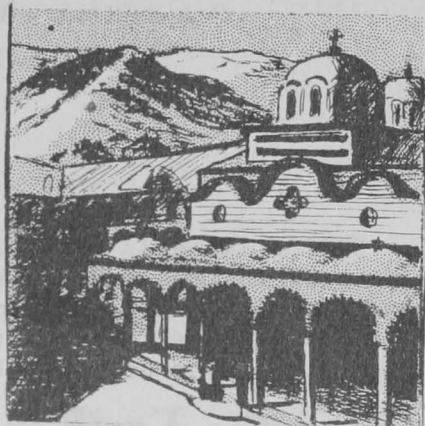


FOREIGN FISHERY TRADE

Bulgaria

STATE-AUTONOMOUS FISHERIES ENTERPRISE: The Bulgarian Council of Ministers at its session of October 29, 1947, established a State-autonomous self-supporting enterprise "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries," which is to take over all State interests both in deep-sea fishing and in fish hatcheries and other State developmental projects connected with the industry, according to the American Legation, Sofia, Bulgaria. This is another in a series of similar decisions consolidating State interests in given fields under one management, and making them independent of the national budget and, in theory, self-supporting.



Text of the decision follows:

On the strength of Art. 3 of the Law for Self-Support of State and State-autonomous Enterprises, approval is given to the following:

1. The enterprise "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries" is created under the Ministry of Agriculture and State Domains, to be self-supporting.
2. This enterprise is to absorb:
 - (a) The department for deep sea fishing at the Directorate of Water Communications, together with vessels, fishing equipment and properties;
 - (b) State lands or lands attached to the State Land Fund, which are of interest to the "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries." These lands are to be determined by order of the Minister of Agriculture and State Domains upon report of the Main Director of the enterprise.
 - (c) The "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries" is allowed choice for the utilization of: coastal netting centers, ponds, lakes.
3. The "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries" is entrusted with
 - (a) The organization of model hatcheries for the breeding of select fish in the State lands allotted for the purpose;
 - (b) The organization and development of active fishing in the Black Sea, the sea-coast ponds, and in the lakes;
4. For the realization /achievement/ of the task entrusted to it, the "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries" is to receive gratuitously the two fishing vessels which are to be supplied from Denmark, as well as indispensable means in form of loans from the Bulgarian Agricultural and Cooperative Bank under State guarantee.
5. The constructions of the enterprise are to be included in the two-year State economic plan; the Ministry of Agriculture and State Domains, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Electrification

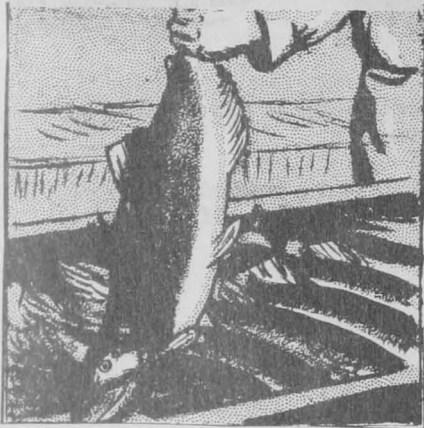
and the Ministry of Works are under obligation to timely and sufficient materials for the construction and equipment of the most indispensable buildings and undertakings of the enterprise.

6. The enterprise "State Fish Hatcheries and Fisheries" is to be managed in conformity with a regulation approved by the Minister of Agriculture and State Domains.



Canada

BRITISH COLUMBIA REACTION TO TARIFF TREATY: In the downward revision of tariffs at the Geneva Conference, Canada obtained many concessions from the United States, which granted tariff reductions ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ cent a pound on a wide range of fresh and frozen fish entering the American market, according to the American Consulate General, Vancouver, B. C., Canada. However, British Columbia packers feel that their business has suffered by such action, inasmuch as the reductions which were granted were on nominal duties and no concession was made with respect to the American 25 percent ad valorem duty on canned salmon. At the same time, the British authorities reduced the Canadian preference on this item 5 percent, making packers here more vulnerable to competition in the United Kingdom.



