AGRICULTURE - OTHERS.

FISHING

2/1/81 — 27/11/81

FISHING (2) fishing FM 2/1/81

Playing tuna roulette

"More people have been caught by tuna than tuna caught by people," goes the old fishing adage.

SA is no exception. Last year gigantic shoals of yellowfin camped on the edge of the Agulhas bank of the southern Cape coast from March to December, gorging themselves on plankton. And suddenly a SA tuna fishery was born.

Any number of companies plunged into the fray and by the time the fish disappeared just as suddenly as they had arrived, 9 000 t had been landed, deep-frozen in brine and sold in Europe at an average of nearly $2 000/t cif.

This year, however, the fish made a fleeting showing in March, but departed before owners could settle down to serious catching, so 1980 yields are barely a quarter of 1979. For non-diversified companies, which invested heavily in ships and refrigeration plant on the expectation that the yellowfin would have another extended sojourn, the behaviour of the fish has been a severe setback. At least two suffered serious cash flow problems and had to sell off assets and white fish licences in order to survive.

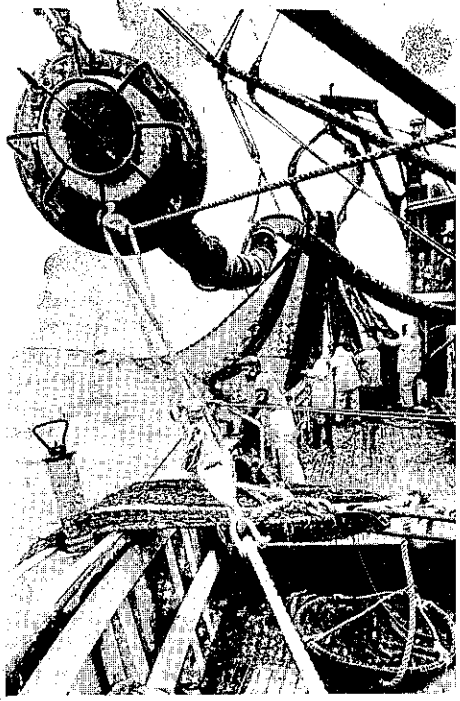
There are two ways of staying in the tuna fishing business, given luck and endurance. One is to emulate the style of the US, Taiwan and Japan who follow the fish year-round in their global migration. The other is to engage in other branches of fishing while waiting for tuna to make their annual "show."

The former method is costly. The ships can cost anything up to R5m if equipped with purse seine netting gear. They burn gas oil because they have to travel at high speed following the fast-swimming fish. This is all very well if, like most companies engaged in international tuna fisheries, gas oil can be obtained at the duty-free price.

SA companies, however, have to pay levies to the state oil fund so gas oil costs them R420/t — three or four times more than the price paid by the 150 Taiwanese albacore long-liners which ply the south Atlantic. These little ships break even at 1,9 t of tuna a day. For a SA ship the break-even point would be five or six times higher, depending on the sophistication of the catcher employed.

The handful of Cape Town-based SA companies engaged in this fishery have about R10m invested in ships and landside handling and refrigeration plant. At replacement cost, the investment is currently worth about R34m.

The fishery comprises basically two types of tuna, longfin (albacore) and yellowfin. In the experience of SA catchers, longfin average about 15 kg liveweight and yellowfin about 40 kg. Albacore has white meat and is favoured in eastern and US markets, whereas the pink meat of the yellowfin is in great demand in France and Italy.



Tuna fishing . . . a taxing and problematic business

There are three main methods of catching: long-lining, "poling" and purse seine netting. The first involves setting a number of long lines several kilometres long supporting any number of shorter lines to which are attached baited hooks. These lines are reeled in once or twice a day, depending on the number of "hits" and the fish dumped into brine-filled holds the temperature of which is maintained at about —20C.

"Poling" is the most cost-efficient method and was employed almost exclusively in last year's great yellowfin "boom" on the Agulhas bank. When a boat encounters a shoal, live or frozen pilchard bait is cast overboard to induce what is known as a feeding frenzy. The purpose is to lure or 'chum' the fish to the surface. In their demented state the fish will "hit" almost anything, even an unbaited hook. When the fish are suitably crazy the catching starts.

This is performed by a number of teams comprising three men each, two manning a long bamboo pole with baited hook on a very short, powerful line, while the third man gaffs the catch. With yellowfin weighing anything from 40 kg to 80 kg, it is essential to have two men on the pole to match the splendid fighting qualities of this game fish.

The most difficult and expensive technique is purse seine netting, perfected by the Americans. The technique is the same as for the netting of pilchard and anchovy: the feeding fish are encircled with a purse-shaped net, the purse "strings" hauled tight, closing the net which is winched aboard with its contents.

Fishery scientists say the fishery is difficult to predict, and just as hard to manage. No regional quota is set, but as a signatory to the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (Iccat), the Republic adheres to the somewhat notional limit of 90 000 t imposed by Iccat for the whole Atlantic ocean.

Off the SA coast the occurrence of tuna depends on a highly complex and changeable set of environmental factors. "In tuna fishing," says one scientist "there is no such thing as a normal year." Tuna are fast-swimming and free-roaming fish, continually on the move seeking elusive ideal conditions in which the food is plentiful, the water temperature just right and the weather fine.

To follow them around the world is heavy on fuel and it taxes the endurance of ships' crews, few of whom would relish the prospect of 90 days of continuous work at sea. The alternative — waiting for the fish to make a "show" on likely ground — is about as certain as roulette, as this year's results have shown.

FISHING

Demarcating catches

The permissible haul of Atlantic hake in the SWA/Namibian fishery zone has been cut 24,1% to 211 841 t in terms of a multilateral agreement among the 15 member states of the International Convention for South-East Atlantic Fisheries (Icseaf).

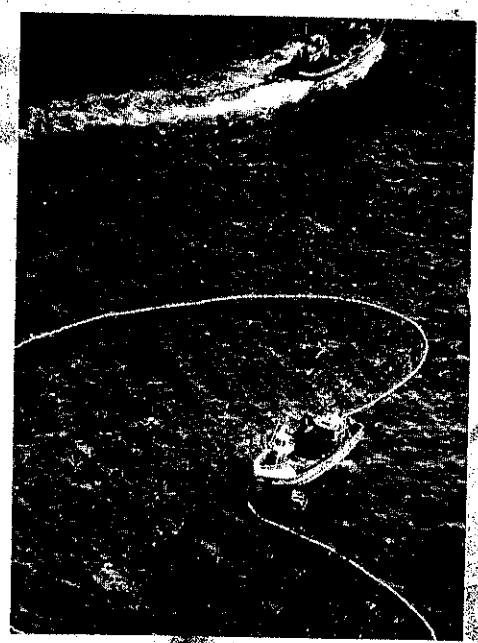
The quota was scaled down because previous assessments of likely catches per unit of effort in 1980 had been pitched too low. Retention of the old quota of 320 000 t would have placed great pressure on the resource. To the relief of the Soviet Union and Poland, leg leaders among the distant water trawler operators in the SWA/Namibia zone, the permissible take of Cape horse mackerel (maasbanker) and "ordinary" mackerel remained unchanged this year at 500 000 t and 200 000 t respectively.

But because mackerel is not subject to individual quotas like hake, member nations have agreed to report cumulative catches more frequently as soon as the combined catch reaches 80% of overall limit. This will reduce the danger that, in an open race, the global quota will be overshot. Member nations, including six Warsaw Pact countries and Cuba, once again endorsed observance of a 13,5 mile no-go zone off the SWA/Namibia coast to protect small hake and pelagic fish.

It was agreed, too, that in the current season no effort would be directed at the catching of pilchard in SWA/Namibian waters. Any landings of the species would be treated as a "by-catch." The coastal state, SWA/SA, agreed to hold off commencement of the 1982 season to April 1. A 60 mm mesh size net for taking mackerel will be strictly enforced this year. Mesh size for hake catching remains 110 mm.

An important step forward in Icseaf's system of joint enforcement of the rules is agreement that, in addition to the system of active inspection, the weight of law will now be given to a system of passive inspection relating to SA/SWA patrols to prevent operators entering the 13,5 mile no-go zone off the Namibian coast.

Meanwhile Agriculture Minister Pietie du Plessis's fisheries advisory board is due to meet soon to determine hake quotas in the SA zone of the south-east Atlantic which is subject to a 200 mile exclusive fishing regime.



Trawling in SA waters . . . are Japan, Israel and Spain getting a share?

It is expected that scientists' recommendations that the overall quota be left unchanged at 150 000 t will be accepted by the Minister.

□ SA trawler operators represented on the board are certain to question the Department of Fisheries about disclosures in the SA fishing industry handbook which, quoting London sources, says Israel, Spain and Japan have licences to share 10 200 t of hake on the basis of 3 700 t for Japan, 2 500 t for Israel and 4 000 t for Spain.

In addition, it says Japan has an entitlement to take 26 000 t of maasbanker, 1 620 t of panga and some squid. What alarms SA trawlermen, however, is not the size of the foreign entitlement (which may or may not be linked to SA Airways landing rights in Spain's Atlantic ocean possessions, iron ore exports to Japan, or broadly-based co-operation treaties with Israel), but the niggardly royalties payable by the foreign catchers — R25/t for hake, R15/t for maasbanker and R50/t for panga, plus R250 a year per vessel engaged in the effort.

This amounts to giving fish away, because local trawlermen place a value of R400/t on raw hake landed in SA waters. With handling and processing value added, the fob export price asked by some operators last year was $800/t. By hoisting royalties to a nominal level of, say, R100/t for hake, SA could earn R10m a year which could be ploughed into research and so on.

The fact that it is unlikely to do so indicates that government's other interests are probably better served by giving away fish.

FINE ART & ARCHITECTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Cape Provincial Institute of Architects' Prize
For the best student in :-

Sixth Year

P F Dunckley

Helen Gardner Travel Prize
For a student who has satisfactorily completed 1st, 2nd and 3rd major courses.

P A Rappoport

Molly Gohl Memorial Prize
For the best woman student in third year.

Miss C Tredgold

Good eating fish that gobble up waste products

'South Africa is far behind in wastewater fish farming technique and little is being done to promote the technique'

Wastewater fish farming can inexpensively provide cheap protein and at the same time create work opportunities, Mr P. B. N. Jackson, of the J. L. B. Smith Institute of Ichthyology at Rhodes University, said.

Mr Jackson said at a symposium on aquaculture, that South Africa was fortunate in possessing several endemic fish species which were eminently suitable for fish farming in water fertilised or enriched by substances produced as waste products by our increasingly intensive agricultural techniques and our growing population.

Such fertilisers included treated sewage water, manure from intensive animal production and industrial chemical wastes.

These nutrients made for a rich growth in water (pond slime) which needed photosynthesise and sunlight to grow, or bacteria which grew profusely on little particles of grass, or other organic matter and which did not need sunlight. Each microscopic bacterium was 50 per cent protein.

Mr Jackson said the mocambique tilapia or bloukurper, famous as an excellent eating and sporting fish, was capable of eating both algae and bacteria. It thrived in fish ponds where much of its food could be provided inexpensively from substances commonly regarded as waste products.

Other South African fish which grazed on algae included the labeo or mogel, which built up large populations in dams enriched with wastewater, thus providing valuable protein food at no cost.

Because of their algae eating habits they should be harvested by netting.

Mr Jackson said we lacked species which could feed on plankton (small organisms such as algae and water fleas floating free in the water) which wastewater produced in abundance, or on water weeds in temperate areas.

Mr Jackson said wastewater fish farming techniques were being widely used overseas but South Africa was far behind and very little was being done to promote the technique.

Fishing industry steers a tight course over the shoals

P 14/2/81 (3 Fishing)

By ALEX PETERSEN
Finance Reporter

IN SPITE OF a number of adverse factors, present indications are for a fair season for the fishing industry, although some members of the industry feel that particularly for the pelagic sector, it is still early to judge.

Nevertheless, at least thus far, anchovy catches are up considerably on last year, for the tuna men there have been shoals on the West coast for the first time in 11 months, while for lobster sector informal restraint agreements seem to be working.

The chief adverse factors, or "necessary evils", facing the industry are fuel prices and quotas imposed by the Department of Sea Fisheries to conserve the resource.

The South African quotas for rock lobster were cut by 15% this season, and may even be slightly reduced for the deep-sea trawling sector.

For the pelagic industry, the quota of 380 000 tons was renewed, but there is disagreement over the state of the stocks, and uncertainty for the future remains in just how parliament will react to the report of the recent commission of inquiry into the industry.

But pelagic catches so far this season have been very encouraging, says Mr Abe Shapiro, of the Ocean group of companies.

"The catch so far has been 85 000 tons compared with 30 000 for same period last year.

"The fish have been of good size and quality, and we ought to finish our quota reasonably early."

The bulk of the pelagic catch, about 80%, has been anchovies, and the oil content with a few exceptions has been good, which is seen as a good indicator of the state of the fish.

Unexpectedly good catches have also been landed for rock lobster in South West Africa, at some points up 50% on last year. "There have been some good landings at Luderitz, and given reasonable weather, we hope to have a better year than last year," Mr Shapiro said.

Japanese market

But fishing has been slower in the local rock-lobster sector. "The figure is down on last year," says Mr Shapiro. "There are two reasons for this. First, we are trying to spread the quota over a longer period to give us more whole fish for the Japanese market, where we need whole fish, and the quality is very important."

The second factor is a deliberate policy by the industry for catchers to restrict themselves to their own areas. The policy is is the result of a sea management committee of members of the lobster industry initiated last year, and the agreement is seen as an important step in avoiding over-fishing of certain areas.

Scientists at the Department of Sea Fisheries are disturbed at the way some areas have been "wiped out" in the past. Studies show that while the breeding stock can recover, this will only be with strict resource management, which some observers feel it may mean an even further quota cut.

On the marketing side, although the Japanese demand for whole cooked lobster has provided a useful fillip for local producers, exports of frozen tails to the United States have been meeting difficulty, and prices have dropped for the first time in years.

Australia, a big competitor in this market, "has been selling at a loss" in spite of their own drop in catch rates, says the general manager, fishing, for Irvin and Johnson, Mr Charles Atkins.

South Africa, he says, has maintained its position only because of quality, and the strength of past agreements. But because of high US interest rates, US buyers were less able to hold stock, and more stock was being held here, with concomitant cost increases.

Deep-sea trawling

The rand-dollar rate has also affected returns from hake exports, says Mr Atkins, and with rapidly escalating fuel, labour and other operating costs, both I & J and Sea Harvest, the two main operators in deep-sea trawling operations have been feeling the pinch.

Between 30% and 35% of the hake catch is exported, but recent changes suggest the earnings picture may improve.

The general manager of Sea Harvest, Mr L Penzhorn notes: "Demand and prices in several foreign markets have recently shown signs of improvement, making these markets again attractive."

On the domestic market both firms have a wide range of frozen white fish products, and competition has led led to a number of product innovations and demand has increased particularly in the value-added products like fish fingers.

Frozen fish price increases were small last season, well below the average for other food commodities, and a producer price increase is seen as inevitable this season.

With the high price of meat, and rising chicken prices, the outlook is brighter for domestic demand, but the question is how readily consumers will switch to fish.

Marketing job

"We have got a job to do marketing fish," says Mr Atkins, who feels that the demand could be considerably expanded.

Since a quota increase is unlikely, the route to off-setting cost increases is through better catch rates, but in spite of the 200-mile limit to curtail foreign catchers, catch rates did not improve in 1980.

"The resource is not where it should be, but it is improving. In the long term the department should be able to increase the quota, as well as there being better catch rates," Mr Atkins said.

But oil still remains a basic problem for the industry, as Mr Penzhorn notes.

"The highest single cost factor in deep-sea trawling operations is fuel, and whlie the fuel price has been relatively stable for several months, any increase would have an immediate and strong impact on the cost of landing fish."

Corporation Medals
For the best student in each of the 2nd, 3rd and final years.
Second Year (Bronze Medal)
Miss G C Littlewort
Third Year (Silver Medal)
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FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

Fishermen still striking at Luderitz

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — A strike by about 600 fishermen at Luderitz Bay has crippled the port's cray fishing industry for the past four days, and is likely to cause considerable harm to the town if it continues.

It is understood the fishermen went on strike on Thursday, demanding more than double their present basic salaries which are paid throughout the year.

One of the Luderitz Bay factory managers, Mr Werner Guhring, said today: "There is no doubt we will be on our feet shortly."

Two officials of the Department of Civic Affairs and Manpower arrived in Luderitz on Saturday to act as intermediaries between the strikers and the three cray fishing concession holders there.

Although the skippers, mates and cooks, are not involved, it is believed that the 27 mother ships in operation have not yet returned to the cray fishing areas.

3-Fish

Luderitz fishers go back to work

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — Luderitz's lobster fishing boats today started returning to sea following a successful effort to break a six-day strike by 600 fishermen.

Forty of the strikers who refused to compromise were yesterday bussed out of Luderitz to the places where they were recruited.

About 240 fishermen were already on board buses yesterday, when one concession - owner called them back to make a final offer.

Mr Werner Guhring said he suggested a basic retainer of R11 a day during the January-May fishing season, instead of the monthly R125 retainer throughout the year.

The fishermen immediately accepted the new terms, and the promise of a R100 bonus at the end of the season.

"It virtually comes to the same thing, but this is what they wanted. The problem now lies in how they are going to keep their families for the rest of the year," he said.

At the start of the strike last Thursday, the fishermen demanded more than double their monthly retainer.

