and haddock fillets, and sablefish, and they accounted for 63 percent of the total of all salt-water species. The only important species which showed an increase in their holdings over 1946 are mackerel and had-

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NEW YORK
in millions of pounds



dock fillets. Cisco, whitefish, and sturgeon made up 68 percent of the fresh-water species; and shrimp, squid, and scallops, 73 percent of the shellfish group.

Holdings of warehouses in New Jersey reporting to the New York Office of the Market News Service, as of August 28th, were 2,855,000 pounds compared with a total of 3,394,000 pounds on August 29, 1946. The total August 28, 1947, includes 2,596,000 pounds of salt-water fish compared with 3,204,000 pounds on August 29, 1946, which is a decline of 19 percent and 260,000

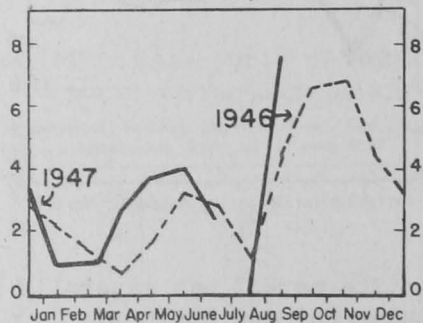
pounds of shellfish, compared with 189,000 pounds on August 29, 1946, an increase of 37 percent. Holdings of butterfish, weakfish, ling, and scup show a sharp decline when compared with 1946.



Gulf

PRODUCTION: Landings of shrimp in August at the principal fishing localities in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas as reported to the New Orleans Fishery Market News Office amounted to 7,500,000 pounds. This is greater than production during August of last year by 630,000 pounds. Louisiana production was slightly less, but in the other Gulf states, landings were greater than during August 1946. These greater landings were due, in part, to the fact that operations were not hampered this year as they were by the price dispute during August 1946. Although data for July 1947 were not collected, it is estimated that shrimp landings during this month did not exceed 6,000 barrels. The shrimp season for inside and outside waters of Mississippi and Louisiana, which had been closed June 10, opened August 11. In Alabama, the closed season opened August 16, for inside waters, and in Texas, inland waters opened for shrimping on September 1. There is no closed season in outside waters of Alabama and Texas. Landings for the first 8 months of this year are approximately 28 percent less than during the same period last year. Since the opening of the closed season, over half of the quantity of shrimp landed were reported to have been used for canning.

GULF SHRIMP RECEIPTS—
in millions of pounds



Oyster production continued to be low during the summer months. Landings in August were approximately 20 percent less than in August 1946. Landings for the 8 months of this year were, however, 35 percent greater than for the same period last year.

Landings of fish were greater than during August 1946. Alabama and Louisiana landings showed a reduction, but in Texas, production was greater. Most of the fresh fish production consisted of red snapper, catfish, mullet, and grouper.

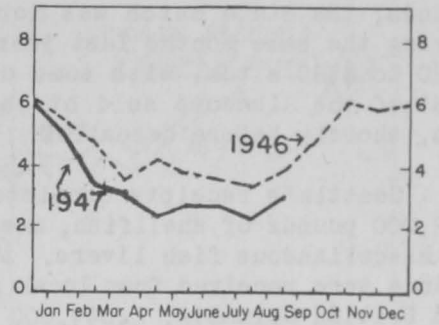
Blue crab production increased 14 percent over landings in August 1946; yet the total for 8 months of this year is only slightly greater than one-half of the production during the same period in 1946.

COLD STORAGE: Eleven cold-storage warehouses in Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas reported frozen fish and shellfish holdings amounting to 2,671,000 pounds on August 28, 1947. This was 27 percent greater than those of 4 weeks previous and 32 percent less than on August 29, 1946, according to the Service's Market News Office in New Orleans.

Frozen shrimp holdings amounted to 907,000 pounds, 550,000 pounds greater than 4 weeks earlier and 500,000 pounds less than one year ago.

Salt-water fish holdings on August 28 were 1,333,000 pounds, approximately 24,000 pounds less than 4 weeks ago and 775,000 pounds less than those of last year. At present, the varieties of frozen fish on hand in order of quantities of holdings are mullet, rosefish fillets, miscellaneous fillets, whiting and king whiting, blue runner, and Spanish mackerel.

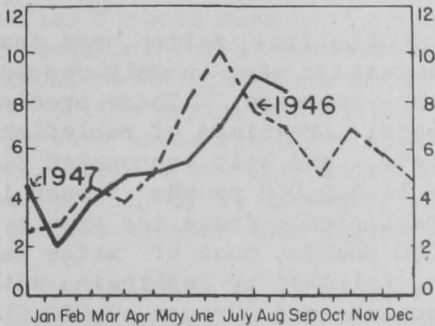
GULF COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS
in millions of pounds



Pacific

ARRIVALS: Landings and wholesale receipts of fishery products at Seattle dropped from 9,111,000 pounds in July to 8,341,000 pounds during August, according to the Service's local Market News Office. This decline of nearly 9 percent was caused, mainly, by a sharp drop in otter trawl operations. Local trawlers landed only 582,000 pounds of groundfish during August, the bulk being about 200,000 pounds each of petrale sole and rockfishes. Trawlers made 24 trips to the offshore grounds compared with 68 trips in July which produced 1,668,000 pounds. Individual vessel catches and truck deliveries from northern Puget Sound ports were relatively light and, in addition, there were a number of trawlers engaged in tuna fishing.