From a commercial standpoint, salmon fishing in British Columbia constitutes the most important operation of the packing industry. As of November 14, 1947, the pack amounted to 1,492,314 cases, as compared with a pack of 1,339,336 cases in 1936. This season, the pack of pinks and chums comprised

approximately 70 percent of the pack, which would have been considerably higher had the Canadian embargo on the export of fresh salmon not been removed about three weeks before the end of the fishing season. Due to this action, resulting in the export of more than 700,000 chums to the United States where fresh fish prices are substantially higher than in Canada, packers are reported to have lodged a vigorous protest with Dominion officials. The reduction in duty, mentioned above, will, it is believed, further aggravate the position of local packers unless the embargo is re-imposed next season.

The reduction in duty on smoked and kippered salmon and herring from the previous rate of 15 percent to 10 percent is meaningless as such fish is usually purchased fresh and smoked in the United States.

There has been little demand from the United States for herring packed in tomato sauce.

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FISH INSPECTION AND GRADING: This spring, the Director of the Fisheries Council of Canada presented to the Acting Prime Minister and Members of the Cabinet a brief which, in part, dealt with the Department of Fisheries. The Council recently remarked that what was said in this brief can be restated today with emphasis. A portion of the brief says:

"The Council is prepared to support wholeheartedly any sound plan for the inspection and grading of its products that should extend from the fishermen's boats to the consumer's table.

"The provision of such regulations, solely within the competence of the Federal Government, would, if efficiently and effectively administered, be a strong contributing factor to improved Dominion-Provincial relations. Further, such regulations would so stimulate domestic sales and consumer acceptance as to materially increase the consumption of fish in Canada."



Great Britain

INDIAN OCEAN FISHERY EXPEDITION: The Scottish fishing drifter MFRV No. 1 is now on the way to Mauritius via the Suez Canal to undertake a two-year survey of fishing possibilities on banks in the Indian Ocean not hitherto exploited by modern fishing methods, according to information received from the American Embassy in London.

The expedition has been organized by the Colonial Office and is financed by the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

It is hoped that it will lead to a considerable expansion in the supply of fish to the people of Mauritius, an island with a population of some 400,000, by the establishment of a Mauritian fishing industry on modern lines. There is the possibility, too, of being able to supply dried fish to the East African market.

The drifter will "work" the banks off Mauritius and the Seychelles, and investigations will be made into the abundance of life in these waters. A general survey will be made of the ocean currents, the nature of the sea bed and the influence of these upon the abundance of fish.

The work will be directed by Dr. J. F. G. Wheeler, who was for a number of years on the staff of the Discovery Committee. He will be assisted by Dr. F. D. Ommanney, who was also on the Discovery Expedition and is the author of South Latitude and other books.



Germany

FORMER GERMAN FISHERY VESSELS RETURNED BY U.S. GOVERNMENT: The United States Government is placing its share in the former German fishing fleet, consisting of 23 fishing vessels, 9 herring luggers, and from 90 to 100 fishing cutters constructed during the war, at the disposal of the Bremen Government on a lease basis for a period of 15 years, according to the American Consulate, Bremen, Germany. The Bremen Government, the contracting partner of OMGUS, will entrust the "Fischdampfer Ireuhand G.m.b.H." (Trust Company for Fishing Vessels) at Bremen with the repairs,

reconstruction, and sub-chartering of the fishing vessels, which will be released by the mine sweeping service of the German Mine Sweeping Administration. The "Fischdampfer Treuhand G.m.b.H." was established by the two cities Bremen and Bremerhaven.

It is stated that most of the fishing vessels exceed the size allowed for deep-sea fishing vessels fixed at 400 gross register tons. They are vessels of from 250 to 600 gross registered tons with a fish capacity of from 1,800 to 5,000 hundredweights. The reconstruction of the vessels is to be completed during 1948. Expenditures will be financed by a loan free of interest of 18 million Reichmarks to be amortized within 10 years. Reconstruction and overhauling of the vessels will be effected at Bremerhaven, where the first 11 vessels have already arrived. The fishing vessels and herring luggers will be divided among individual fishing companies according to their war losses. Three vessels will be handed over to the GEG (Cooperatives), while fishing cutters are to be handed to individual fishermen; refugees from eastern Germany will receive priority. It is hoped that luggers and fishing cutters will be ready for operation at the beginning of 1948.