Mr Guhring said it was difficult to estimate the losses caused by the strike, but he said the industry had lost a catch of about 200 000 kg of crayfish on Monday and Tuesday.

Drowned man was set adrift — allegation

S. Times 8/3/81.
3. fishing

By BENNIE VAN DELFT

A DAWN fishing trip ended in tragedy when two brothers were nabbed by an inspector from the Department of Sea Fisheries.

One of them drowned while attempting a "freedom" swim to shore after the inspector allegedly took away their oars and cast them adrift in their dinghy.

This week the survivor, Mr Ibrahim October, 28, of Hout Bay, blamed the inspector for the death of his brother, Dienie, 21.

"The inspector could have prevented the tragedy by throwing a life-jacket to us," he claimed.

"He saw we were in trouble and must have realised that we would never be able to reach the shore.

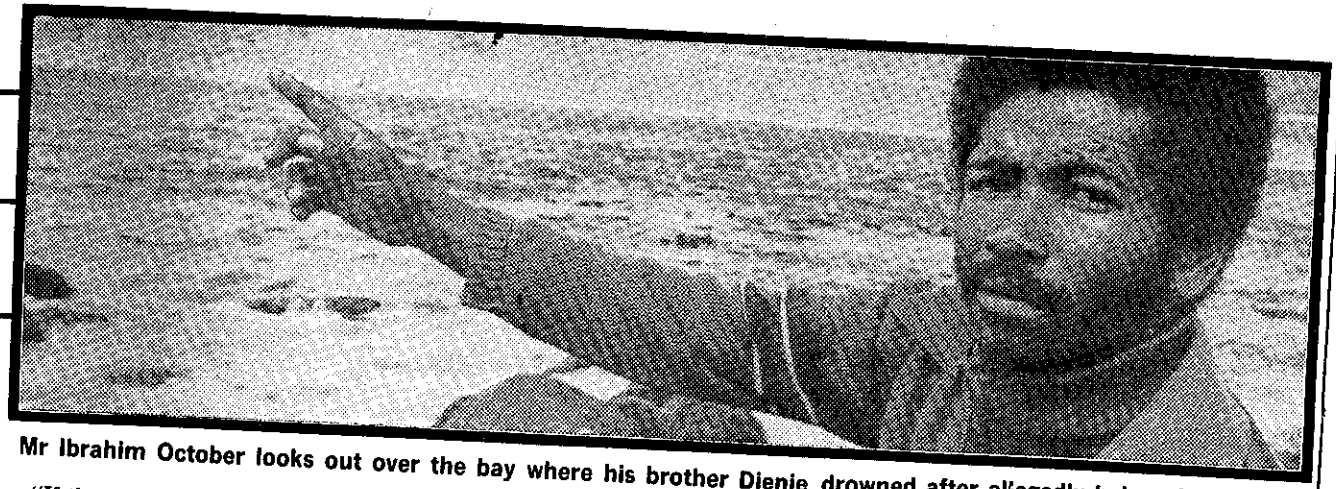
"But the inspector left us to our fate and only returned by boat when it was too late."

Mr October has made an affidavit to the police.

Colonel Willem van der Merwe, Deputy Divisional CID officer for the Western Cape, confirmed that the police were investigating a charge of culpable homicide after allegations that the inspector had towed the two brothers out to sea at Hout Bay in their dinghy and then left them without their oars.

The chief inspector of the Division of Sea Fisheries, Mr James van Langelaar, declined to comment but an official said:

"The brothers were never really abandoned. The inspector planned to return for them.



Mr Ibrahim October looks out over the bay where his brother Dienie drowned after allegedly being abandoned

"If they had sat tight instead of trying to escape, they would have been okay."

The brothers were also being watched from the shore by a lookout who was in radio contact with the launch.

In an interview, Mr October said he and his brother were out in a dinghy early last Thursday catching crayfish just off the coast at Duikersklip when they saw a boat coming towards them.

"I knew this meant trouble as we were catching crayfish illegally.

"When the inspector saw us throwing crayfish overboard, he shouted that he was arresting us.

"We headed for the shore, but were cut off by the other vessel.

"I dived into the water to get away, but decided to swim back to the dinghy when I realised I had no chance of escaping.

"As I returned to the dinghy I heard somebody on the boat saying: 'Let's crush him to death'."

Mr October alleged that after their oars were confiscated, the dinghy was towed out to sea for more than a kilometre and cast adrift.

The brothers were told to remain where they were, while the boat apparently set out after a school of dolphins.

Mr Ibrahim October broke a plank off the seat and used it to paddle towards the shore.

The brothers were only 12m from safety when they saw the boat returning at high speed.

Ibrahim was determined not to be caught again. He leapt into the water, followed by his brother.

Mr October claims that the passengers in the boat must have seen them struggling against the strong current.

"But they never bothered to throw any life-jackets to us. Instead they left us to our fate.

"After a while I became so tired that I returned to the dinghy. When I looked for my brother, I saw him floating in the water — face down.

"Just as I hauled him into the dinghy, the other vessel arrived.

"The inspector expressed his surprise that we were still in the water as he was under the impression that we had already reached the shore."

The inspector allegedly apologised afterwards to the brothers' father for Dienie's death.

Drastic fishing quota cutback to save industry

By Alan Dunn
The Star's Africa
News Service

WINDHOEK — Drastic cuts in the quotas for fishing this year off the SWA/Namibia coast, including a total ban on direct pilchard catching, were announced late yesterday in an effort to save Walvis Bay's fishing industry.

The move, introduced to preserve the territory's deteriorating fishing resources, will mean the closure of the port's last canning factory for the season which starts on Monday.

The ban, approved by the Administrator-General, Mr Danie Hough, was generally expected and accepted by all sectors of the industry.

The Secretary for Economic Affairs in SWA/Namibia, Mr Piet Kruger, said the cut was part of an "all-out effort" to conserve pilchards in the long term for the benefit of the industry.

"I think the whole industry has agreed that this year is going to be as tough for them as it was last year, but they realise that sacrifices have to be made in the short term for better catches in the long term," he said in an interview.

While direct catching of pilchards would be banned, a "limited" quantity of "by-catches," netting a small percentage of pilchards while catching other fish, would be allowed, said Mr Kruger.

He noted that "by-catches" would be strictly monitored throughout the season, and said the only cannery which operated in Walvis Bay last year would be closed to prevent any direct pilchard catching.

"It will be virtually the same situation as last year. I do not see any mass redundancies in the industry because of this quota ruling.

"One positive aspect, though, is that fishermen were prevented last year from catching in certain of the northern areas, whereas this restriction has been lifted this season," he said.

Three fishing companies operating at Walvis Bay recently reported in preliminary profit announcements that profits for last year had slumped by almost half compared with 1979.

The secretary of the SWA Fishermen's Association, Mr Ben van Vuuren, said pilchards had, in any case, played a very small role in the total catch in the last three years.

He pointed out that the pilchard quota for last season, 4 000 tons, had not been reached — only 283 tons had been canned because of the depleted pilchard resources.

"We agree with the new quota. We have always agreed with any preservation measures," he said. "Our only complaint is that foreign trawlers fish in our waters."

Mr van Vuuren said his association's attitude was that it would eventually pay to tighten their belts for two or three years.

Mr Kruger, Mr van Vuuren and spokesmen for other sectors of the industry dismissed the claim that a collapse in the pilchard industry could cause Walvis Bay to become a "ghost town."

FISHING

Trawling more widely

With the finalisation of this year's SWA pelagic fishing quota (see box), it is clear that, no matter where the fault lies, the industry in that territory is very poorly placed. As a result, the companies closely linked to the industry are being forced to shift the emphasis of their operations geographically or through diversification.

Plans for this, of course, have been around for some time, and pelagic fishing companies with a high level of exposure in SWA/Namibia have already taken steps to reduce their vulnerability.

Willem Barendsz, for instance, has begun a joint venture with Sea Products (SWA) and SWA Fishing Industries, through United Fishing Enterprises, to set up and operate a fishmeal factory some 400 km north of Santiago, Chile. The irony of this venture is that, because of the problems associated with Wilbarz's high exposure in SWA/Namibia, it is able to man the Chilean factory entirely with staff from this part of the world.

The attraction of a move into Chile, of course, is based on last year's 2,2 Mt pelagic catch in that country's territorial waters. At the same time, investment rules in Chile are fairly advantageous and allow considerable repatriation of profits and capital. Wilbarz's operation in Chile will require no cash, but only a movement of machinery currently installed in Walvis Bay.

The group was sitting on over R3,5m in cash at end-December and has been looking for diversification opportunities for quite some time.

Hopefully, it has not left this search too late, for taxed earnings declined 50% last year to R570 000 (R1,2m). Earnings dropped from 12c to 6c, but the group opted to pay an 8c (11c) total, thereby digging into cash resources.

It is theoretically possible for this to continue for over five years at this rate. But management is making no promises and says it will review its policy at the declaration of each dividend. Clearly, it would prefer to invest cash and earnings in operating assets rather than in the money markets, despite rising interest rates.

As a result, it is difficult to estimate Wilbarz's 1981 payout or the prospective yield on the current 60c share price. The historic yield is 13,3%, but it is certain, with the Chilean venture only likely to come on stream around September or October, that this year is going to be a stiff one.

Wilbarz holds 16% of **SWA Fishing Industries**, one of its partners in Chile and a company which already has some built-in protection against the decline in SWA's pelagic catch. For one thing, it has a 50% stake in a large salt recovery operation and it also has access to a fair-sized rock lobster quota which may be expected to cushion the blow.

Despite this, the company's earnings dropped 50% in 1980 from 96c to 48c a share, though here again the dividend was maintained at a 60c total. Cash backing is much more substantial than that of Wilbarz, standing at over R13m at the end of 1979. But it, too, will have to find a more satisfactory investment channel before better quality earnings can be expected.

The share trades at 330c, giving an historic 18%. The directors, in line with those at Wilbarz, will not make any forecast until mid-year and as a result it is difficult to assess the quality of this high return. But it is true to say that, given

PLUMBING THE DEPTHS

Details of the SWA/Namibian pelagic fishing quotas were released this week by SWA/Namibian Economic Affairs Secretary Piet Kruger. The outlines are as follows:

□ No direct pilchard catching will be permitted and only "limited" by-catches will be tolerated.

Last year, the quota of pilchard was 4 000 t in the can — equivalent to about a 15 000 t catch — but only 10 000 t was landed and 218 t canned.

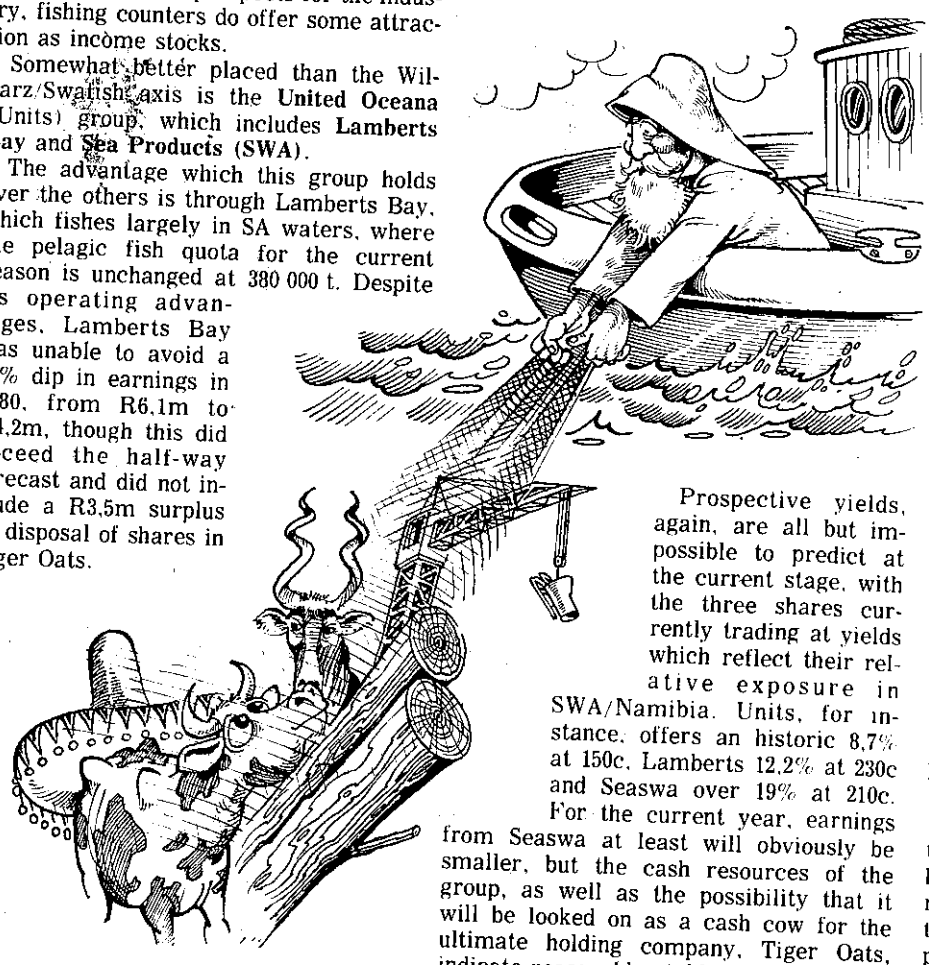
□ The anchovy quota will be pegged "tentatively" at 150 000 t, compared with a final pelagic catch last year of 223 000 t. This could be raised later in the season, as was the case last year.

□ The season will open on March 23 (April 10 last year), with no area restrictions at all — which is being seen as a sure sign that the quota will next year be treated on a multi-species basis.

better longer-term prospects for the industry, fishing counters do offer some attraction as income stocks.

Somewhat better placed than the Wilbarz/Swafish axis is the **United Oceana** (Units) group, which includes **Lamberts Bay** and **Sea Products (SWA)**.

The advantage which this group holds over the others is through Lamberts Bay, which fishes largely in SA waters, where the pelagic fish quota for the current season is unchanged at 380 000 t. Despite its operating advantages, Lamberts Bay was unable to avoid a 30% dip in earnings in 1980, from R6,1m to R4,2m, though this did exceed the half-way forecast and did not include a R3,5m surplus on disposal of shares in Tiger Oats.



The bulk of the Units group's R22m-plus cash resources lies in Lamberts, but it was not necessary for either Lamberts or Units itself to dig into these to pay unchanged dividends of 28c and 13c respectively. Earnings were 50c (71c) and 30c (44c).

Further down the line, however, Seaswa reflected its exposure to SWA conditions in paying an unchanged 40c dividend out of earnings of 33c (70c).

Mainly as a result of this, the group's associates in SWA/Namibia have entered into a venture in Chile, aimed initially at fishmeal and fish oil production. It is also looking at diversification elsewhere.

Prospective yields, again, are all but impossible to predict at the current stage, with the three shares currently trading at yields which reflect their relative exposure in SWA/Namibia. Units, for instance, offers an historic 8,7% at 150c, Lamberts 12,2% at 230c and Seaswa over 19% at 210c. For the current year, earnings from Seaswa at least will obviously be smaller, but the cash resources of the group, as well as the possibility that it will be looked on as a cash cow for the ultimate holding company, Tiger Oats, indicate reasonably stable payouts.

Rather more insulated from the vagaries of SWA/Namibia are both **Kaap-Kunene** and **Ovenstone Investments (OIL)**. In 1979, inshore fishing contributed 68% (76%) of Kaap-Kunene's taxed income and it was anticipated that other diversified operations would increasingly contribute to earnings. Investment income, in particular, showed an advance from under 26% of taxed earnings to almost 30% in that year, while property income was expected to rise.

Nevertheless, Kaap-Kunene's 1980 income did decline, largely as non-fishing activities failed to take up the slack of poorer fishing conditions. Earnings dropped nearly 30% from 29,3c to 20,7c, though the dividend was maintained at 15c. Once again, if the group is able to diversify away from fishing fairly quickly, this dividend could be maintained. At 104c, the counter yields an historic 14,4% and is one of the more attractive counters.

OIL is more widely based, but offers a significantly lower 7% historic yield at the current 43c share price. It would seem unlikely that this payout will be exceeded in the year just ended, though the group forecast increased earnings for the year to February 28 on the higher share capital.

The cash raised by last year's 180-for-100 rights issue has already been invested in a Chilean venture, though chairman Andrew Ovenstone says this project, and a distribution system in the Canary Islands, are only in the development stage at present. The company's SWA/Namibian exposure, fortunately, is probably down to around 5% of profits by this stage, says Ovenstone.

The property division, on the other hand, has "come right with a vengeance," according to Ovenstone, and higher rentals are also expected over the next couple of years, he adds. Negotiations to merge the group's various construction interests have at last been concluded, but again, the benefits will tend to be medium-term.

Alternative investments connected with the industry exist in **Suiderland**, which holds 33% of Kaap-Kunene, but which receives the bulk of its earnings from timber, and also in **Fedfood**. This company, in the Fedvolks group, earns only around 22% of profits from fishing — from about 5% of sales — and offers a considerably broader base in the food industry.

Investment in the fishing sector, then, clearly depends on the quality of earnings as they reflect exposure in SWA/Namibia and also the speed at which the various groups have managed to diversify.

Companies such as Wilbarz and Swafish appear less attractive on this basis, while Kaap-Kunene, which obviously foresaw the decline ahead of time, is more solidly founded.

Some counters certainly make good income buys and successful expansion into Chile and other operational areas could enhance others if they move sufficiently quickly.

Scott Hamilton

themselves had farm schools on their farms.

