



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release NOVEMBER 29, 1957

#### FISHERY MARKET NEWS SERVICE OBSERVES TWENTIETH BIRTHDAY

The Fishery Market News Service which serves as the eyes and ears of the fishing industry by collecting and disseminating commercial fishing information will celebrate its twentieth anniversary on November 30, the Department of the Interior noted today.

The Service, which was organized in 1937, issues daily market news covering all aspects of the fishing industry for the use of fishermen, buyers, and distributors. Today, it operates in Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, New York, San Pedro, Seattle, and Hampton, Va., as an activity of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of the Department of the Interior.

Since timeliness is important in the market news program, the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries has an average of 40 reporters and agents in principal landing ports and market areas, gathering and transmitting information on landings, receipts, stocks, packs, market trends and conditions, prices, and developments in the fishery industries.

The seven offices of the Fishery Markets News Service relay pertinent data to each other, and each office in turn releases information to interested persons in its area. In this way, a fisherman landing halibut in the Seattle area knows the wholesale price that species is bringing that day in New York and Chicago. In the same way, the distributors in New York and Chicago and elsewhere know many of those fish are being landed on the West Coast on that day and the prices paid to the boats.

The shrimp fishermen in the Gulf and South Atlantic ports know the prices of shrimp in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, and the Boston fishermen and dealers know the price of frozen fillets in Chicago and New York. With all this complete and current information, business transactions relating to fish or fishery products can be conducted with each interested party having all the authentic data necessary for intelligent bargaining.

The market information is made available to the public through daily mimeographed releases called Fishery Products Reports, by telephone, personal contact, collect telegrams, and in some instances through radio and newspapers. Each office issues its own daily report, which is designed to meet the needs of the fishery industries in its area.

There are about 9,000 subscribers to the daily mimeograph reports. Most of these are persons interested in the daily market transactions. The reports are sometimes used as the basis for "open-end" contracts in which the seller and buyer agree that the price of a shipment will be the highest paid for that product at a designated market on the day of delivery.

The mailing lists include not only fisheries people but lawyers, research analysts, investment analysts, marine accountants, transportation companies, chemical companies, gear manufacturers, and banks.

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