Japan

BUSINESSMEN MAY EMPLOY JAPANESE AGENTS: Foreign traders now may employ Japanese nationals or foreign nationals resident in Japan as agents subject to license by the Japanese Board of Trade (Boeki Cho) and approval by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP) on an individual case basis, according to a Department of the Army release of November 25.

Payment to licensed agents may be made on a commission basis or as a payment agreed upon between the foreign trader and the agent. Non-U.S. firms are entitled to similar privileges provided payments are made in acceptable currencies.

The foreign currencies available to SCAP from such transactions will be used to purchase critical items needed in the Japanese economy, thus lessening the cost of the occupation to the American taxpayer.

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MANUFACTURE OF AGAR-AGAR: A harvest of 700,000 kan¹ of seaweed (almost double the 380,000 kan collected in 1946) is expected for 1947, according to the Agar-agar Distribution Association. Already about 300,000 kan of seaweed have been collected, and 400,000 more may be expected by the end of the season.

From 700,000 kan of seaweed, 161,000 kan (about 1,336,000 pounds) of pure agar-agar can be manufactured. Most of this amount will be available for export in the spring of 1948.

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REMITTANCES TO JAPAN PERMITTED: The Department of State announced on November 19 that Military Government regulations in effect in Japan have been relaxed to permit the remittance of funds through commercial banking channels to any person in Japan, natural or juridical, including Japanese nationals, within the limitations prescribed by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan.

¹/One kan equals 8.269 pounds.

This action has been taken in view of the desire of persons and organizations abroad to make remittances for charitable or similar purposes to Japanese nationals, and in anticipation of the need of foreign businessmen entering Japan to obtain funds to meet current expenses while in Japan, and of the probable need of United Nations' nationals for funds for the rehabilitation and preservation of their property in Japan. Heretofore, facilities for the remittance of funds through banking channels were available generally only to personnel and organizations officially accredited to, or connected with, General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers in Japan.

Under these revised regulations, and in accordance with limitations currently in effect, any person in Japan may now receive remittances up to a maximum of \$1,000 per month through any American bank licensed to operate a branch in Japan. However, larger amounts may be authorized by the Supreme Commander whenever circumstances justify such action. Outpayments will be made in yen at the military rate of conversion of 50 yen for one dollar, or, to the extent that the remittee is entitled thereto on the basis of theater regulations, in Military Payment Certificates or other dollar facilities, including dollar deposit accounts in branches of non-Japanese banks in Japan.

At present, the only American bank having a branch in Japan through which remittances may be affected, is the National City Bank of New York. However, it is expected that in the near future, the Chase National Bank of the City of New York, and the Bank of America of San Francisco, will also have established branches in Japan.

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SCAP OPENS FOREIGN TRADE OFFICE IN NEW YORK: The Department of the Army and the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers announced on December 16 that an office to facilitate trade with Japan is being opened at 292 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. This agency will be known as "SCAP Foreign Trade New York Office" and is being established by authority of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers. Mr. P. A. McDermott will be in charge as SCAP Foreign Trade Representative in the United States.

At an early date, the agency will offer full sales service to buyers who desire to purchase Japanese commodities without either travel to Japan or arranging such purchases through transactional correspondence. In addition, the office will maintain a display room for Japanese merchandise.

The Department of the Army Civil Affairs Division describes the existing procedures which continue in effect for dealing directly with Japanese businessmen. The establishment by the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers of a United States office to facilitate Japanese trade will in no way disturb former arrangements, but will open a point of personal contact with SCAP representatives for American businessmen.