So much for the benefits to the farmer. His costs appear to be as follows: In the first place there are the direct costs of establishing a school - the costs of erecting and maintaining a building and the loss of potential income by land now used by the school and its environs. There are the administrative difficulties with running the school-while it is not compulsory that

DD 27/4/81 (3-Maize)

Maize farmers to get R96m more—minister

PRETORIA — Maize farmers' nett incomes would increase by R96 million this year despite the nett price having been frozen by the government, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Piet du Plessis, said here last night.

His statement was in response to the angry reactions from farmers in last week's announcement that there would be no increase in producer prices for this year's record 14 million ton crop.

According to the National Maize Producers' Organisation, farmers were "shocked senseless".

In his statement the minister repeated it had been found impossible to raise producer prices.

Mr Du Plessis said an exceptionally large crop was produced on about the same service as that of the previous year.

More than half of it would have to be sold on the export market. The Maize Board costs would amount to R41 a ton.

The industry had no control over the increased cost of production.

"It cannot however, summarily be accepted that at an unchanged price the maize producers' position will be worse than in the previous year," Mr Du Plessis said.

The increase in the maize crop would put R316 million more into the pockets of the producers. After the increased production costs of R220 million had been deducted the nett income of farmers would rise by R96 million.

The effect of the increase in the maize price on the rate of inflation, which was 16,2 per cent at present, was an important consideration in determining the price.

"The fact that the selling price of the Maize Board had been raised by only 9,5 per cent should have a braking effect on the inflation rate.

"It is important that the price of a major food product such as maize increases this year at much less than the overall inflation rate."

If the local selling price of maize had been increased by the inflation rate of 16,2 per cent, the consumer would have had to pay R123 million more while the 9,5 per cent increase would cost him only an additional R72 000, the minister said.

Boost for East London, Page 17

S/J 2nd ½
SSHJ 2nd ½

November 1980 Examinations

EXAMINATION RESULTS

| COURSE | DESCRIPTION | | |

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This survey would not have been possible without the help and encouragement of many people in both England and Africa.

Dr Guy Daynes was the medical superintendent of St Lucy's Hospital when the project was first suggested.

Before leaving for the Transkei I discussed the project with Dr Stanford of the Bland-Sutton Institute and with Dr Stott of the Brompton Hospital. Dr Kleeberg and Mr Arabin of the South African Tuberculosis Study Group provided me with much useful local information and advice before I arrived.

Dr and Mrs Devonshire not only made me welcome at St Lucy's, but also provided me with a grant from the research fund of the hospital and lent me a Land Rover.

Mrs Va and Mrs Dazana were indefatigable translaters and guides; I owe them a particular debt for leading me past the many pitfalls of working in an alien culture.

Sister Waser helped me to Heaf test the children.

My somewhat jejune statistics have been entirely re-worked by Mr G.B. Newman and Mr Suheil Shahyar.

Finally, I have discussed aspects of the survey with Dr Stanford and Professor Miller, and I am grateful for their comments and criticisms.

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R204 28/4/81

R120 a ton export maize

SOUTH AFRICAN maize exports for the 1981-82, May to April, marketing season are estimated at 5 390 000 tons — up from 1980-81's forecast exports of 3 570 000 tons, says the Maize Board.

Exports will be from 1980-81, September to April, crop which is projected at a record 13 420 000 tons against 10 730 000 tons in 1979-80.

The board says closing stocks at the end of this month are 2 410 000 tons against 1 630 000 tons estimated a month ago.

In March, 210 000 tons of yellow maize were exported at an average price of R120,32 a ton against February's 224 000 tons at R122,86 a ton.

A total of 42 000 tons of white maize were exported in March for an average price of R120,40 a ton against 56 000 tons in February at R123,95 a ton.

There were no sales of grain sorghum in March after 14 000 tons were sold in February for an average price of R115,27 a ton. — Reuter.

RESULTS

In 1970 the infant mortality rate in the "Little Triangle" was 28. of 27 deaths during the year, only five were due to gastroenteritis, with only one death from the village of Tira being due to gastroenteritis. In 1971 the infant mortality rate fell still further to 24, with only three deaths being due to gastroenteritis. In 1974 2% the rate fell to 21 and for the first time ever no infant from the village of Tira died from gastroenteritis. This was also true for 1976 and in 1977 infant mortality dropped to 19.6 - the first time ever to fall below 20. A falling of morbidity from the disease was also noted at the clinic in Tira, where the visits due to acute gastroeintestinal diseases fell from 23% of all visits to the clinic in 1967 to 14.5% in 1971.

DISCUSSION

The four hospitals in the
Arab children living in
(all races) to the child
to gastroenteritis. Each
Hospitalisation at that
total cost for the care o
of 1 Million IL.(R 125,00

The budget for t
small investment resulted
,and the incidence of the

Most of the
been admitted to one large hospital in the region.Of 1894 a
the childrens wards in 1976, 446 were Arab children ie.22.4
admissions.Of these 155 were admiteed because of gastroente
the incidence ofsevere dehydration and hypernatraemia was d
reduced,as supported by the fact that there was not one de
gastroenteritis in the hospital in 1976,and the average dur
stay was only 6 days.

Of the 1251 Jewish chilren admitted 196 were ad
of gastroenteritis ie.14%.

CONCLUSION

The program succeeded to a large extent because of the ener
it by the para-medical staff and all the non-medical helpers,
as the willingness of the mothers to cooperate wholeheartedly in the program. Considered in global terms the problem of infantile diarrhea is so enormous that we cannot conceive of any advance in acute therapy that would have a significant impact on it. THE ULTIMATE GOAL MUST BE PREVENTION. THERE IS MUCH HARD WORK STILL TO BE DONE, (22,23,24,33). A vaccine for infantile gastroenteritis is a realistic possibility.(25.26.27 32). Until such time, we sincerely believe that the best approach to the problem of gastroenteritis is by prevention through health education.

Our thanks are due to: Dr. David Yarom of the Department of Health Education, Ministry of Health, Jerusalem;

Mahmoud Fidell, Sanitarian, Government Health Centre, Tira;

and the several nurses and other helpers who made

Over half SA maize crop sold overseas

Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — More than half of this year's maize crop will have to be sold on the export markets.

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, said this week that an exceptionally large crop was produced on about the same surface area as that of the previous year and must be marketed for the producer's account.

He said it cost the Maize Board R41 a ton to sell maize on the export market.

'On the other hand, a sustained increase in the cost of maize production is being experienced owing to factors over which the maize industry has no control. Attention may be drawn, to the sustained rises in the cost of production items such as labour, fertiliser and machinery and implements.

NET INCOME

'It cannot, however, summarily be accepted that at an unchanged price the maize producer's position will be worse than in the previous year. The increase in the maize crop will put R316-million more into the pockets of the producers.'

After the increased production costs of R220-million had been deducted from this amount, the net income of maize farmers would still rise by R96m. To a producer with 500 ha under maize, this means on average, an increase of approximately R10 000, said the Minister.

'The effect of the increase in the maize price on the rate of inflation was naturally also an important consideration in the determination of the price. In this connection, the position was that the inflation rate was 16,2 percent a year.

BRAKING EFFECT

'The fact that the selling price of the maize has been raised by 9,5 percent only should have a braking effect on the inflation rate. It is also important that the price of a major food product such as maize, which also represents an important cost item in other food industries such as red meat, dairy products and poultry increases this year at much less than the overall inflation rate.'

Small boat breakthrough

Argus 28/3/81 3fishing

Weekend Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Certain categories of small craft, which are now banned from going to sea, will soon be exempted in terms of new regulations.

According to a statement issued today on behalf of the Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, boats less than 3 m in length will be able to go to sea if they:

- Are used for financial gain or reward;
- Participate in organised competitions;
- Are used for purposes such as research or shark net repairs;
- Are used for recreation and fun in shallow waters, for example air cushions, canoes, powered sea-bikes, small rowing-boats and surfboards.

Previous regulations, issued in terms of Section 72 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1951, placed a ban on all craft smaller than 3 m.

'It is not the intention to place a total ban on all the said vessels, but the object is only to accomplish control,' it is stated.

The new regulations, which will be promulgated on a date to be decided by the State President, are aimed at safeguarding human life and property at sea.

It is hoped to apply them to boats on the larger dams and rivers of the interior at a later date.

They are the result of recommendation by the Reynecke Commission of inquiry into control of small craft, tabled in Parliament last year.

One of the commission's recommendations was the establishment of a small craft control board, but the Government turned this down.

The control of small craft will fall under the Department of Transport, which must draw up practical rules to govern the design and manufacture of boats, training of crews, safety equipment, navigation and boat maintenance.

It will keep in contact with the boating fraternity in order to keep abreast of needs and developments.

An important aspect is that boats will be allowed to go to sea and land at approved places along the coast. The department, local authorities and clubs will co-operate in this.

TABLE 9: ESTIMATED COST PER PATIENT C ...S* 1976

Institution	Cost per: (R) Inpatient day	Permanent clinic visit
Masana	2,84	4,57
Elim Hospital Gazankulu	5,50	
Holy Cross	7,74	4,55)+
Christ the King Ixopo	5,64	
Cecilia Makiwane Mdantsane[1]	18,2	
Groote Schuur[2]	47,42	2,26
Day Hospitals[3]		
Woodstock Hospital[4]		
Hottentot Hollands[4] Somerset West		
Uitenhage D.C.[5] clinics		
Riebeck East clinic[5]		,97 - 3,00
Chikankata hospital, Zambia	2,33	
Botswana clinics[6]		,02
David Gordon hospital Malawi	,87	,94
Ekwendeni hospital Malawi	,27	

Fishing companies on oyster, crayfish charges

NM 9/4/81

3-Fishing

Mercury Reporter

TWO large commercial fishing companies in Transkei have been charged with possessing undersized crayfish and oysters, Mr Graham Keet of the Transkei Nature Conservation Department said yesterday.

One company has been charged with allegedly possessing 2 551 undersized oysters and 911 undersized crayfish. About 24 of the crayfish showed signs of having had their berry stripped. A member of the company will appear in court on April 28.

A second company has been charged with allegedly possessing 1 588 undersized oysters.

In both cases the shellfish were allegedly found in the refridgerators of the companies' factories in Umtata.

The maximum fine is R7 500 or four years' imprisonment.

Mr Keet said people from the rest of the country were coming to Transkei equipped with freezers and removing large numbers of shellfish.

'We want to warn these people that they will be treated very severely if caught,' he said.

He added a warning to people who bought cycads from children on Transkei roads that the fine for possessing the plants was R200.

*except at Holy Cross where mobile clinic visits cost less than visits to outpatients department.

the Sundays River Valley area was even more restricted than at Umlazi; an even greater proportion of patients walked, and very few travelled long distances. If they did so it was to consult a G.P., travelling normally by road (with an employer or in a hired car). Cash incomes were very low, and cost of travel escalated far more rapidly with distance than in town. 20% of those interviewed had paid more than R4, higher than in any other area. Most of these lived in hilly areas bordering the valley; there was no public transport.

12.

4. The Cost of Services

The previous section has examined user costs for health facilities. Here some of the costs to the providers of the services are estimated (see Table 9).

Method

These estimates are highly tentat... were obtained in such a form that ... into costs relevant to inpatients ... those relevant to in- and out-pat... and those pertaining to outclinic... administration). A special calcul... costs attributable to clinics and ... Appendix I for the questionnaire u... was not complete. Overheads, and s... to be allocated according to the n... patient days. One outpatient atten... equivalent of one inpatient day for division of joint expenses. A different allocation would alter the estimates. Initial recording of costs and patients seen is also, of course, done with varying degrees of accuracy. Only current costs were noted. Nevertheless it was found that the estimates given were rather insensitive to changes in the assumptions. (See Table 10)

The cost per patient contact appears to be greater for permanent than for mobile clinics, and greater for clinics than when patients are seen at the hospital. Perhaps this would have been different if depreciation on capital costs had been

'SA FISHING CAN BE SAVED'

3 fishing Argus 11/4/81

Weekend Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — 'A catastrophe was necessary for people to accept that man can control food production from the sea,' says Dr J P A Lochner, formerly of the Department of Oceanographic Research at the University of Port Elizabeth, who more than a decade ago predicted that disaster would wipe out the Walvis Bay fishing industry.

Dr Lochner made his prediction using formulas based on research for developing guided missiles while director of the National Institute for Defence Research.

But his methods were regarded as so outlandish that he faced a barrage of criticism and scorn.

He says only now, with South West Africa's fish canning industry on the brink of collapse, is attention being paid to his theories. Suggestions he made years ago may be implemented this year.

Fortunately the South African fishing industry is not heading for the same fate, he said in an interview.

CAPACITY

"Fishing is being incorrectly exploited, but at a far lower level in South Africa.

"Trawlers are catching only one third of the level they could produce.

'Given a free hand, I could build production to its full capacity.

"The main problem is that they are fishing during the wrong time of the year.'

But greed was another reason for Walvis Bay's fishing industry being depleted.

Dr Lochner said he served on a commission of inquiry to investigate the situation in Walvis Bay from 1968 to 1973, 'but not a single recommendation made by the commission was accepted.'

'Fisherman are hunters," said Dr Lochner. 'They take what they can get when they can get it . . . and refuse to accept lower fishing quotas.'

Dr Lochner said the once plentiful shoals of pilchards could be rebuilt at Walvis Bay.

"In the past, people increased their catches until the resources had been depleted but they were not aware of the collapse until it was too late to save the resources.

'Controlling resources in open seas is much the same as farming.

'A farmer has to count his animals to know how much of his stock is being slaughtered.

'In the same way the number of fish in the sea need to be calculated to know what the resources are and how much can be caught.'

Dr Lochner said the solution was to change the fishing season to the summer months, after the spawning season when fish were mature, and not to allow catches of immature fish.

'At present, 95 percent of immature anchovies are being caught before they have had a chance to reproduce,' he says.

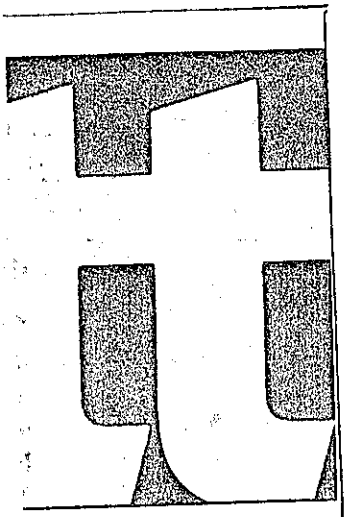
The drastic cutback of quotas which Dr Lochner suggested years ago may be implemented soon — but will it be too late?

UNDER CONTROL

'No,' says Dr Lochner. 'If handled correctly, we will always have pilchards. But we will never get things under control until my recommendations have been accepted.

'My calculations have proved correct. Once they have been fully accepted and the recommendations applied, man can control the sea for food production and disasters like Walvis Bay need never again occur,' said Dr Lochner.

Catches at wrong time of year—expert



HYMIEWATHA

From

Donald Knowler

NEW YORK. — A tribe of Sioux indians from Wyoming



Z-Fishing

RAND DAILY MAIL, Thursday, April 16, 1981

How the Government sank the fishing industry

3 Fishing RDM 16/4/81

Once the world's eighth largest fishing nation, South Africa now imports such staple foods as pilchards. BOB MOLLOY describes how the Government and corporate interests played a major role in creating the crisis by ignoring urgent pleas to cut back on fishing concessions. Since 1968, when the pleas for a cutback began, fish prices have risen 306%.

NEPOTISM and greed — jobs for "buddies and pals" and avaricious fishing concessionaires — finally wrecked the South West African fishing industry, leaving 8 000 out of work in Walvis Bay alone and robbing the underprivileged of a source of cheap protein.

Marine deserts now exist along the South and South West African coastlines where once huge schools of pilchards, anchovies, hake and other fish teemed the seas in quantity — at times so great that trawlers couldn't cope.

But the fishing companies hurled more men and ships in to help with the plunder, succeeding in over-fishing even the liberal quotas allotted. When caught out, skippers dumped their cargoes leaving 20km-long banks of dead fish floating on the sea.

In the end the shoals were depleted below their ability to reproduce and the fish disappeared, possibly forever in the case of pilchards.

Today, seven months after publication of the report of a commission of inquiry into the industry, there is a thundering silence from officialdom while most of its 120 recommendations remain where they started — on paper.

That is the current state of play in an industry which was once the world's eighth largest, feeding not only the nation's workers but also bringing in much-needed foreign currency.

Now the money flows out, to pay for pilchards canned in Chile, while at home the canning factories stand idle and the empty trawlers are mothballed three deep in their home ports.

The writing was on the wall for years — put in the form of a bluntly-worded warning by a fish populations expert as long ago as 1968 — but the Government listened only to its Fisheries Advisory Council and did little or nothing to halt the wholesale plunder of the seas.

The council, entrusted with the job of guiding the Institute of Sea Fisheries and the Department of Trade and Industries under which it falls, was dominated with people who had vested interests in the fishing industry. This situation allowed the over-fishing by "buddies and pals", according to Nationalist MP Mr John Wiley.

This is the result of a decade and a half of Government indifference and private greed:

- Pilchards, once worth R100-million a year, close to extinction as a commercial resource;
- Anchovies, a resource with a potential yield of 2,5-million tons a year, near collapse off the SWA coast;
- Maasbanker, an important pelagic fish, down to zero since 1976;
- Hake, once a one-million-ton-a-year industry, now badly depleted;
- "74", useless as a commercial resource;
- Red Steenbras, no longer dependable as a steady money earner;
- Shad, down by more than 90%, now protected in Natal but not in the Cape, and
- Crayfish, wiped out in some areas and much depleted in others.