SEATTLE RECEIPTS
in millions of pounds



Salmon receipts totaling 1,979,000 pounds were 44 percent below July's deliveries. The late summer run of king and silver salmon, which are almost all taken by trollers, was under expectations and catches of these fish were spotty and infrequent. Prices for troll-caught salmon averaged about 12 cents a pound above 1946 ceilings.

The landings of halibut were heavy and despite the late start during this year's operations, the Seattle halibut fleet was able to take a fair portion of the Area 3 quota before the season ended. The local fleet making 77 trips to Area 3 and 9 trips to Area 2 landed over 3,775,000 pounds of halibut which were nearly three times the July landings. Additional halibut arrivals from Alaskan and Canadian sources raised the August total to a little over 4,739,000 pounds. Bidding was consistently brisk and prices averaged about 26 cents a pound for mediums and 23 cents for chickens and large. Incidentally, the season which closed on August 17, was the shortest on record, totaling 109 days.

August's albacore tuna catches were encouraging to fishermen and canners. Seattle's receipts amounted to about 85,000 pounds, much of which entered the fresh market. More than 2½ million pounds of albacore were landed at various Washington ports during the month. Coupled with July's landings of 1,268,000 pounds, the State catch was more than three times the 1,321,000 pounds landed during the same months last year. Prices for albacore were strong, ranging from \$520 to \$580 a ton, with some offers reported as high as \$600 a ton. In 1946, most of the albacore sold at the \$390-ceiling which was later raised to \$410 a ton, shortly before decontrol.

Seattle's receipts consisted of 7,708,000 pounds of fresh and frozen fish; 202,000 pounds of shellfish, mostly clams, crabs, and oysters; and 431,000 pounds of miscellaneous fish livers. More than two-thirds of all receipts or 5,894,000 pounds were received from local sources, with Alaska contributing 1,348,000 pounds, and British Columbia, 1,099,000 pounds.

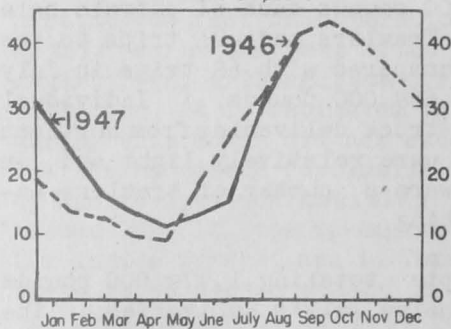
During the first 8 months of 1947, Seattle's receipts reached a volume of 45,842,000 pounds, about 16 percent under the 54,582,000 pounds for the same period in 1946.

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COLD STORAGE: Holdings of frozen fishery products in cold-storage warehouses of the northwest region totaled almost 39,250,000 pounds on September 1, according to the Service's Seattle Market News Office.

This was an increase of about 34 percent or more than 10,000,000 pounds over August 1. However, the holdings were about 7 percent below the 42,000,000 pounds held in the region on September 1, 1946.

GOLD STORAGE HOLDINGS—NORTH PACIFIC
in millions of pounds



Heavy freezings of halibut, salmon, and tuna continued during August and were largely responsible for the sharp increase. These species together with liberal freezings of sablefish, miscellaneous fillets, and bait accounted for 99 percent of the 14,649,000 pounds frozen in the region. Alaska plants froze the greatest bulk, over 8,000,000 pounds, most of which was halibut and salmon, followed by Washington with nearly 4,000,000 pounds, and Oregon, 3,000,000 pounds. About two-thirds of the Oregon total was albacore tuna.

Heaviest holdings were reported for halibut, 20,690,000 pounds; salmon, all species, 7,690,000 pounds; and tuna, 6,163,000 pounds. In addition, 1,718,000 pounds of sablefish; 1,045,000 pounds of miscellaneous fillets; and 699,000 pounds of bait and animal food were held in storage. These 6 items, totaling over 38,000,000 pounds, accounted for 97 percent of all holdings for the region.

Cured fish stocks, amounting to 5,377,000 pounds, continued to climb. This was about a third more than was held during the previous month. Slightly more than 4,500,000 pounds were mild cured salmon, practically all held in Seattle warehouses, pending shipment. Alaska plants were cleared of all cured stocks except a small quantity of salmon.



Great Lakes

RECEIPTS: Receipts of fresh and frozen fishery products in the Chicago whole-sale market during August 1947 totaled 7,434,000 pounds, according to the Service's local Fishery Market News Office. This was a decline of 10 percent compared with July receipts and an increase of 18 percent over receipts during August 1946. Compared with July, fresh-water receipts declined 13 percent, but they were 14 percent greater than fresh-water receipts during August 1946. Salt-water arrivals declined 4 percent from July, but they were 34 percent above those of August 1946. Shellfish receipts were 28 percent below the July total and 15 percent below the shellfish arrivals during August 1946.