Some of the rules and procedures controlling transactional correspondence in matters of limited foreign trade with Japan are summarized as follows:



Inquiries and preliminary negotiations between traders abroad and traders in Japan may be carried on directly through the regular mails or commercial cable in any language or commercial code acceptable to the foreign trader's country. Firm contracts will be negotiated as follows:

I. Exports

- (a) After preliminary negotiations, the private Japanese trader applies to BOEKI CHO (Japanese Board of Trade) to transmit firm sales offer to buyers abroad.
- (b) Firm offers to sell can be made only by the BOEKI CHO and will be approved by the Supreme Commander for Allied Powers before being transmitted to the foreign trade. Acceptances will be subject to SCAP review.
- (c) A firm offer to sell in minimal form such as might be conducted by cable can read as follows: "BOEKI CHO Japanese Board of Trade offers (quantity with variation clause when necessary, description and price). Delivery FOB ocean vessel or aircraft Japanese port or airport buyers option not later than (date). Inspection (stated according to specific BOEKI CHO sales contract). BOEKI CHO arranges shipping your account with trans-shipment (not) permitted and partial deliveries (not) permitted. Offer subject your establishing irrevocable letter credit in favor BOEKI CHO for (state amount) to cover purchase price including permissible over-shipment consular invoices freight C if any. Available for 30 days after final delivery against sellers sight draft accompanied by commercial invoice full set negotiable on board ocean bill of lading consular invoices packing list inspection certificate. Non-delivery for causes beyond sellers control operates as a cancellation of contract to extent of non-delivery. Cable your acceptance and specific shipping instructions. Have bank cable notification of letter credit immediately. SCAP not party to contract which is between yourself and BOEKI CHO only."
- (d) Upon receipt of acceptance as above, contract is considered completed. Confirmation copy of contract will be forwarded by air mail to buyers.
- (e) Above cable procedure is considered less desirable than forwarding formal contract and securing acceptance against this contract.

II. Imports (From abroad to the BOEKI CHO for action).

- (a) BOEKI CHO will request SCAP to review the firm offer.
- (b) If acceptable, SCAP will approve and instruct BOEKI CHO to cable firm acceptance usually on CIF basis. This cable will also provide for method of payment as instructed by SCAP.

III. Authorized Agents in Japan.

Authorized agents in Japan for traders abroad may negotiate directly with the BOEKI CHO and sign contracts on behalf of their principals when specifically authorized by them to act in this capacity. The regulations concerning the appointment of agents in Japan permit the private supplier or exporter to act as an agent, but not as a paid agent for the buyer in the same transaction in which he serves as supplier.

Regulations applying to the use of commercial cables are as follows:

Persons authorized as agents in Japan by and for traders or other business interests abroad may now send transaction messages on a receive ----- to ----- pay basis. Messages may be in commercial code or a foreign language acceptable

to the country of destination. Such messages must be prepaid in foreign exchange. To establish transferred account for an agent in Japan, the trader should:

- (1) Send letter with two copies to agent in Japan stating that the trader will accept collect messages from the agent through a commercial cable company designated by the trader. This privilege may be granted on an indefinite no-limit basis, or for express length of time with a specific ceiling. Agent will present letter to the Japanese Ministry of Communications.
- (2) Submit copy of above letter to the commercial cable company so that verification by the Japanese Ministry of Communications will be expedited.

There are six types of Boeki Cho sales contracts which can be negotiated. They are:

- (1) that providing for general inspection of merchandise in Japan by buyers, inspectors, or by BOEKI CHO if no inspector is appointed, and requiring an inspection certificate to be provided, as to quality and condition (JX 1).
- (2) that providing for sale of merchandise on an "as is" basis and not requiring the seller to furnish inspection certificate (JX 2).
- (3) that providing for sale of merchandise on basis of stated branch name without further warranty as to quality, grade or condition. No inspection certificate required (JX 3).
- (4) that providing for buyer to specify recognized inspection agencies - laboratories, authoritative organizations, etc. Inspection certificate required which is final as to quality (JX 4).
- (5) that covering sale of classes of commodities requiring preliminary determinations of content of merchandise by seller; adjustments to be made after analysis at destination. Seller's certificate of preliminary determination of content required (JX 5).
- (6) that covering sale of merchandise subject to pure food and drug administration inspection on a no-pass, no-sale, no-replacement basis, and providing for refund of invoice value of items not passing inspection. Sellers' inspection certificate also required (JX 6).