THE COUNTDOWN TO DISASTER

- **1968:** 1,5-million tons caught in the greatest catch of the indus history. Dr Jan Lochner warns that overkill is imminent and calls f reduction in quotas.
- **1969:** Quotas raised to 1,75-million tons. Only 1,2-million tons caught.
- **1970:** Quotas reduced to 565 000 tons but barely enough fish caug fill even the reduced quotas. Catch figures contradictory. Dr Lochner calls immediate and drastic cuts.
- **1971:** Fish catch falls to 365 000 tons — the lowest in years. Department of Sea Fisheries launches a research programme.
- **1972:** Quota set at 250 000 tons. Catches fail to match. First ne headlines of danger for the fishing industry. Uproar in Parliament Government is accused of allowing over-fishing.
- **1973:** Catches still poor.
- **1974:** Smiles all round as catch rises to 705 000 tons. Anchovy ca doubles. Dr Lochner warns that the figures are misleading — the f populations are fluctuating just before collapse and the less nutriti anchovy is filling the gap left by the over-fished pilchard. R5-million spent the Government on improving the Walvis Bay fishing harbour. Quotas rai again.
- **1975:** Industry fails to fill quota.
- **1976:** Quota drops to 475 000 tons but not met by catches. Headli warn that fishing resources are in "great danger".
- **1977:** Quota set at 940 000 tons. Only 400 000 tons caught. Operat Eureka, to find new pichard shoals, launched with great fanfare. Compl failure.
- **1978:** The six-month fishing season cut to three-and-a-half months. O six fish factories now operating in Walvis Bay. Catch down to 414 000 to almost all anchovies. SWA's income from fishing, once R100-million a ye now less than R34-million.
- **1979:** Quota of 337 500 tons not achieved. Pilchards almost exhauste Only two factories still operating.
- **1980:** Pilchard quota set at 12 500 tons but catch less than half th Anchovy quota down to 180 000 tons. Headlines say: "Walvis Bay staggers nets come in empty". Dr Lochner publishes his formula for recovery. Fo Government scientists and three academics from the University of Cape To publicly contradict his findings.
- **1981:** South African fishing interests announce R6-million joint inves ment in Chilean fishing. Two-million cans of pilchards imported from Chi Fishing zone off SWA extended to 320km because of "serious depletion fish resources". All 16 member states of the International Commission f South East Atlantic Fisheries allowed to fish the zone.

The man who sounded the alert — and was ignored

FOR more than 12 years, one man consistently warned the Government of the impending collapse of the fishing industry — and was ignored.

He was Dr Jan Lochner, former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth.

While he headed the institute he took an interest in fish reproduction. In what he regards as probably the single greatest breakthrough in the history of research into population dynamics, Dr Lochner adapted electrical theory to show how fish populations behaved and to predict annual catches.

His work was so accurate that he was able to predict fish catches to within one percent and showed that a fish population reduced below a critical level would collapse. With this in mind he recommended severe cutbacks in fishing quotas.

But his theories were bad news to fishing concessionaires who had invested heavily in factory ships and canning factories. Their representatives carried most weight in the Fisheries Advisory Board and they blocked his recommendations.

"Until then I was pretty innocent. I didn't know what was going on," Dr Lochner said in an interview this week.

Then a friend warned him that attempts were being made to discredit his theories. There are profits of more than R10-million a year being made. Do you think you can talk louder than that?" he was asked.

Appointed as a member of a commission of inquiry into the fishing industry in the late Sixties he found himself a lone voice calling for caution. Driven to desperation by non-co-operation, he flew to Pretoria to talk to the then Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr Jan Haak. But his mission was futile.

That was the year after the biggest fish catch in the country's history — 1,5-million tons. Mr Haak had extended the season by two weeks and the eight canning companies worked flat out to process the haul.

Dr Lochner returned to work — carried out in his own time and expense.

Then came what appeared to be a setback. His predictions for the catch for the following year were off the mark by about 20%. It seemed as if his theories were flawed and officials congratulated each other on ignoring such an obviously untrustworthy source.

But a check showed the error to be in the figures supplied by the Department of Sea Fisheries — and not Dr Lochner's predictions.

With strong pressure "and a bit of help from friends" he soon obtained the correct catch figures. These matched his calculations — again to within one percent. At least one official apologised for the "oversight".

"I took good care to organise my own sources after that," Dr Lochner said.

However, the factory ships continued to haul out an incredible 600 000 tons annually in addition to what the entire fishing fleet was harvesting.

Dr Lochner decided to bypass the Cabinet and go straight to the top. A letter to the then Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, resulted in withdrawal of the ships, a new Minister of Industries and a promise to reduce catches.

In 1971 Dr Lochner's sources showed that catches were still over the recommended limits. He decided to oppose the full vote of the commission and submitted a minority report. A crisis meeting between himself, Mr S L Muller, the new Minister, and the Secretary for Industries, Mr Jan Kitzhoff, was called in Cape Town. Dr Lochner refused to back down and the report was accepted for submission to Parliament.

On his return to Port Elizabeth he was horrified to find that a leak to the share market had caused a drop in the price of fishing shares. Reporters camped on his front doorstep. He shunned publicity but his theories hit the front page.



Dr Lochner . . . he warned the Government several times.

The minority report rocked Parliament when raised by the then United Party member for Simonstown, Mr John Wiley, who has since joined the National Party. The Deputy Minister, Mr A H du Plessis, agreed to Dr Lochner's recommendations to cut catches to 250 000 tons.

"Then began what I always think of as the funny period. A shipping journal found an overseas expert who contradicted my theories. Suddenly the quotas went up again; one of the factory ships returned to the fishing area and we were back to square one," said Dr Lochner.

Mr Wiley accused the Minister of giving incorrect figures on the industry. Mr Vorster called for a Select Committee of Inquiry. Dr Lochner and Mr Du Plessis gave evidence on the disparity of figures.

"In the end it seemed there was some confusion about the interpretation of the Afrikaans term for territorial waters and waters of the territory (SWA) and that's why the figures differed," said Dr Lochner. Everybody agreed to accept there had been a "mistake".

Quotas were drastically reduced — and the Department of Sea Fisheries suddenly found itself unable to come up with the statistics required by Dr Lochner to calculate the next year's quota. He was ignored by the Advisory Board and the Department of Sea Fisheries but continued to watch from the sidelines.

"My unofficial sources were still dependable and in 1975 I noticed that catches had risen above the critical level. I approached the new Minister (Mr Chris Heunis) and warned him, pointing out that I had no official statistics to go on. Mr Heunis called in the secretary and the head of the division of sea fisheries and ordered them to supply the figures I needed."

It took several months and another warning from the Minister before the figures came through.

"In November, 1976, I calculated that next year only 13% of the pilchards would be left. I saw Mr Heunis and gave him a full report, pointing out that when the fish population fell below 10% it would collapse. Once out of control, no further predictions of catches could be made and it would be impossible to scientifically harvest the fish."

Later Dr Lochner's sources sent him a confidential Sea Fisheries memo advocating a quota of 300 000 tons — the very figure he had advised would be the maximum possible if the industry went all out to catch everything that moved.

"They were using my own figures but in the opposite way I intended. That was the figure I told them would be possible, but not advisable, to catch."

He went back to Pretoria for another audience with Mr Heunis, only to be told that the Minister had no choice but to accept the advice of his officials.

Back in his PE laboratory, Dr Lochner hammered out a full report which warned that the department had to cut the quota or lose the whole industry. The report, and an implication that it might circulate elsewhere, had some effect. Quotas fell to 250 000 tons but this was still too high.

Events were now happening quickly. Mr Heunis and the director of Sea Fisheries flew to Walvis Bay for an on-the-spot check. The quotas were slashed to 200 000 tons.

"Unfortunately, it was already too late," said Dr Lochner.

But fishing interests then sent a deputation to Pretoria and confronted the Minister in his office.

"He sent them packing," said Dr Lochner, recalling the incident with a smile.

But his predictions of catastrophe were already reality. The pilchards disappeared.

"After wiping out the pilchards they started on the anchovies. The situation is repeating itself. If the same greedy methods are used it will be the end of the fishing industry in any real commercial sense," Dr Lochner said.

Table 4 Health Expenditure in South Africa as a Percentage of Gross National Product at Market Price 1959/60 - 1974/75[a]

Year	Expenditure in R000 000		Percentage of GNP		
	Public Sector	Private Sector[b]	Public Sector	Private Sector	Total



(c) About 7 per cent of private sector expenditure in the form of hospital fees accrued to the public sector in 1969/70, an amount equal to 6 per cent of public expenditure on health. This has not been subtracted from public expenditure.

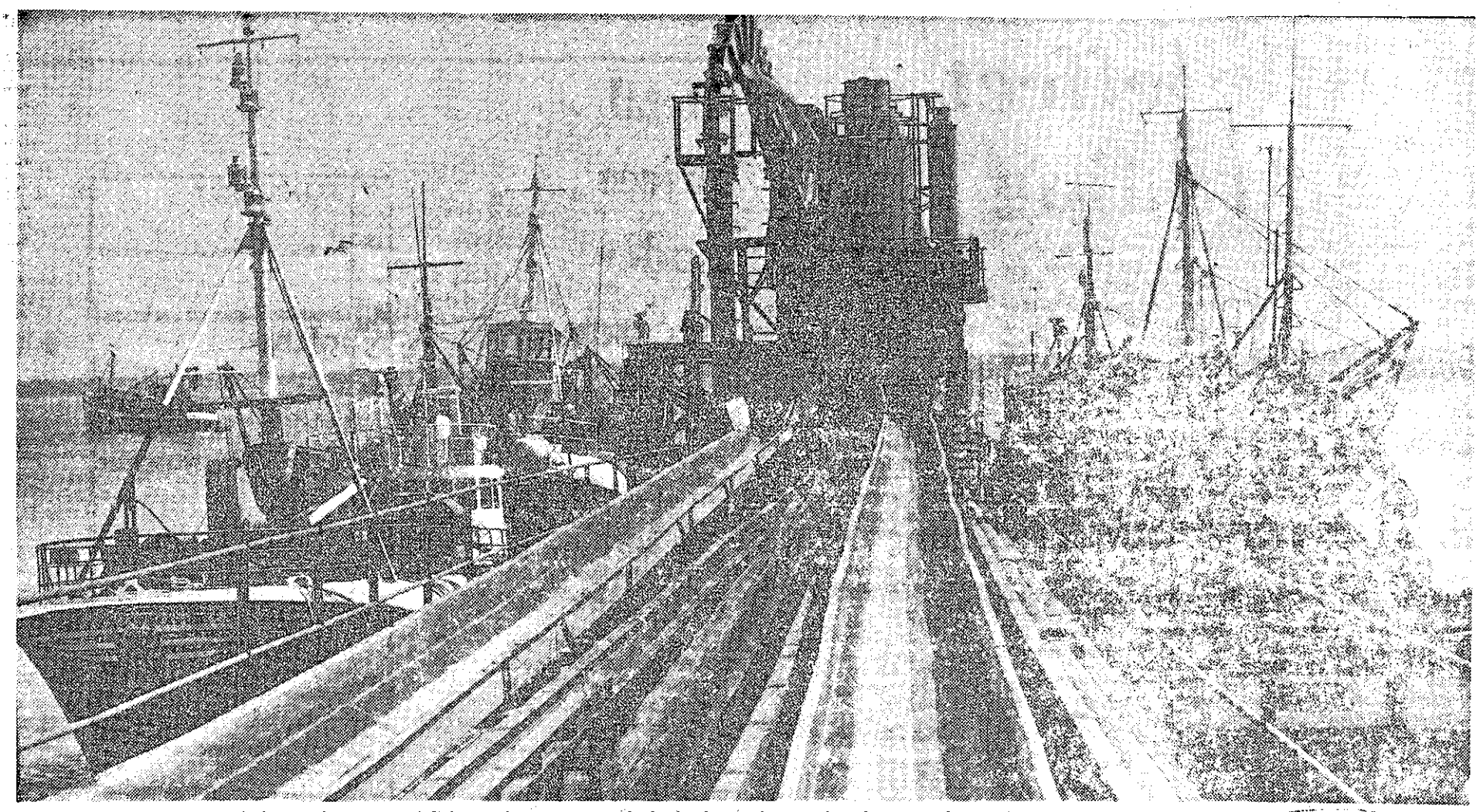
appears that real expenditures per capita did increase, as is shown in Table 5, although per capita expenditure increased at a slower rate than income. From 1969/70 to 1974/75 real health expenditure per capita and GNP per capita grow even more slowly, with income per capita increasing at 3,4 per cent per annum and health expenditures at 2,5 per cent per annum.

In Table 6, the relationship between private health expenditure, and expenditure and public consumption expenditure is shown. of this table indicate that one reason for the declining f national resources allocated to health is to be found in ansion of public health expenditure. Although public expenditure increased as a proportion of GNP, as would be e proportion of health expenditures in public consumption decreased noticably over the sixteen year period, and as a result h expenditure did not rise as a percentage of GNP. The pro- ivate health expenditure in private consumption expenditure tely the same at the beginning and at the end of the period, remained at more than 3,0 per cent from 1962 through to 1973) proportion of private health expenditure in GNP fell, as the private consumption in GNP fell.

This analysis thus leads to the conclusion that over the 16 year period a smaller amount of resources has been devoted to health services in South Africa, and that by 1974/75 South Africa probably fell below the average for countries at a similar level of development. The major factor contributing to the decline has been a falling proportion of government expenditure directed to the provision of health services.

The usefulness of expenditure contrasts between countries is, however, limited because expenditure depends on price levels and wage levels and

Skeletons of the fishing industry



Flumes which have carried thousands of tons of fish stand empty. . . . And, the boats that used to bring in the catch stand idle.

3 Fishing

~~221~~

STAR 2/5/81

Walvis Bay's shifting fortunes

By Peter Honey, The Star's Africa News Service

WALVIS BAY — Battles have raged in this desert enclave for more than a century: battles against the shifting dunes of the Namib, against the corrosive salty sand on which the town is built and more recently, against economic-political uncertainty and the ravages of boom-town greed.

The community's fortunes have risen and fallen rather like the Kuiseb River which, once or twice a decade, rises out of its subterranean course to sweep through the enclave's southern sector, flow for a few days, and then slip back into obscurity.

Now the settlement faces another battle: To regain its economic viability and self-respect out of the skeleton of a pelagic fishing industry which before its decline five years ago, carried about 80 percent of the town's economy.

The factories are dormant. Some contain all the canning and processing equipment from the boom era, others have had much of the machinery removed and transported to Chile.

The remaining staff still turn up in the mornings — some to their offices, others to odd jobs of painting and maintenance while the fishermen stare glumly from their wharf-bound boats or talk of the huge shoals of pilchards they "know" to be off the coast. But a ban on all pilchard catching this season prevents them from going out.

About 2 500 Ovambos have returned to the north and nearly a third of the white population has left since 1975, while municipal figures show that about 400 houses and flats are disconnected.

"Spending power," to quote the mayor, Mr Nico Retief, "is virtually zero as far as the fishing industry is concerned.

He believes the worst is over, and the economy is once again on the rise.

"Of course it will never reach the same level it did in the early 1970s, but at last some of the houses are being bought."

It is a quirk of the economic climate in Walvis Bay, that although there are still hundreds of vacant houses, there are virtually none left in the R25 000 to R40 000 bracket. Most of these are being snapped up by SWA/Namibian farmers as holiday cottages or retirement homes.

"Prices have actually increased in the past six months," says Mr Dieter Schlusche, one of the town's two estate agents.

"But business is still going down generally and people are still moving out, but it can never become a ghost town because we have a port and certain institutions, such as the railways will have to stay," he adds.

Mr Retief agrees: "We have lost many people but we have also lost the chancers who come into any community to see only what they can get out of it.

"We have now started building on the more permanent economy of the town and not the fishing industry which was a most vulnerable one. We've known all along that it was vulnerable because it collapsed over many years, so fortunately we were able to prepare ourselves to absorb the shock when it finally collapsed."

Walvis Bay, he said, had not always depended on its fishing industry. It had struggled when whaling declined in the early century, but then South West African meat exports sustained the economy from 1926 until the 1940s when it too folded. But by that stage the fishing developments had begun.

At the height of the boom, from about 1969 to 1972, as many as eight fish processing factories were operating out of Walvis Bay. In 1976, one of the largest of these produced more than 5-million cartons of canned fish. The subsidiary industries — can-producing and packaging companies — had also played a key role in the boom.

"When these went it was a tremendous shock, but it didn't mean there was a total collapse of the town's economy," Mr Retief said.

It did, however, leave the municipality with an outstanding loan from the South African Government of R14-million.

"We have asked them to write off the debt and we have every reason to believe this will be done," he added.

In fact, as matters stand at present, the future of Walvis Bay rests plainly in the lap of the South African Government.

"They must intervene here as far as new development is concerned, because we as a municipality cannot do it, and unless possibilities are created for people there are no possibilities for development from private entrepreneurs," the mayor said.

The Government granted decentralisation benefits to the enclave earlier this year, and plans are currently being considered for the development of a large white fish processing factory in the town.

The largest industries currently in operation in Walvis Bay are engineering and ship repair, a modest boat building yard and the salt industry.

Industries which could be developed were the engineering and boat building works and the salt-works, which, although not labour intensive, could contribute much to the economy of the town.