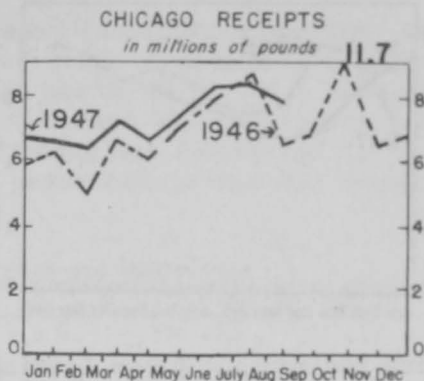
Chief reason for the decline in fresh-water arrivals was the greatly lessened supplies of chubs, lake trout, whitefish, and yellow pike. A factor also contributing to the general decline was the lighter supply of the slower moving rough fish items. Although receipts of whitefish from United States points were bolstered by arrivals from Canadian sources, chiefly Alberta, this species fell 43 percent below the July total. Yellow pike continued to arrive from Minnesota and Manitoba sources throughout the month, but the total was 4 percent below the July figure, while chubs fell 30 percent below July arrivals. Yellow perch, the only important fresh-water item registering a gain, more than doubled the previous month's production.

Halibut, most of it frozen and arriving late in the month, led all other items in the salt-water section showing a gain over July arrivals of 18 percent. Rosefish fillets were next in importance but this item fell 5 percent below arrivals during July. Decreases in other salt-water items such as cod, haddock, pollock, and whiting were the chief reasons that salt-water items showed a 4 percent decline during the month. Cod showed the largest decrease during the month, 55 percent below its July total. The other items mentioned did not show such large declines but they added to the general reduction. Salmon arrivals exceeded those of July by 76 percent, although the total poundage remained low. It was 81 percent greater than during August 1946.

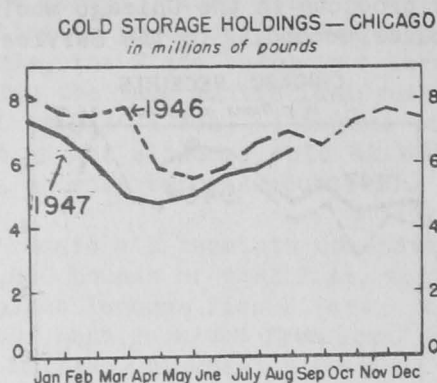
Shellfish receipts reached their lowest point in the past two years, falling 24 percent below July deliveries and 15 percent below arrivals during August 1946. With the exception of scallops, all shellfish items of importance showed declines in receipts. Shrimp, always the leading shellfish item fell 29 percent below July arrivals and 32 percent below those of August 1946. Oysters making their first appearance of the new season arrived in negligible quantities, mostly in the shell.

Extended hot weather seriously affected the quality of some Great Lakes fish shipped during the month. Some shipments of fish arriving in Chicago, after only overnight trips, were dumped. Others were filleted or frozen as salvaging expedient. Heavy icing at the point of origin was of little avail as most of the fish arrived in Chicago with little or no ice in the boxes.

Vacation season affected the demand for fishery products and the lack of demand was reflected by the stability of prices throughout the month.



COLD STORAGE: Holdings of fishery products in Chicago cold-storage warehouses on September 4, 1947, amounted to 6,111,000 pounds, according to the Chicago Fishery Market News Office. This represents an increase of 8 percent over the total on July 31. Compared with the holdings on September 5, 1946, the current amount represents a decline of 10 percent.



Fresh-water holdings gained only 7 percent during a month which usually shows greater gains in holdings of fresh-water fishery products. Chief fresh-water items in storage were chubs, lake trout, and whitefish.

Leading item among salt-water holdings was halibut, this variety showed a gain of 82 percent during the month. Other leading items were fillets, which showed a gain during the month of 4 percent; salmon, all species, which showed a decline of 18 percent; and whiting, which showed a decline of 19 percent.

Shrimp led all holdings of shellfish with one of the lowest totals ever shown for this variety. The decline of shrimp holdings during August of 34 percent was an expected decline but the usual late August shipments of shrimp from the Gulf failed to materialize except for an infrequent LCL shipment. As a result, the total holdings of shrimp were rapidly nearing the vanishing point but September shipments were expected to send the total holdings upward again.

Halibut, as usual, remains the most controversial item on the local market. None of the dealers seem too anxious to acquire any unusual amount for holding purposes. Halibut is rapidly joining shrimp as an article purchased by dealers because it is a "must," one on which no profit can be made but a necessary commodity with which to attract purchasers of other items.



United States

COLD-STORAGE HOLDINGS AND FREEZINGS: Stocks of frozen fish and shellfish held on September 1st by firms reporting their activities to the Fish and Wildlife Service amounted to 132,930,000 pounds compared with 152,403,000 pounds on the same date in 1946, according to Current Fishery Statistics No. 364. Holdings destined for retail sale as frozen fish are somewhat less than the above figures indicate, since September 1st stocks of frozen tuna held for canning amounted to nearly 6.5 million pounds, compared with .4 million pounds on the same date last year.