The regulations governing the shipment of samples state that Japanese exporters are permitted to send samples to interested buyers. However, valuable samples must be paid for before delivery. Although a license is required, in general, the customary prewar methods for handling shipments of samples will prevail.

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WHALE BLUBBER FOR TEXTILES: A process for manufacturing a new textile from the connective tissue fiber of whale blubber has recently been developed, according to Weekly Summary, No. 103, Natural Resources Section of General Headquarters, Supreme Commander for the Allied Forces. A cold press method of extracting oil in the new process produces an oil more uniform in its physical qualities than that recovered by the present method.

The fibrous material in whale blubber does not have sufficient nutritive value to affect the food situation should the tissue be diverted to the production of cloth.

Mexico

CANNED FISH DUTY: Pursuant to the United States-Mexican Provisional Agreement, Mexico published two decrees in its Diario Oficial of December 15, both effective five days thereafter—one covering the specific rates of duty on 132 tariff fractions (items) in Schedule I of the Trade Agreement to compound rates at levels equivalent to those prevailing in 1942 and the other converting the rates on 12 fractions to levels higher than those prevailing in 1942.

Decree No. 1 - Items Restored to 1942 Levels

Fraction No.	Description	Dutiable Unit for Specific Portion	Compound rates (specific plus ad valorem)	
			Specific (in pesos)	Ad valorem (percentage)
1.21.02	Canned salmon weighing with the immediate container up to 5 kilograms, provided the container is labeled to indicate contents.	Legal kilogram	.80	25
1.21.04	Canned sardines (<u>Sardina caerulea</u>) in tomato or mustard sauce or oil, whose weight, including the immediate container, is not less than 210 grams, provided the container is labeled to indicate the type of sardine and its weight.	do	.50	20

Source: Foreign Commerce Weekly, December 27, 1947 issue.

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NEW IMPORT DUTIES: The new Mexican import law published in the Diario Oficial on November 13 and effective 30 days from date of publication, makes various changes from the 1929 law with respect to fish and fishery products. The most notable change is the addition of ad valorem duties to the previous specific duties. In general, with the exception of preserved fishery products, the specific duty has been cut in half and an ad valorem duty of 10 percent has been affixed. Preserved fishery products carry approximately the same specific duty as previously with an additional ad valorem duty of 30 percent. The classification has been considerably simplified and most items previously separated are now grouped under one heading. The duty on canned salmon and sardines is as fixed by the trade agreement.



It is not expected that these changes will make a great deal of difference as far as the United States is concerned, as our exports of edible fish and fishery products to Mexico are insignificant. In 1944, they amounted to \$37,600; in 1945, \$61,700; and in 1946, \$97,000.

The new duties with respect to fish and fishery products are as follows:

Mexican Tariff Item	Description of Product	Unit	Rate of Duty	
			Pesos ^{1/}	Ad. Val.
1.02.00	Live fishes, crustaceans and molluscs of any species	G. K. ^{2/}	0.05	plus 10%
1.11.00	Fresh or frozen fish or shellfish of any species	G. K.	0.10	plus 10%
1.21.00	Caviar	L. K. ^{3/}	0.35	plus 30%
1.21.02 T.A.	Preserved salmon with weight including immediate container not more than 5 kilos, and providing contents is labeled on container	L. K.	0.70	--
1.21.04 T.A.	California sardine (<i>Sardina caerulea</i>) preserved in tomato, mustard, or oil, with weight including immediate container not less than 210 grams, and providing type of sardine and contents is labeled on container	L. K.	0.70	--
1.21.09	Preserved fish	L. K.	0.70	plus 30%
1.21.10	Preserved shellfish of any species	L. K.	0.30	plus 35%

^{1/}One peso equals 20.6 cents in U. S. currency.

^{2/}G. K. abbreviation for Gross Kilogram this equivalent to gross weight.