"We are also looking at totally new ideas, such as

Historic links with

Here is a brief summary of Walvis Bay's historical links with South Africa:

- **March 12, 1878 — Commander R C Dyer of the British Ship, Industry takes possession of the area surrounding Walvis Bay in the name of Queen Victoria.**
- **August 1884 — The Governor of the Cape of Good Hope colony annexes Walvis Bay under authority of British letters patent issued six years previously.**
- **May 31, 1910 — implementation of the South Africa Act of 1909 with Walvis Bay, as part of the Cape of Good Hope colo. Union of South Africa.**
- **December 17, 1920 — League of Nations mandate Africa "as an integral porti**
- **1922 — The South reaffirms Walvis Bay as par**
- **September 1, 1977 — I it "expedient and desirabl legislate for the port and as part of the Cape Provinc**

...once a livelihood



The skipper of the fishing vessel Eleonore, Mr Peter Pick, awaits an order to sail. It will be a long wait as a ban has been placed on pilchard fishing.

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its to the enclave earlier
his year, and plans are
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dered for the develop-
ent of a large white fish
rocessing factory in the
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oldest boat building yard
nd the salt industry.

Industries which could be developed were the engineering and boat building works and the salt-works, which, although not labour intensive, could contribute much to the economy of the town.

"We are also looking at totally new ideas, such as the tourist industry. With our geographical situation and the desert landscape, this is perhaps one of the most important sectors presently under consideration," Mr Retief said.

But if these are the areas of hope for Walvis Bay, there is also an air of desperation, especially among those directly connected with the fishing industry.

One man who has first-hand knowledge of this is the Director of Walvis Bay, Mr Dormehl Vosloo, former Director of the Publications Board and Deputy Director of the Department of Interior, who has held his present post since May last year.

His function is that of Provincial Administrator for the enclave, but he has found himself drawn increasingly into the negotiations on the settlement's future.

"Although I have absolutely nothing to do with that sort of thing, the representatives of the community regard me as somebody to state their case, because I have direct access to the Cabinet. They seem to regard me as a sort of Administrator-General, although I am definitely not meant to act as one," he said.

He has little faith in the concept of turning Walvis Bay into a duty-free port, on the grounds that SWA/Namibia does not have the infrastructure to warrant it.

"I would say the political uncertainty in the territory is largely to blame for most of the problems we have here," he adds.

This uncertainty is considered by many to be a major stumbling-block to progress in the community, leaving the community in the throes of an identity crisis.

Administratively, the 1 100 km territory is part of South Africa—the Group Areas Act is enforced along with the other laws of segregation — while 35 km north, in the town of Swakopmund, discrimination has been officially scrapped as part of the SWA/Namibian administration. But economically Walvis Bay is almost totally dependent on SWA/Namibia, while politically it is included in the Green Point constituency.

A measure of what most residents feel about the General Election can be found in the fact that hardly more than 60 people have attended any of the political meetings held in the town.

"I think many people prefer to see themselves as South West Africans (Namibians), although they are secretly glad of the security that membership of South Africa affords," said an hotellier, who asked not to be named.

One of those who blames the South African Government for some of the enclave's problems is Mr Vaughan Webster, a former town councillor and businessman.

"The housing crisis began even before the fishing industry collapsed. It was caused by the welfare state policies of the SA Government which, under the Odendaal plan lent money at low interest to the municipality even though we didn't have a housing crisis at the time.

"As a result many people gave up their rentals and bought in the new suburb out of town. This left many empty houses and when the fishing industry collapsed it only aggravated the problem."

What is his solution to the current development problems of Walvis Bay?

"The day of the non-worker in this town is over. You can't sit back and wait for business to come — it used to be like that but now you have to get stuck in and make things happen."

S WITH SA

Cape of Good Hope colony, becoming part of the Union of South Africa.

● December 17, 1920 — South Africa receives League of Nations mandate to administer South West Africa "as an integral portion" of its own territory.

● 1922 — The South West Africa Affairs Act reaffirms Walvis Bay as part of the Cape Province.

● September 1, 1977 — Proclamation R202 declares it "expedient and desirable again to administer and legislate for the port and settlement" of Walvis Bay as part of the Cape Province.

FISHING PROFITS SINK

THE Seaswa group reports net profit of R1,48-million for the year to December — less than half the previous year's figure and the lowest for 10 years.

After deduction of preference dividends, earnings dropped to 33c (970c) a share.

Mr A Shapiro, chairman, says the further decline in the pelagic catch and a drop in profits from the Luderitz operations were the main causes for the fall.

● **Lamberts Bay Holdings** experienced a 30 percent drop in net profit to R4,25-million in the year to December, the chairman, Mr R L Frankel, says in the annual report.

He attributes the drop to the fall in canned fish production and reduced rock lobster catches at Luderitz, together with other factors.

Shannon Sherry

Drowning: Police inquiry nears end

Staff Reporter

THE police will submit a docket to the Attorney-General this week in connection with the drowning of a Hout Bay fisherman who was allegedly cast adrift without oars by an inspector of the Division of Sea Fisheries in March this year.

The Deputy Divisional CI chief for the Western Cape, Colonel Willem van der Merwe, said yesterday that police investigations into the drowning were nearly complete and a docket would be submitted to the Attorney-General's office "within the course of the week".

The Attorney-General, Mr D J Rossouw, will then decide whether anyone will be prosecuted.

The fisherman, Mr Mogamat "Dienie" October, 21, drowned off the Sentinel near Hout Bay after he and his brother, Ibrahim, 28, were allegedly cast adrift in their oarless dinghy by an inspector of the Division of Sea Fisheries operating from a dolphin-catching boat.

According to Mr Ibrahim October, he and his brother were arrested by the inspector for allegedly poaching crayfish.

Sinking dinghy

The inspector then confiscated their dinghy's oars, towed them out to sea and cast them adrift off Chapman's Peak. Mr October managed to cling to the sinking dinghy, but his brother drowned.

The chief inspector of the Division of Sea Fisheries, Mr James van Langelaar, said yesterday his department had completed an internal inquiry, but was awaiting the outcome of the police investigation before taking steps.

Fishy way round the snoek law

3 Fishing Argus 22/5/81

— Environment Reporter

THOUSANDS of under-size snoek are being landed by boats operating from Stompneus Bay and fishermen are avoiding prosecution by cutting off the heads and tails.

An anonymous telephone caller, who said he was a fisherman from Stompneus Bay told The Argus boats were catching up to 1 000 snoek each — all under-size, and there was nothing the Sea Fisheries could do to stop it. The fishermen, he said, were cutting off the heads and tails as the fish were caught. This meant the fish could not be measured and no prosecutions could be brought for under-size fish.

A Sea Fisheries spokesman confirmed that this was happening and said a team had visited Stompneus Bay and the Paternoster area this week to try to find out just what was going on.

The Argus was told that under-size snoek were selling for about 45 cents each. They were being smoked.

Crayfish regulations state that crayfish must be landed whole but there is apparently no such regulation governing snoek.

'A lot of the chaps feel that we are wiping out next year's catches by taking these small-bite' one fisherman said. 'But the problem is no one is going to stand around and watch everyone else making money hand-over-fist. So just about everybody gets in on the act.'

Lamberts flush with cash —chairman

LAMBERTS Bay Holdings was in the enviable position of having a substantial supply of cash and near cash and was looking for new investments outside the fishing industry, the chairman, Mr R Frankel, told shareholders at the annual meeting today.

He said, however, the company would concentrate on maintaining its leading position in the fishing industry. This year's catch had so far been promising.

'The oil content of our pelagic catch has been better than last year, and although our rock lobster quotas have taken longer to fulfil, the higher dollar exchange rate has offset that to a large extent.'

He was confident the company would do as well in the coming year as it had done in the previous one.

TAKE TIME

Though the company was looking for new investments this was 'not as easy as it looks' and could take time. In the meantime shareholders would be earning much better interest on their money than last year.

At the subsequent annual meeting of United Oceana, the holding company, a shareholder, Mr Issy Goldberg, questioned the need for holding excess cash in the holding compauy and said it would be a 'fine gesture' if a higher dividend was paid.

Another shareholder complained that the 13c dividend did not even compensate for the current rate of inflation.

Mr Frankel said he was confident of a good year ahead and said the company was hoping to be able to increase the dividends in excess of the inflation rate.

Vincent Leroux

Few snoek and no security for fishermen

Argus 19/6/81

Report:
Johann Potgieter

Pictures:
Dana le Roux

3 fishing



MR BERTIE VAN DER WALT, 42, is one of the most striking personalities on the Stompneus Bay quay. He went out in a small boat at 6.30 am on Monday, and returned with one of the best catches.



MR DICKEY Goosen, 55: 'A co-operative would protect the ordinary fisherman . . .'



MR Cassiem Emandien, 42, skipper of the Jerry: 'The worst snoek season in 20 years I've been on the sea . . .'

WEST Coast line fishermen have called for a neutral fishermen's co-operative to 'regularise' the snoek industry and to protect both the fishermen and the public.

Proponents of the idea argue that this is the only way in which the ordinary fishherman can be protected from seasonal fluctuations and their cut-throat relationship with boat owners and fish hawkers.

Last week the attention of virtually the entire snoek industry shifted to Stompneus Bay in St Helena Bay, as a limited snoek run began offering the prospect of an improvement in what has been dubbed 'the worst snoek season in 20 years.'

HAWKERS

Boats from Kalk Bay, Hout Bay, and other southern fishing harbours converged on Stompneus, and city fish hawkers drive there every day to buy fish at the Sandy Point quay.

One of the hawkers at Stompneus on Monday this week, Mr Abraham Joshua, of Windermere, said this was the first year that hawkers had to drive so far to find fish.

'Usually, if we can't find fish at Kalk Bay or Hout Bay, we'll drive to Sandbaai or Oudekraal, and the petrol will cost us maybe R5 a day,' he said.

'Now there's nothing there, and it costs R39 to bring the truck up here and back. Sometimes we have to sleep in our cars two nights.

'Where's the wear and tear? Where's the food? Where's the money for the boys?'

CALLING

One of the Kalk Bay fishermen who has not yet managed to get to Stompneus is Mr Gertjie Adendoff 37.

'I've been on the boats for 11 years. Fishing is my calling.



'DAAR'S 'N POND!' (There's a pound) has been the opening bid by snoek fishermen this season. Most line fishermen from Kalk Bay are fishing at Stompneus Bay in the hope of reversing what began as a very bad snoek season.

'I've never worked for a boss and I know fishing from Kalk Bay to Walvis,' he said.

'Me, Karate, Chops, Grootbrood, Boeta . . . we've just been waiting. The boats scratch here and scratch there, but the fishing is bad.'

Mr Adendoff's wife — he calls her 'my kind' — has told him to stay home and forget about fishing but he still waits at the Kalk Bay quay every day.

'She says she gives me R3 every day, and every day I come back with R2 or less.

'Train fare, hooks, lines, bait. Three of us will buy a box of sardine bait for R4.50 and then maybe you get one snoek or nothing.'

Last Thursday, Mr Adendorff watched the Taj Mahal and the Jerry head out into False Bay for the 18-hour run to Stompneus, each with a full crew.

The wind was north-westerly and the two boats, Mr Adendorff said, would 'shake around' once they rounded the point. But at least they were going to the fish.

The boat's skipper, Mr Cassiem Emandien, 42, said the crew would stay indefinitely, or at least until the snoek ran out.

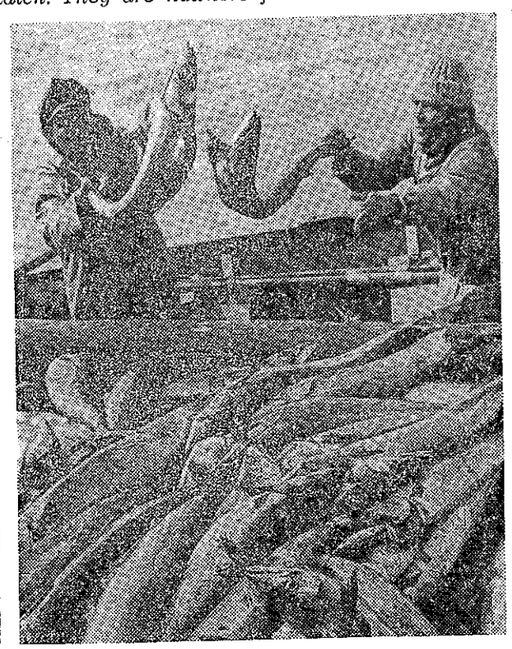
CONTINUED . . .

Argus 19/6/81

S fishing



FOR TWO DAYS this week Miss Nabeweya Keyhamdien, 24, and her three companions waited for 'the right price' at Stompneus Bay. They slept in the bakkie, and Miss Keyhamdien cooked in the back. Getting ready for lunch are (from left), Mr Harrol Damonds, 22, Mr Anthony Brits, 24, Mr John Mannellepie, 25, and Miss Keyhamdien. They are hawkers from Retreat.



PAYS OWNER

A line fisherman is, in effect, a paying passenger on a snoek boat. He must, normally, supply his own tackle and bait and pays the boat owner either half or a third of his earnings.

On Monday prices at the Stompneus quay averaged about R3 a fish and for most fishermen it was a good day.

The three men on the dinghy-sized Blinkpens, for example, landed 91 snoek which were bought by a Grassy Park hawker for R3 each.

The skipper, Mr James Adams, 46, owns the boat and he had caught 40 of the fish. As boat owner he also claimed half of the earnings of his crewmen, Mr Joseph Williams and Mr Joseph Cornelissen.

EARNED R198

This means that Mr Adams, in about seven hours' work, earned R196 — R120 from his own fish, and R76 from the remainder. He paid the R13 fuel bill and the crew each earned R38.

Crew on the Taj Mahal pay their owner 35 percent of their earnings — the usual system in Kalk Bay, but rare in St Helena Bay — and on Monday they landed 150 fish, which were sold for R2,90 each.

On average the 15-man crew earned about R16 each.

The Kalk Bay fishermen keep to themselves.

As the Jerry approaches the quay buyers and bystanders tell one another 'the Kalkbaaiers know their fishing', and the bidding is brisk.

IMPORTANT

'Every snoek is important. It must pay for the five months the other side of July when there's no fishing for most of the crew.'

In the second half of the year the Jerry goes crayfishing, skippered by its owner and with a small six-man crew.

As skipper, Mr Emandien is entitled to the full share of all the fish he personally catches and most other skippers also receive a commission from their boats' owners.

Both the Jerry and the Taj Mahal are back in Stompneus by 3 pm on most days and after selling their fish the vessels are moored beside a trawler quay.

The crew will walk, or play cards, or prepare tackle and worry about tomorrow.

PRICE RISES

Once the fishermen have sold their snoek to the hawkers of the Cape Flats, the price starts climbing.

The huge petrol bill plays part; so does the risk of overloading the bakkie and running up a R25 fine from the traffic police.

Hawkers at Stompneus on Monday claimed they would resell a R3 snoek for 'R3,50 at most' in the streets of Cape Town, since the public was 'not prepared to pay more.'

Fishermen, however, were sceptical about such modest claims.

Mr Dickey Goosen, 55, said it was more likely the people of Cape Town would pay R6 for a 'R3 snoek.'

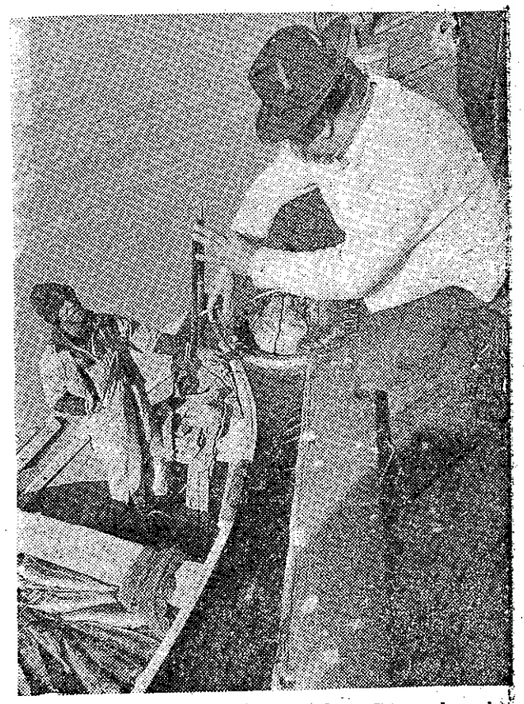
37 YEARS

Mr Goosen has spent 37 years on the sea — 22 off Kalk Bay, and the last 15 in St Helena Bay — and believes that a fisherman's co-operative can help fishermen survive better in the highly erratic snoek market.

'If there is a controlled price then we get a little bit of security and the public gets a better price. A co-operative can be a place where we sell and the hawker buys.

'The boat owner has security; the hawker has security.

'As it stands now we have none.'



MR LIONEL CANE, right, of Elsies River, haggles with a reluctant Mr Gerald Cloete. Mr Cloete refused to sell his 11 snoek for less than R6 each. He claimed a Cape Town dealer had offered him R6. Mr Cane offered R3 each.

'SWA plants may can again soon'

27/6/81 20m 3(fish)

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — The South West African fishing industry at Walvis Bay which has been hit hard by a sharp decline in the pilchard resource may resume canning next year.

This was the encouraging news Kaap Kunene's chairman, Mr A P Du Preez, brought to the annual meeting in Cape Town.

Emphasising that it was a personal opinion he told shareholders that he was most optimistic on the outlook. Large shoals of mature pilchards had been sighted off the coast recently.

Strict conservation measures have been in force for the past few seasons to allow pilchards stocks to recover from the huge fishing effort of recent years. As a result of the virtual disappearnce of the fish canning plants were closed and staff retrenched.

Kaap Kunene is one of the South African groups who as a result shipped plant from South West to Chile where a joint canning-fishing operation is being launched with local interests.

Mr Du Preez said that in spite of the new Chilean operation the South West African industry had sufficient plant on hand to process the catch.

If the recovery in the pilchard stock continued — and no doubt extreme caution was called for in assesssing future prospects at this stage — the resumption of canning would be a major boost to Walvis Bay in job opportunities alone. It could also lead to a re-rating of fishing shares which were standing on very high yields.

Anchovy catches had been excellent and the industry was hopeful that increased quotas might be announced soon.

Kaap Kunene's fleet had completed its quota at St Helena Bay and Mr Du Preez said the operation had been successful and yielded better results than last year.

At Luderitz intensive steps were being taken to improve profitability of the rock lobster industry.

Higher production costs, lower catches and declining world prices had squeezed profits the past year, but Mr De Preez said the prices in Japan were now rising again and this coupled with the outstanding quality of the South West African product augurs well for next year.

Kaap Kunene's dividend should be at least maintained at 15c he told the meeting and an announcement will be made in September.

Apart from fishing and investments in Suiderland and Diroyal, Kaap Kunene is involved in poultry farming, building and beef production.

The poultry farming should give better yields this year and the building operations in Port Elizabeth and East London were performing well. Some cattle farms in South West Africa had been sold at a profit and new farms had been purchased near Gobabis which the group considers to be the best beef farming area in SWA.

Although a growing percentage of profits was being derived from non-fishing sources the group had no plans as yet to transfer the listing to the industrial holding section.

APPENDIX II. (Cont.) HOMELAND PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS -45-

HOSPITAL	BED CAPA-CITY	INPA-TIENTS	AD-MISS-IONS	DIS-CHAR-GES	TRISTS) TORS	PA-TIENT RATIO	(QUALI-FIED) NURSES	PA-TIENT RATIO	VISITS	OUTPATIENTS COM-MUN-ITY SIS-TERS	COMMENTS
UMZIMKULU	250	250	272	22	3(O)	1:80	72(45)	1:3	-	-	The hospital was only opened in 1976. It plans to accommo-

STATE:

HOSPITAL	OPENED/ FOUNDED	COMMENTS
UMGENI WATERFALL	1949	-
CULLINAN	1974	-
STERKFONTEIN	1943	38 clinics operated under Sterkfontein's control. For most of the second half of 1976, the majority of the clinics ceased functioning due to the Rand Riots.
WESKOPPIES	1892	1967 Lamont Report particularly critical of Weskoppies.
WITRAND	1923	-

-44-

Crayfish catchers tot up quotas

COMMERCIAL crayfish catchers have wound up their first season under the self-imposed regulations introduced to conserve sources and are working out whether or not they filled their quotas.

Operators introduced regulations this season which restricted their boats to certain areas . . . an attempt to stamp out the free-for-all system that has operated in previous years.

The manager of the Cape Lobster Exporting Association, Mr J Croukamp, said that all six quota holders which fell under his jurisdiction had filled the global quota of 400 tons.

SELL PORTION

'We deal only in whole fish and a quota holder can 'sell' a portion of his quota to another quota holder provided the global mark is not overstepped,' he said.

Most of the lucrative crayfishing business, however, is handled by the South African Frozen Rock Lobster Corporation, a marketing body which represents 23 individual quota holders who were allowed to produce 281 000 5 kg boxes of tails this season which closed at midnight.

The chairman of Safroc, Mr Pat O'Sullivan, said it was impossible at this stage, so soon after the closing of the season, to say whether or not the quota had been met.

LEAN TIME

'Places like Port Nolloth and Luderitz have been going through a comparatively lean time . . . but it's quite possible that the global quota of 1 400 tons of tails has been filled,' he said.

Sea Fisheries officials pooh-poohed claims that the country's crayfish resources were drying up.

'We had a similar incident a few years ago when poor pelagic catches led to similar outcries



Huge foreign fleets netting R250m fish harvest off SWA

By PAUL DOLD
Financial Editor

INTENSIVE fishing by foreign fleets is being observed off the SWA/Namibian coast, an Ovenstone director, Mr John Newman, told the annual meeting in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr Newman, who is one of the country's leading fishing industry authorities, said that fleets from more than eight countries are active in the area .

"In January alone there were some 164 foreign vessels operating off South West Africa."

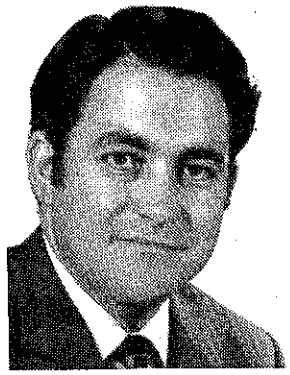
South West African fishing groups are most concerned with the current situation. An industry source told me this week that the foreign fleets were probably netting an annual catch worth R250m — R300m a year.

The fleets are, on the whole, operating beyond the 25km fishing zone ruled out of bounds to foreigners by the 14-nation International Convention for South East Atlantic Fisheries.

However, some fleets are said to be slipping into the 25km area under cover of darkness. Estimates on the degree of poaching seems to vary from group to group with the chairman of one large company taking the view that the new Icseaf agreement is working well with most countries co-operating while others say there is tremendous poaching.

Fishing groups are worried about the activities of mid-water foreign trawlers. If these trawlers enter shallow waters they catch everything with their 60mm mesh hake nets and their speed further decreases the mesh size. The area is being actively patrolled by representatives of Icseaf.

Industry sources say Eastern European vessels — not the Russians — are the worst offenders. Some of the vessels are large, ranging up to 5 000 tons, and have combined freezing and other processing operations.



Mr Andrew Ovenstone

A settlement of the SWA issue would allow for a far wider limit of around 200km. This area would then have to be actively policed.

The poaching is taking place at a time when the local fishing industry has agreed to limit pilchard catches to protect the resource.

In addition, the industry has closed more than half of the traditional fishing grounds. There has also been excellent co-operation between government, scientists and the industry.

This has already had a beneficial effect and Ovenstone chairman, Mr Andrew Ovenstone, told the agm that limited canning may be resumed next year or the following year.

His statement backed up those of Kaap Kunene chairman, Mr A P Du Preez, who said recently he believed the resource was recovering and a resumption of canning was likely. Large shoals of mature pilchards have been sighted in South West African waters.

The previous decline in the stock was due to a combination of over fishing, climatic conditions and poor spawning. This led to the vast canning industry at Walvis Bay closing down and several plants were shipped to Chile where joint fishing and canning operations have been launched with Chilean interests.

At its peak the SWA industry canned output was worth around R100m a year.

and the period of exposure likely to cause pneumoconiosis exists. The relative toxity of a series of dust particles has been worked out experimentally, but can serve only as a guide.

In some cases, standards determined by international organisations are applied in South Africa, but the Commission points out that the formulation of standards and threshold values for industries requires the greatest accuracy and care, not only for the protection of the worker and
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Chapter XXI. Sanction

Commission recommends that industrial courts not be created. Existing legislation deals adequately with health and safety. The maximum threshold values for different substances should only serve as guides; thus litigations and prosecutions will be largely eliminated.
The "over-hasty enforcement of sanctions" is seen as unnecessary; rather "advice, persuasion and warnings" should be used. If sentences are necessary for contraventions of industrial health legislation, they should be as "constructive" as possible - i.e. suspended sentences.
The industrialist should have the right of appeal. A system of licensing should be introduced to promote industrial health. The issue of a permit or licence can be refused/withdrawn if certain

Poaching threat to pilchards —Ovenstone

Argus 4/7/81

3 fishing

A TREMENDOUS amount of poaching by foreign trawlers is still going on off the West Coast and constitutes a serious threat to the future recovery of the pilchard industry — at a time when it at last appears to be recovering.

This point was made at the anual meeting in Cape Town of Ovenstone Investments yesterday by the chairman, Mr Andrew Ovenstone, who said that in January alone a total of 164 foreign vessels, from about nine countries, were spotted in SWA waters.

The Air Force and Navy actively patrol the area but their hands are partly tied by the fact that SWA has no deep sea fishing zone as most other countries have.'

Mr Ovenstone was still optismistic, however, that the pilchard industry was on its way to recovery and that the company would begin to show improved profits in this area in the near future. The year after next the canning industry should be on its way again,' he said.

NEW QUOTA

Asked whether the new quota recommendations contained in the recent report of the Commission of Inquiry into Marine Conservation, would, if implemented, affect fishing profits, Mr Ovenstone said he did not think so.'

The company had not accepted all of the recommendations made by the commission and it had given evidence to the commission on this aspect.

For the first time non-fishing interests contributed more to group profits than did the traditional fishing activities.

Fishing represented 41 percent of income before tax and interest in the year to February while property, construction, house-building and investments represented 59 percent.

PREMIER GROUP

In reply to a question from a shareholder, Mr Ovenstone said Ovenstone Investments was not controlled by Premier Group but that Ovenstone's objectives were discussed with Premier and set jointly.

He denied the possibility of any takeover of the company by Premier.

Early last year a minority interest in Ovenstone, acquired by Premier through the market, was pooled with the shares controlled, directly and indirectly, by the Ovenstone family.

Vincent Leroux

conditions pertaining to industrial health are not complied with. But licensing should be applied selectively. Licensing is necessary for control of factories, storage of hazardous substances and chemcials, hazardous processes and industrial activities.

Chapter XXII: Trained Staff Required for the Successful Promotion & Chapter XXIII: of Industrial Health.

If the Department of Health is to carry out its new functions with respect to industrial health, it is clear that trained industrial
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authority, there should be one principal Act called the Industrial Health Act. This should contain a main theme on general principles of industrial health. The tenor should be 'constructive', rather than 'prohibitive'. The objects of the Act would be to provide for the health of workers in industry; to protect persons other than industrial workers against health hazards arising from industrial activity; for control over storage, transportation and use of explosives and other hazardous substances.
The Industrial Health Act would cover all workers in industry who would otherwise not be covered by other specific provisions in Act. Its general duties would be the initial cornerstone of inspection work. The general duties of employers would be to protect "as far

QUANTITY SURVEYING

(Continued)

Bell-John Prize

For the best all-round student in any year of study.

P C Key

The Committee of the Western Cape Chapter of Quantity Surveyors' Prize

For the student obtaining the highest marks in Professional Practice.

P R Swift

LTA Prizes

For the best student in each of the courses of Building Economics I, II and III in the third, fourth & fifth years respectively.

I : N D G Sessions

II : A R Low Keen

URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING

Ovenstone optimistic on Chilean fishing

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — Mr Andrew Ovenstone, the chairman of Ovenstone Investments, is optimistic on the outlook this year with higher profits expected from the non-fishing interests in spite of increasing interest rates while the Chilean fishing project has major potential.

He was closely questioned at the 1½ hour annual meeting in Cape Town on the relationship with the Premier Group, which has a major stake in Oil.

Mr Ovenstone said Oil was controlled jointly with Premier through Ovenstone Consolidated Investments.

There was close consultation particularly on marketing policy regarding the sale of products from Oil's overseas interests.

"We have not embarked on any joint projects at this stage," he added. He denied that Premier controlled Ovenstone and tended to rule out market speculation that Premier would make an offer for the rest of the equity.

One shareholder asked him why Premier's chairman, Mr Tony Bloom, had not attended the annual meeting this year or last year and Mr Ovenstone stressed that Mr Bloom in fact regularly attended board meetings.

Oil has completed its South African pelagic fishing quota and he expected the industry's results to be better than last year. The Lobster quota at Port Nolloth had not been completed but this was a relatively small part of the group's business.

The group has high expectations from its investment in the Chilean fishing industry. Ovenstone says it has great potential. Catches have been good but it was not as simple to convert catches into profit as in South Africa. This was due to the different cost structure, currency and interest rate movements. In addition Chilean exports were at a disadvantage to Peru as the Peruvian exports enjoyed a government subsidy. Peru however planned to gradually discontinue the subsidy and thus this disadvantage would be eliminated.

Turning to non-fishing activity, the group's construction arm had successfully completed the Pretoria Opera house and profit earned had been in line with expectations. This ambitious scheme had showed that the Group could tackle almost any construction project.

The home building subsidiary, Bellandia, has had a very successful year and is expected to prosper again this year in spite of the tightening of building society finance. Oil has arranged the necessary lines of finance.

The overall tone of the meeting was one of optimism with the group having successfully customed profits from the sharp fall in SWA fishing profits which in previous years have produced some R3m pretax. The group's fishing operations were now highly diversified.

While non-fishing income is growing a pilchard recovery and resumption of canning in South West Africa — Namibia would have a dramatic bullish impact on profits.

CRAYFISH DISASTER PREDICTED

Argus 8/7/81 (3 fishup)



Dr Jan Lochner

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — The poor crayfish haul in the Cape during the past season was a clear sign that this industry is heading for disaster through abuse, says the man who more than a decade ago predicted the collapse of the Walvis Bay fishing industry.

Dr Jan Lochner, formerly of the department of oceanographic research at the University of Port Elizabeth, said: 'This situation is no surprise to me.'

This resource was being ruined as had happened in Luderitz with crayfish and with the pelagic fish resources in South West Africa, he said.

The problem was simply that too many crayfish had been caught in the past. Catches exceeded the critical level at which reproduction numbers were no longer greater than the catches — the point at which collapse set in.

Too high

The quotas had been set too high, with the result that catches would soon hit rock bottom.

'The authorities would again do something constructive to save the resource only now that breaking point had been reached,' Dr Lochner said. 'It is high time the subject was thoroughly studied to establish a safe limit of exploitation.'

Dr Lochner has studied pelagic fish resources, and he believes crayfish can be studied in the same way.

Fishing was being incorrectly exploited in South Africa, but at a far lower level than that which had

(Continued on Page 3, col 6)

Snoek unlikely to be depleted

SNOEK are mysterious fish. Nobody knows much about them but scientists and fishermen said today they doubted whether the new all-year snoeking season would have much effect on snoek stocks generally.

Following several years of poor catches, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Piet du Plessis, announced in Pretoria yesterday that the traditional closing of the snoek season from August to November would be done away with.

Now line fishermen would be able to catch snoek all through the year.

Trawlers, however, have always been allowed to take snoek throughout the year because it is obviously impossible to fish selectively with trawl nets.

The deputy director of Sea Fisheries, Dr Louis

(Continued on Page 3, col 6)

Argus 8/7/81 3fishup

Crayfish

(Continued from Page 1)

brought disaster in South West Africa.

But trawlers here were catching only one-third of what they could produce, because of wrong methods.

The problem was mainly that the catching season was wrong, because it started in mid-year, when immature fish had just joined the shoals of 'adults.'

The peak of this 'recruitment period' was at the end of March.

At present 9½ percent of immature anchovies were being caught before they had a chance to reproduce.

Dr Lochner has, in the past decade, been subjected to a barrage of criticism and his methods were regarded by many as outlandish. To make his fateful predictions he used 'formulae based on research for developing guided missiles.

Quotas full

Mr Abe Shapiro, the chairman of the South African Frozen Rocklobster Corporation, denied Dr Lochner's claims of a 'poor season' and said that the total quota of tails had been packed well within the permissible period.

'All quota holders — excepting two small packers who have a small quota at Port Nolloth — filled their quotas well before the season closed,' he said.

The manager of the Cape Lobster Exporting Association, Mr J Croukamp, said that holders of quotas for whole fish had also filled the global quota of 400 tons.

Argus 8/7/81

Snoek 3 foling

(Continued from Page 1)

Botha, said today he did not think that the extended season would have any serious effects on snoek stocks.

'The measure has been taken to stop the discrimination against line fishermen.

'You would have the position where a line fisherman would stand on his boat with his hands tied behind his back watching a big trawler go by with a deckful of snoek.'

NO REASONS

There were no biological reasons for a closed season.

Marine biologist Professor John Grindley said he did not know whether the extended season would make a difference to the snoek stocks.

'I am anxious about it. We have so many examples of sad overutilisation to bear in mind that yet another concession makes me anxious.

'We have to be very careful when it comes to relaxing any controls.'

SOME TIME

The director of a snoek smoking company, Mr Bernard Zive, believes the effect of the extended season on the market would not be known until it had been in operation for some time.

The move would affect mainly the line fishermen.

'The months August to November are poor fishing months for line fishermen. There are times during these months when the only thing hey can catch economically is snock.

'While they were barred from fishing snoek then, they had very, very lean months.'

Snoek may be caught throughout the year

CT 9/7/81 3 Fishing

Staff Reporter

RESTRICTIONS on fishing snoek with handlines have been removed, and the fish may now be caught all year, in terms of an announcement by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Hendrik Schoeman.

The deputy director of the Sea Fisheries Institute, Dr Louis Botha, said yesterday that the decision to lift the restriction on snoek fishing between August and November had been taken to do away with the present discrimination against line fishermen.

To date, while line fishermen were not permitted to fish for snoek from August to November, trawlers were not subject to any such restriction because it was impossible to prohibit a trawler from taking up snoek in its nets.

Dr Botha said: "You can imagine how a line fisherman must have felt standing at the breakwater watching the trawlers coming in with snoek, but not being allowed to pull in a few himself."

Inspectors of the Sea Fisheries Institute were monitoring the trawler situation very carefully, and trawlers coming into Cape Town docks were regularly selected at random for checks.

Trawlers were actively discouraged from catching snoek, he said.

Court action against trawlermen who abused the situation could be taken in terms of the Sea Fisheries Act, and a number of such cases had already been heard in Cape Town, Dr Botha said.

● Dr Jan Lochner, formerly of the department of oceanographic research at the University of Port Elizabeth, said in an interview that he did not think the snoek population would be adversely affected by the Minister of Agriculture's decision.