^{3/}L. K. abbreviation for Legal Kilogram this means the net weight of the product plus its container or wrapping but does not include the master container if such is used.



Newfoundland

NEWFOUNDLAND AND THE GENEVA TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS: The reaction in Newfoundland to the general announcements concerning the trade agreements negotiated at Geneva has been one of strong approval, according to the Consulate General, St. John's, Newfoundland. The principal points attracting comment were:

1. The binding of the rate on fish fillets and the introduction of a new type of quota system for fillets.
2. The halving of United States duties on fish oils of various types.
3. The reduction in the duties on salt codfish entering Brazil.
4. The general reduction in the cost of living owing to tariff concessions made by the Newfoundland Government.

Since fishery products constitute the most important single part of Newfoundland's exports, local fishery circles followed negotiations closely and appeared well satisfied with results in general. Some disappointment was registered over the failure to secure a reduction in the United States rate on fish fillets. However, the binding of the present rate was regarded with some satisfaction, and the new proviso introduced into the quota system was considered of prime importance. This proviso stipulated that no more than 25 percent of the total amount to be allowed entry under the lowest duty could be supplied in any one quarter of the year. This assures that countries competing with Newfoundland (e. g., Canada, Norway, and Iceland) will not be able to take advantage of earlier peak periods of output each season.

When negotiations are resumed three years hence (at which time the present agreements expire), it may confidently be anticipated that the first and most important item on the Newfoundland agenda will be an effort to secure a reduction in the United States rate on fish fillets.

Fishery circles anticipate increased export of fish oils to the United States as a result of the halving of duties on herring oil, seal oil, and whale oil, and increased exports of salt codfish, particularly to Brazil. The Brazilian duty was reduced by two-thirds and a consumption tax eliminated. Brazil at one time was Newfoundland's largest single customer for salt codfish.



Nicaragua

FISHING REGULATIONS: The present Nicaraguan fishery laws are under the direct control of the Collector General of Customs, according to a November 24 report of the U. S. Embassy at Managua. Every boat or ship wishing to fish in Nicaraguan waters must obtain a fishing permit from the Customs and pay the following fees at all Nicaraguan ports:

Fishing Permit:

(a) License Fee (patente de pesca) valid for six months:

For each gross ton of vessel:

For mother-of-pearl and shellfish ... U.S. \$1.00
Turtles, Sponges and others50

(b) Registration Fee (Matricula de pesca) valid for 1 year:

For mother-of-pearl and shellfish:

5-ton boats U.S. \$1.00
Over 5 tons 2.00

For turtles, sponges and others:

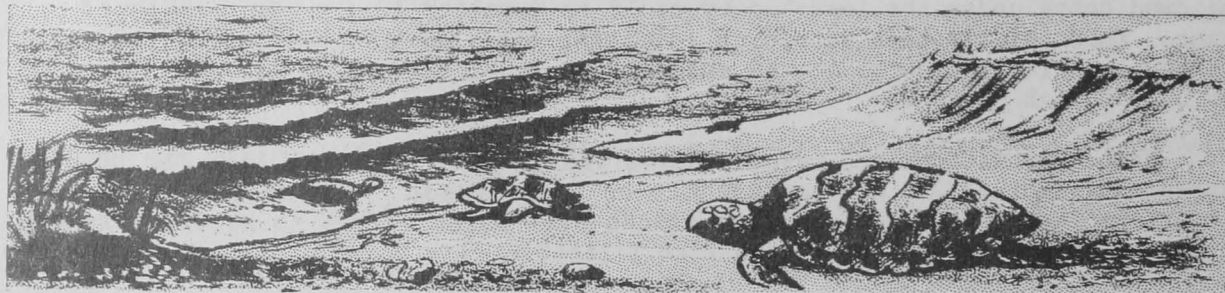
5-ton boats U.S. \$2.00
Over 5 tons 4.00

Pursuant to existing laws, only authorized persons will be allowed to fish for turtles and other fish in Nicaraguan waters. The fact that one fishes without being duly authorized not only makes one liable to the fine established by the present laws, but is also punishable by the existing police laws.