"Wiping out a species with handlines is impossible. However, if the trawlers get stuck into snoek with their nets, they can do serious damage."

Dr Lochner said he was concerned about the snoek around the South African coast because "the people who fish with these large nets do not in fact know what they're doing".

If they kept within limits, there was no problem, but limits were not being adhered to.

Relief for snoek fishermen ... at last

C. Herald 18/7/81 3 fishing

AN announcement last week that restriction on handline fishing for snoek had been removed and that the fish may be caught all year round has brought great relief to local fishermen.

'In former years many fishermen had to leave fishing and take up another job,' a fisherman's wife said. 'This happened because of the discrimination between line fishermen and trawlers. Trawlers could fish throughout the year while the line fishermen could only fish between August and November.

'This brought us great hardships as the only fish that makes fishing worthwhile is snoek. We have long fought against the law prohibiting us from fishing during most of the year as we cannot do more damage to the snoek shoals than the trawlers.

'The answer we were always given was that it was impossible for a trawler fisherman to stop snoek from going into the nets.

'The decision by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has come just in time as this year's season seems as if it is going to be poor.

DECISION

'At least it will mean that the men will bring home something extra during the rest of the year,' she said.

The deputy director of the Sea Fisheries Institute, Dr Louis Botha, said: 'The decision to lift the restriction on snoek fishing between August and November had been taken to do away with the discrimination between line fishermen and trawlers.'



Showing skill ...

ONE of the highlights at the coming snoek derby is going to be a demonstration of flecking, which needs a lot of skill. Our picture shows some fleckers at work.

Argus 29/7/81 (131) 3 Pstlie

PE trawlermen escape after explosion

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Two trawlerman narrowly escaped death yesterday when fleeing from their boat seconds before a gas explosion turned the engineroom into a blaze.

The owner of the boat, Mr Gerrit Botha, was said to be in a satisfactory condition in the Provincial Hospital here today with serious burns to his neck, face, chest and right hand.

The other man, who was working on the boat with him at the time of the blast, Mr Daniel Plaatjies, was not injured.

He said they were welding in the engine room of the trawler, Eros, in the harbour when an acetylene gas bottle fell through a trapdoor into the engine room from the wheelhouse above.

Mr Botha shouted a warning and the two ran.

'We were just off the boat when there was an explosion. Had we been seconds slower, we would have died,' he added.

Mr Botha tried to turn off the welding machine on the quayside dangerously near the flames, and Mr Plaatjies pulled him away . . . but too late to prevent the burns.

The fire was put out by five municipal tenders, assisting a harbour fire tender and a tug spraying water. Damage is said to amount to about R20 000.

A port control spokesman said the trawler was previously from Hout Bay and had not been out of Port Elizabeth harbour yet as she was under repair.

	MONDAY
11.15	8. Introduction to Modern Drama (TJP 9. Beckett, Ionesco (JB) 12. 'Troilus and Criseyde' (NHP)
2.15	1. William Blake (JM 7. Contemporary American Poetry (JMC)
3.15	

Trawlermen say fishing ban will hit workers and bring shortages

Ev. Post 4/8/87

3 fishing

Post Reporter

THE 5½-month ban on inshore trawling could send the price of fresh fish rocketing.

Trawlermen fear foreign trawlers will "break the rules and have a ball" while they wait patiently on the shore.

The ban, which comes into effect at midnight on Wednesday, will leave 450 trawlers, including 10 from Port Elizabeth, idle along the south-east Cape coast.

About 3 000 workers may have to be laid off.

"It's going to affect us tremendously. All fresh fish will go up at least 20c a kilogram and we have to lay off 23 workers," said Mr S Chetty, a trawlerman.

Fortunately, he foresaw the ban and built up a stockpile of fresh fish which will last his retail outlet in Kempston Road three months.

"But we won't have enough and the poor man in the street who relies on cheap fish is going to go hungry," he said.

Another trawlerman, Mr Henry van Niekerk, said he was upset because foreign trawlers were not affected by the ban.

He said they "often poached" within the 60-fathom inshore mark off the East Cape coast.

"My captain has seen them operating less than 12 nautical miles offshore," said Mr Van Niekerk.

Mr Van Niekerk said no officials were allowed to board a foreign trawler and check on their catches, unless the boat was in dock.

"But they transfer all their fish to a factory ship at sea before they enter a harbour," he said.

A spokesman for Irwin and Johnson said six inshore trawlers would be tied up during the ban.

He could not say if any of his company's workers would be laid off.

He said senior officials of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries would meet in Cape Town on Friday to discuss the ban and what action should be taken about foreign trawlers.

A senior spokesman for the department today dismissed the allegations that foreign trawlers operated unchecked at sea as "stupid".

"The trawlermen are just looking for excuses," he said.

	FRIDAY
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	LECTURE
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- 20 -

COMPULSORY SECTION 4

OPTIONS

TERM I : A. PERIOD OPTIONS

1.	William Blake	JM	5
2.	Victorian Poetry	MTB	5
3.	George Eliot and Her Age	VHH	5
4.	Tennyson and Browning	BSL	6
5.	Melville	JMC	6
6.	The Nineteenth Century American Novel	IEG	6
7.	Contemporary American Poetry ...		
8.	Introduction to Modern Drama ...		
9.	Beckett, Ionesco		

B. LANGUAGE AND MEDIEVAL OPTIONS

* 10.	Language and Attitudes.....		
* 11.	The Arthurian Legend		
* 12.	'Troilus and Criseyde'		

- 3 -

TERM II: A. PERIOD OPTIONS

13.	Romantic Poetry		
14.	Four Romantic Poets		
15.	Coleridge and English Romantic Thought of the Nineteenth Century		
16.	Charles Dickens		
17.	The Novels of Thomas Hardy		
18.	The Problem Self:Dilemmas for Romantics		
19.	Conrad and James		
20.	W.B. Yeats		
21.	D.H.Lawrence: Creativity and Corruption		
22.	T. S. Eliot		
23.	Modern Poetry: Eliot & Lawrence	EJB	13
24.	The Poetry of Frost & Dickinson	RK&NF	14
25.	Twentieth Century English Poetry	MMC	14
26.	Contemporary British Poetry ...	IEG	15
27.	Modern British Drama	MMC	16
28.	Saul Bellow	IEG	16

Fishing ban will cause misery

Waiting to be laid o



By LLOYD BODILL

FOR hundreds of fisherfolk the 5½-month ban on inshore trawling, effective from midnight tonight, is a disaster. Few know where their next meal is coming from.

The ban affects scores of families along the entire Cape coast who rely either directly or indirectly on the profits of a once profitable industry.

In Port Elizabeth about 50 workers will be laid off by trawlermen whose boats will be tied up until the new year.

Some of those spoken to yesterday were desperately worried about the future.

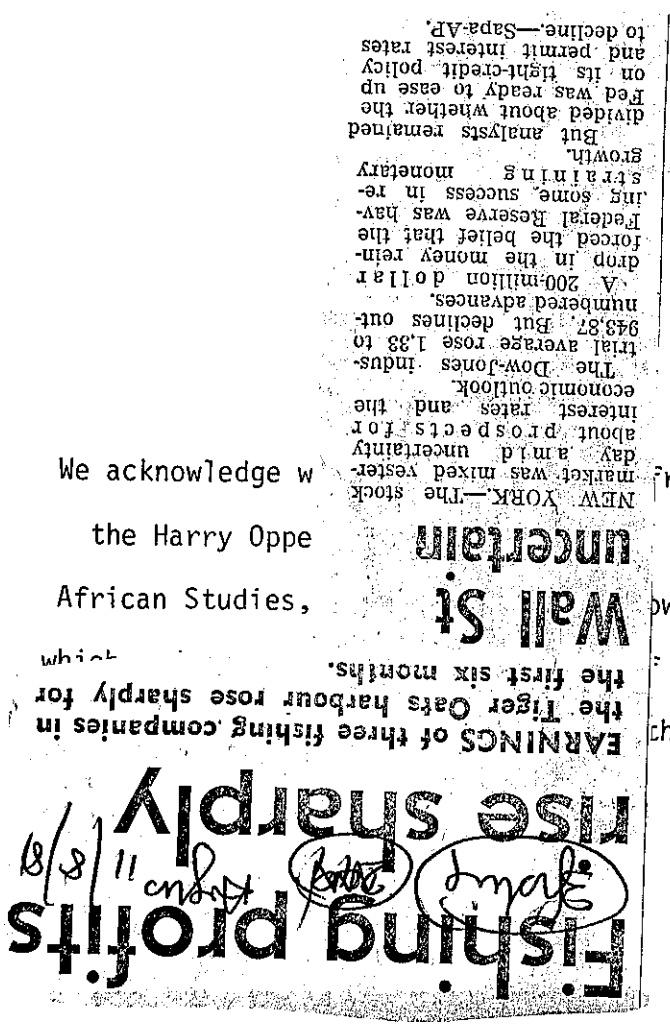
A New Brighton mother of three, Mrs Gladys Lali, wanted to know how "we can tell our families we have no work and no money to buy bread." She is employed by local trawlerman Mr S Chetty.

She supports her children without help from her husband.

"I don't know how I'm going to pay for their schooling," she said tearfully.

Another worker, Mrs

ISBN 0 7992 0421 8



Fishing profits rise sharply

EARNINGS of three fishing companies in the Tiger Oats harbour rose sharply for the first six months.

Wall St uncertain

NEW YORK.—The stock market was mixed yesterday amid uncertainty about prospects for interest rates and the economic outlook.

The Dow-Jones industrial average rose 1,33 to 943,87. But declines outnumbered advances.

A 200-million dollar drop in the money reinforced the belief that the Federal Reserve was having some success in restraining monetary growth.

But analysts remained divided about whether the Fed was ready to ease up on its tight-credit policy and permit interest rates to decline.—Sapa-AP.

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Tiger's fishing sees catch revival

Deputy Financial Editor

GOOD anchovy catches enabled the fishing industry to meet its 380 000-ton quota of pelagic fish two months before the end of the 1981 season and gave Tiger's fishing companies a boost in the six months to June.

Improved interest receipts will also have helped Lamberts Bay and Sea Products SWA.

Lamberts Bay, the main profit source, hoisted first half pre-tax profit 23% to R6 259 000 and taxed attributable profit 34% to R3 085 000. Earnings a share were 33% better at 36c (27c).

Holding company United Oceana, whose stake in Lamberts is now 69,4%, reports pre-tax profit up 24% to R6 369 000 and taxed attributable profit up 36% to R2 175 000. Earnings a share were 37,5% ahead at 22c (16c).

Sea Products SWA, owned 52,9% by Lamberts Bay, reports pre-tax profit 21,7% ahead at R1 433 000 and taxed attributable profit 21% better at R915 000.Earnings a share were 22% ahead at 22c (18c).

The chairman, Mr Rudi Frankel, told me Tiger had lifted its interest rates on loans from the fishing companies to higher market-related rates.

Since Lamberts Bay had 39% of total assets and Seaswa 69% of total assets in loans to Tiger, this will have made a big difference to these companies.

The directors warn that because the pool system applies to the fishing company, first-half profits are based on certain estimates. Because most revenue in fishing accrues in the first half and most costs in the second half, profits do not come evenly throughout the year.

A further complication is that the fishing companies, like Tiger, have changed their year-end to February from December and the current reporting period will be for 14 months.

Provided lobster catches are as expected and product prices are held, Lamberts Bay estimates it will earn 62c in the 14 months against 50c last year. Units is looking for 39c (30c) and Seaswa for 40c (33c).

This means Lamberts is forecasting annualised earnings growth of only 6,3%, Units 11,4% and Seaswa 3,9%.

Mr Frankel says fishermen have been heartened by the reappearance of pilchards off the west coast. Plenty of anchovy was left in the water at the end of the season, and he expects better times.

He says fishing company cash holdings, currently lent at building society deposit rates to Tiger, will be redeployed in diversified activities when opportunities arise. He believes opportunities will be more plentiful in the coming downturn. Diversification will not be in food.

COMMENT: The directors warn caution that forecasting is difficult, although most catches have been landed. They have probably chosen to err on the side of caution in their forecasts. Fishing remains risky, but now could be the hour for a turnaround.

Move to split fish quota among boats welcomed

Ev Post 13/8/81

3 fishing

Post Reporter

LOCAL trawlermen have welcomed the move to split next year's fish quota between the 54 registered inshore trawlers operating along the Cape coastline.

Inshore trawlerman, now facing a six-month lay-off from trawling because they have already filled this year's 7 000-ton global quota, may be allowed to fish again soon if they can agree on how to split next year's quota among themselves.

At present the 54 trawlers are entitled to fish for as much of the quota as they like. This led to this year's quota being met within six months.

At a recent meeting of the Fishery Advisory Council (FAC) — which reports directly to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, inshore trawlermen were told that if they split next year's quota, they might be able to go to sea again this year.

"I have been pushing for this for years," said Port Elizabeth trawlerman Mr Bill Rankin.

"Our season for sole starts later here than it does in the Western Cape, so by the time we go to sea the quota is already almost filled."

The early lay-off from fishing this year and last year had prevented East Cape trawlermen from taking advantage of the maasbanker season, which started in October, Mr Rankin said.

"Maasbanker is the chief source of protein for poorer people. We have been trucking the fish from Cape Town to meet demand — which has pushed prices up by nearly 300%," he said.

At his own expense he had travelled to Mossel Bay 14 times to meet officials of the South East Coast Inshore Fishing Association (Secifa) to try to organise a division of the global quota — but without success.

"A harbour quota allocated to the 10 registered trawlers operating in the Eastern Cape would be suitable for local demand and bring down fish prices," he said.

Mr Rankin may travel soon to Mossel Bay where officials of Secifa will try to find a solution to the quota problem. If they do then the FAC will approach the Minister.

Mr G Chetty, co-owner of a trawler, also welcomed the move.

"As long as we all get an equal share. Some guys with bigger boats get a bigger share of the cake," he said.

The chairman of the Port Elizabeth Fish Traders Association, Mr John Greig, regards the splitting of the quota as "the only solution".

"This will give the private trawlerman a chance to stretch his fishing season over the year and prevent a slump in the industry like there was this year," he said.

An estimated 3 000 people could be laid off if the proposed six-month lay-off from inshore trawling is enforced.

DD 19/8/87

Fisheries case postponed

UMTATA — The case against an employee of Transkei Sea Harvest (Pty) Ltd, Mr N. Mbabambato, who is charged with six counts under the Sea Fisheries Regulation Acts, was postponed in the regional magistrate's court here yesterday until August 26.

Mr Mbabambato was not asked to plead, nor were any details of the charges given. — DDR.

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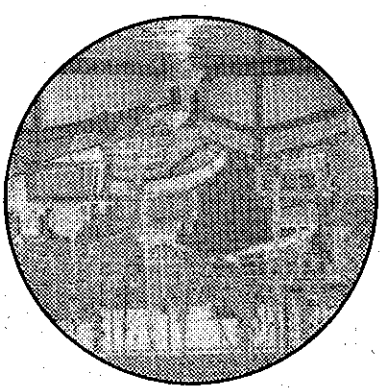


Trawlers lying idle

By BEVIS FAIRBROTHER

SEAS off the

SOUTHEAST coast fishermen have now turned to spying . . . on foreign trawlers they claim are poaching and ravaging their territory.

The irate local fishermen — an entire fleet of 54 trawlers — have been forced to stop work because of a five-month ban on fishing.

But, they claim, foreign trawlers continue to haul in hake and sole virtually unchecked by the authorities.

They claim the foreign trawlers work under cover of darkness and transfer their catch to a mother ship anchored out of reach of authorities.

The fishing ban came into effect recently because the local fleet had already reached their annual global quota.

Decision

This means the trawlers will possibly have to lie idle until January and many of the 3 500 crewmen could lose their jobs.

Negotiations are continuing with the Department of Sea Fisheries to have the quota extended. A decision is expected by the end of the month.

Meanwhile, the local fishermen say they will not sit back and watch foreign trawlers catch their fish.

They keep a constant watch on the coastline and warn any foreign trawler suspected of poaching that they will be reported to the Sea Fisheries immediately.

A case involving two foreign trawlers seen in territorial waters is being investigated by the department.

Two South African Air Force helicopters buzzed the two vessels off Port Elizabeth last week.

They both left for the south and out of the 12-mile limit.

One trawler owner from Mossel Bay, Mr Koos van Kensburg, said he had seen Japanese stern trawlers transferring catches to a reefer ship in the shelter of the bay.

"How do you explain to your crew, who face the threat of being laid off for five months, that these foreign boats are allowed to fish in waters you have had to vacate?"

Meanwhile, the local trawlermen are holding meetings along the coast to find a formula for splitting the global quota among them.

The R11,5-million industry fleet had to tie up earlier this month after filling its hake quota of 7 000t and a sole quota of 900t.

All trawlermen — from East London, Port Elizabeth, Knysna, Mossel Bay, Gansbaai, Hermanus and Hout Bay — are to have a final meeting in Cape Town on August 27.

Splitting

They will then make a decision on splitting the quota.

This decision will be passed on to the Department of Sea Fisheries who will then consider extending the quota for this year. The final decision lies with the Minister.

"There is a good chance we will go back to sea. If we don't, there could be trouble," said a spokesman for the South-East Coast Inshore Fishing Association (Secfia).

Regarding the foreign trawler-situation, he said it was a big problem which seemed to be regarded less and less seriously as it went down the line to Pretoria.

"All we can do is keep making an issue of it and hope somebody will sit up and take notice," he said.