The authorization referred to above consists of a license fee given to the interested party by the Custom House. The following information must be stated therein:

Where fishing is to take place; number and capacity of crafts which are to be used to this end; the number of fishermen employed in this enterprise, and the intended permanency of the craft in this undertaking.

These details must be inscribed in the licenses which will be issued for the period of six months only, after which they must be renewed.



The Government will designate the number of special guards which it may deem necessary for the inspection and constant watch of the fishing grounds. If, as a result of this vigilance, it should be ascertained that harmful and prohibited means are being used for fishing, or that maritime life is prematurely withdrawn from the sea, such as turtles or crustaceans which have not developed sufficiently for common usage, the interested party will not only lose his right to fish, but he will incur a fine of not less than 20 cordobas (U. S. \$4.00) and not over \$100 as well as still another fine to be imposed upon him by the Office of the Under Secretary of the Treasury or the Collector General of Customs in the locality who will be guided by the written report of the inspector bearing on the circumstances of the case.

Any person found fishing without the proper license, or who engages a number of fishermen greater than that stated on the license, or who makes use of a craft not properly registered will receive a double fine.

In the case where neither the fishermen nor the boats are covered by the pertinent authorization, fishing will be considered clandestine, and the crews as well as the boats will be seized, and the produce confiscated. This will be divided and shared among the Government officials, the denouncers, and the authorities responsible for the apprehension of the crafts, in accordance with Article 830 of the Customs' laws.

Nicaraguan fishing craft whose produce is for domestic consumption only procure a special permit from the Customs in order to fish, but on condition that the craft return to the same port with their catch.

Foreign fishing craft whose produce is for domestic consumption will pay the respective taxes (license and registration fees).



Norway

FISHERY NOTES: A delegation from the Department of Fisheries has signed a contract with the British Food Ministry for delivery of 40,000 tons of large herring and spring herring, according to the Royal Norwegian Information Service.

Of the 50,000 tons of klipfisk (dry salted cod) which Norway will export between May 1947 and May 1948, Portugal will get one-half and pay for it in dollars.

The Department of Supply and Reconstruction has suggested a change in the export law of December 13, 1946, to forbid all deliveries to foreign countries of products taken by Norwegian fishing or whaling vessels. The amendment would prevent the delivery of whale oil direct from factory ships to foreign countries without the approval of Norwegian authorities.

The King in Council has named a committee on modernizing the catching and processing of fish. The committee's mandate is to examine the Norwegian fisheries, as they are prosecuted today, and to decide whether through legislation or other official procedures there ought to be changes. If carrying out the committee's proposal requires changes in processing, it is expected the committee will make the necessary proposals. The committee's instructions do not cover herring fishing or processing.

Thirty-five thousand tons of whale oil from the coming season's catch has already been sold to England and Sweden. It is believed that forward sales will ultimately total 150,000 tons.

The Ministry of Fisheries and the Norwegian Rawfish Association have signed a contract for the sale of the freezer ship Thorland. The Association will take over the vessel and use it as a floating cold-storage warehouse. The machinery for freezing fish, rendering livers, and making fish meal and oil will be placed in important ports in Finnmark. The purchase price is 2,000,000 kroner (about \$400,000) or about the same amount as the Government paid for the Thorland.



JAPANESE WHALING IN THE BONIN ISLAND AREA



The whale fishery around the Bonin Islands since its development on a commercial basis in 1923 has augmented the food and oil supply of Japan.

Two Japanese companies exploited the whale resources of the Bonin Islands. They operated small whaling fleets, and each established a land station where catches were processed. The products were brought back to Japan for disposition.

Operations in Bonin waters were minimized with the beginning of World War II in the Pacific, and had ceased by the time of the Japanese surrender in 1945.

On November 30, 1945, the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers authorized the Japanese to resume Bonin whaling operations from December 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946. A month's extension was granted in March 1946 to enable the Japanese to take full advantage of the whaling season. Operations commenced in February and were concluded in mid-April 1946. During this season, 113 whales were caught despite limited equipment and a relatively short operation. The catch yielded whale products valued at approximately 7,000,000 yen.