Court told Act invalid

DD 27/8/87

UMTATA — Conservation measures could not be enforced along the Wild Coast because South Africa's Sea Fisheries Act was not valid in Transkei, said counsel for the defence, Mr Peter Rowan, when the case against an employee of Sea Harvest (Pty) Ltd was resumed in the regional court here yesterday.

Mr Rowan assured the court that his client, Mr N. Mbabambato, was not merely taking a technical legal point to side-step the charge under the Sea Fisheries Act, but rather, that the defence regarded it as a duty to raise the issue of the validity of various conservation laws in Transkei.

The court should settle the question of which conservation laws were applicable to Transkei so that tourists, merchants, fishermen and the general public knew where they stood, he said.

The senior regional magistrate, Mr D. B. Muir, ordered that the case be postponed to October 2 after being asked to do so by the prosecutor, Mr David Sankey, to allow the state to consider the defence's submission.

Mr Mbabambato was not asked to plead. — DDR.

DD 28/8/81

Trawlers back at sea soon?

PORT ELIZABETH — It will be "fresh fish as usual" for East Cape housewives soon.

Indications are that the 54 trawlers of the south-east coast inshore fishing fleet will return to sea in the next week.

Trawler owners who met Sea Fisheries Institute officials in Cape Town yesterday have managed to reach consensus on how to split next year's global quota of hake and sole into individual quotas.

In an interview from Cape Town last night, the institute director, Mr George Stander, said the owners' formula on which the split would be based had to be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries for his approval.

Mr Stander said he could not confirm that the trawlers would be returning to sea. — DDC.

Trawlers may be back at sea in fortnight

EP Post 31/8/81

3 fishing

Post Correspondent

MOSSEL BAY — The 54 trawlers confined to harbours on the south-east coast this month may be back at sea within a fortnight.

A ban on further fishing this season by the trawlers was imposed by the Department of Sea Fisheries when the annual quota it allocates was estimated to have been caught by August 5.

However, a remarkable consensus among trawler men on sharing future quotas has now cleared the way for extra quotas for 1981.

The consensus was reached at a meeting of boat owners licensed to operate between Hout Bay and Port Elizabeth.

The meeting was held in Cape Town last Thursday. It was attended by about 20 delegates representing boat owners in Hout Bay, Gansbaai, Hermanus, Mossel Bay, East London and Port Elizabeth.

At earlier "caucus" meetings in each home port, fishermen had thrashed out agreements on a formula which they were prepared to accept as a permanent basis for allocating quotas to each boat.

At Thursday's meeting it took delegates only two hours to agree to the formula and Mr Charles Atkins, of Irwin and Johnson, was elected to convey the formula to the Department of Sea Fisheries.

A spokesman for the industry explained today that boat owners had accepted that their market shares established over the past three years would become fixed percentages for the future — though very poor performers would be granted minimum quotas of 75 tons each.

It now remains to be seen whether the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, will accept the formula. If he does, an undertaking to grant additional quotas for 1981 will presumably be met, allowing idle trawlers to return to sea.

One optimistic spokesman in Mossel Bay (where 35 of the boats are registered) said this might happen as early as September 14.

Snoek catches start to dwindle

Staff Reporter

SNOEK catches are beginning to dwindle after better hauls this year than last, and the price of an average snoek has begun to drop with the quality as the spawning season draws to a close.

A spokesman for the Division of Sea Fisheries said yesterday that although final figures for August were not yet available, fewer snoek were caught than in the previous few months when catches had made up for nearly three-quarters of the 878 000 snoek caught from December last year to July this year.

This was the length of the old snoek season which was abandoned for the first time this year since the 1920s when a limited snoek season was implemented.

The spokesman said that snoek being brought in by the fishermen now were "quite thin, with little oil, difficult to smoke and not so tasty as those caught earlier this year."

This was because the spawning season was drawing to a close and the general condition of the snoek was not so good as a result.

The spokesman said that although the number of snoek being caught now was dropping, prices had also come down as a direct result of their poor condition.

A spokesman at Hout Bay harbour said that only 2 400 snoek had been brought in yesterday and had been sold at an average price of R3.30 to wholesalers and dealers.

The fish had been caught beyond Slangkop towards Cape Point.

Earlier another spokesman said the August catch was expected to be about 100 000. Figures provided by the Sea Fisheries spokesman showed that 314 000 snoek were caught in May, 308 000 in June, and 103 000 in July.

He explained that the reasons why a limited snoek season had been discontinued were the poor catches of past seasons — catches last year were the worst in many years — and the fact that trawlers out at sea caught them all year round anyway.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING

TAXATION AND ESTATE DUTY II - 1981

COURSE OUTLINE/READING LIST - 3rd & 4th QUARTER

	THE INCOME TAX ACT	MEYEROWITZ	ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES	TUTORIALS
for tions s y asing	ss.1 'gross income' definition paras.(g),(h); 11(f),11(g),11(h),12,13, 8(4),8(5).	513 - 524, 765 - 786, 534 - 537, 1423 - 1426	-	T.1319 T.1409 T.1411
VACATION - 5 SEPTEMBER TO 13 SEPTEMBER				
for uisitions ps and ures (briefly) assets and s shares ayable on n	ss.11(a),(i),(j),12,13, 22,22A,24A,103(1),103(2)	The relevant paras. in Chapters 9,11, 12 and 26	-	16.10 T.1051 (b) and (c) T.1401
REVISION				T.1424,T.1425 T.1431,T.1432 T.1525, 14.5 16.7,16.9
EXAMINATION - OCTOBER 1981				

allocating quotas to each boat.

Mr Charles Atkins of Irvin and Johnson conveyed the decision to the Department of Sea Fisheries.

A spokesman for the industry explained today that boat owners had accepted that their market shares over the past three years would be benchmarks for future individual allocations.

EXTRA QUOTAS

It now remains to be seen whether the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, will accept the formula. If he does, it is expected that an undertaking to grant additional quotas for 1981 will allow idle trawlers to return to sea.

Laid-up trawlers may soon fish again

Argus 1/9/81

Argus Correspondent

MOSSEL BAY. — The 54 trawlers confined to harbours on the south-east coast earlier this month may be back at sea within a fortnight.

A ban on further fishing this season by the trawlers was imposed by the Department of Sea Fisheries on August 5 when it estimated that its annual quota was caught.

However, a remarkable consensus among trawler men about sharing future quotas has now cleared the way for an "extra" quota for 1981.

The consensus was reached at a meeting in Cape Town last Thursday of boat owners registered to operate on the south-east coast (between Hout Bay and Port Elizabeth).

About 20 delegates representing boat owners in Hout Bay, Gansbaai and Hermanus, Mossel Bay, East London and Port Elizabeth agreed on a formula which they accepted as a permanent basis for

N.B. THE TUTORIALS REFER TO 'QUESTIONS ON S.A. INCOME TAX 1980' AND THE SOLUTIONS ARE PREPARED ON THE BASIS THAT THE QUESTIONS ARE UPDATED BY ONE YEAR.

Strong lobby to protect fish resources

16/9/81 3 fishing

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Strong pleas for protection of South Africa's fishing resources, and in particular crayfish and perlemoen, were made during the debate on the fisheries portfolio yesterday.

Both government and opposition MPs who served on the Treurnicht Commission of Inquiry into the industry directed appeals to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, to implement the commission's recommendations.

They referred specifically to the finding that nearly all South Africa's most important marine resources were overfished, and some were in great danger of being fished out.

Mr Du Plessis did not reply in detail, but said a white paper setting out the government's position on all the commission's recommendations would be tabled within the next few weeks.

He hoped the introduction of the 200-sea mile limit would improve control and help conserve a valuable resource for future generations.

The Opposition's spokesman on agriculture and fisheries, Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP Wynberg) called for action to stop ever-exploitation of deep-sea fishing resources by foreign vessels.

He also said that exploitation of crayfish and perlemoen resources had reached alarming proportions, with few hotels obtaining their supplies legally.

Mr Myburgh and Mr John Wiley (NP Simon's Town) referred to the commission's recommendation that 25 percent of the crayfish quota and half the perlemoen quota be marketed locally.

Mr Wiley pleaded in particular for cuts in the quotas of large kreef and perlemoen quota holders. He said both these resources were in danger of being wiped out, and it was the large quota holders who had benefitted from over-exploitation.

If there were overall quota cuts, the one group holding the quota for 60 percent of West Coast kreef would benefit as smaller operators would be bought out or be put out of business.

"Quota holders have made millions out of exploiting the product that others — the catchers and the divers — have been forced to sell to them as the sole concession holders.

"Let them too make a sacrifice by selling kreef and perlemoen on the local market at local prices," Mr Wiley said.

He also appealed for increased prices to be paid to catchers and divers, saying a perlemoen diver was paid 95 cents a kilogramme for a product sold at between R14 and R24 in the Far East.

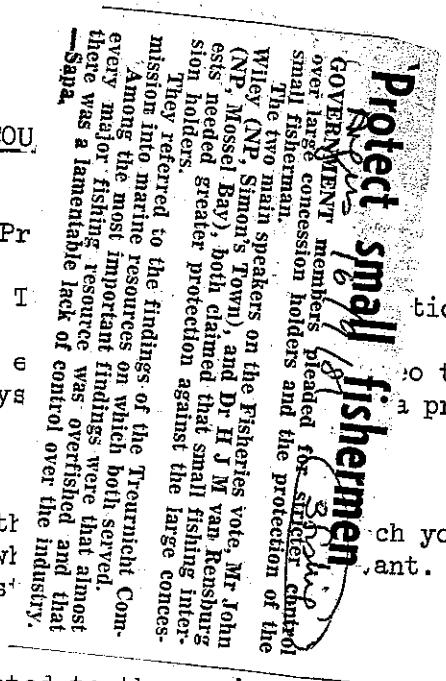
Small crayfishing communities, such as those in Kommetjie and Elands Bay, were being endangered by the large quote holders who "poached" in these traditional areas with huge traps and threatened the living of a community.

Members of the public allowed to catch five crayfish a day were also being driven off their usual catching grounds.

Mr Wiley repeated his appeal to have False Bay closed to purse sein trawlers. He said the bay should be made a marine reserve with limited exploitation rights by recreational and sports fishermen.

"Let there be at least some small area of our huge coastline where the small man and the public of South Africa can be protected against the quota holders," he said.

SOCIOLOGY (INDUSTRIAL): COU



Protect small fishermen

GOVERNMENT members pleaded for stricter control over large concession holders and the protection of the small fisherman.

The two main speakers on the Fisheries vote, Mr John Wiley (NP, Simon's Town), and Dr H J M van Rensburg (NP, Mossel Bay), both claimed that small fishing interests needed greater protection against the large concession holders.

They referred to the findings of the Treurnicht Commission into marine resources on which both served.

Among the most important findings was that almost every major fishing resource was overfished and that there was a lamentable lack of control over the industry.

—Sapa.

SECTION D: Video Research Pr

Simon Burton
Bill Cowan

In a separate book, answer T tions.

12. Briefly describe, and e o techniques as a method of social analys a project that you have participated in.

13. Choose one aspect of th ch you have partici- pated in and outline wh ant. Relate this aspect to other issues s

14. What major issues related to the project were not studied, and why? Discuss the theoretical importance of these issues within the area of study.

SOCIOLOGY (INDUSTRIAL): COURSE II (continued)

SECTION B: Managerial Perspectives on Black Relations in South Africa — Hector Njokweni

In a separate book, answer TWO of the following questions.

5. Should management pay attention to the distinction between the so-called tribal-oriented and western-oriented blacks in industry? Discuss.

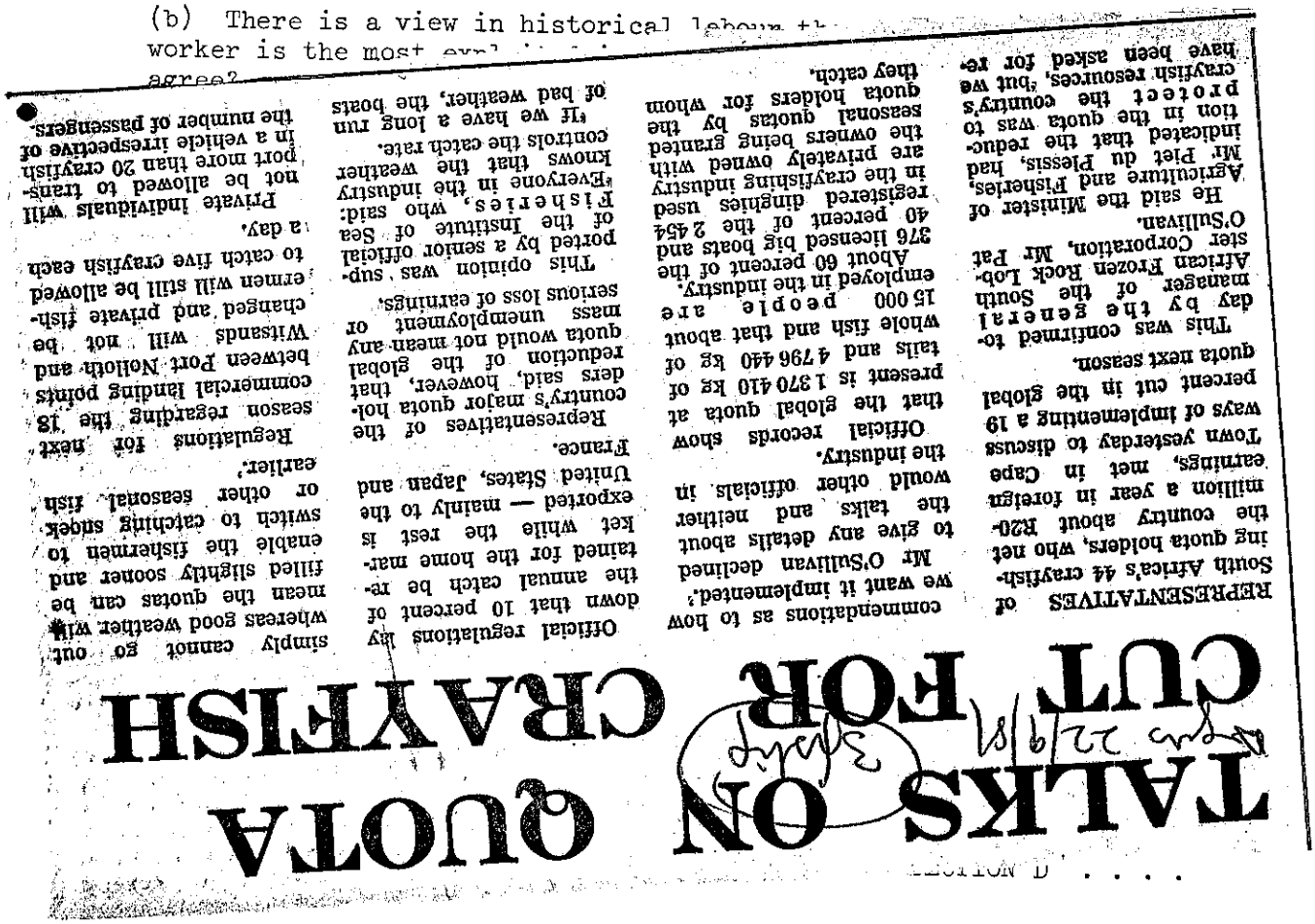
6. Many studies have concentrated on the motivation of workers. How far do they apply to black industrial workers in South Africa?

7. It has often been the view of management that in order to understand the black worker one should employ a black personnel officer. How do you think his role involves conflict between commitment to black workers and to management?

8. (a) 'Conflict seldom arises because the man in the street or the man on the assembly line responds to pressure from agitators. It arises from the nature of the work environment itself and from external factors such as rising expectations.' (Jowell, 1980). How far do you think this applies to South Africa with special reference to recent strikes?

OR

(b) There is a view in historical labour th... worker is the most ex... agree?



TALKS ON QUOTA CUT FOR CRAYFISH

REPRESENTATIVES of South Africa's 44 crayfishing quota holders, who net the country about R20-million a year in foreign earnings, met in Cape Town yesterday to discuss ways of implementing a 19 percent cut in the global quota next season.

This was confirmed today by the General Manager of the South African Frozen Rock Lobster Corporation, Mr Pat O'Sullivan.

He said the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Piet du Plessis, had indicated that the reduction in the quota was to protect the country's crayfish resources, 'but we have been asked for recommendations as to how we want it implemented.'

Mr O'Sullivan declined to give any details about the talks and neither would other officials in the industry.

Official records show that the global quota at present is 1 370 410 kg of tails and 4 796 440 kg of whole fish and that about 15 000 people are employed in the industry.

About 60 percent of the 376 licensed big boats and 40 percent of the 2 454 registered dinghies used in the crayfishing industry are privately owned with the owners being granted seasonal quotas by the quota holders for whom they catch.

Official regulations by the annual catch be reduced down that 10 percent of tained for the home market while the rest is kept exported — mainly to the United States, Japan and France.

Representatives of the country's major quota holders said, however, that reduction of the global quota would not mean any mass unemployment or serious loss of earnings.

This opinion was supported by a senior official of the Institute of Sea Fisheries, who said: 'Everyone in the industry knows that the weather controls the catch rate.

'If we have a long run of bad weather, the boats simply cannot go out whereas good weather will mean the quotas can be filled slightly sooner and enable the fishermen to switch to catching snoek or other seasonal fish earlier.'

Regulations for next season regarding the 13 commercial landing points between Port Nolloth and Witsands will not be changed and private fishermen will still be allowed to catch five crayfish each a day.

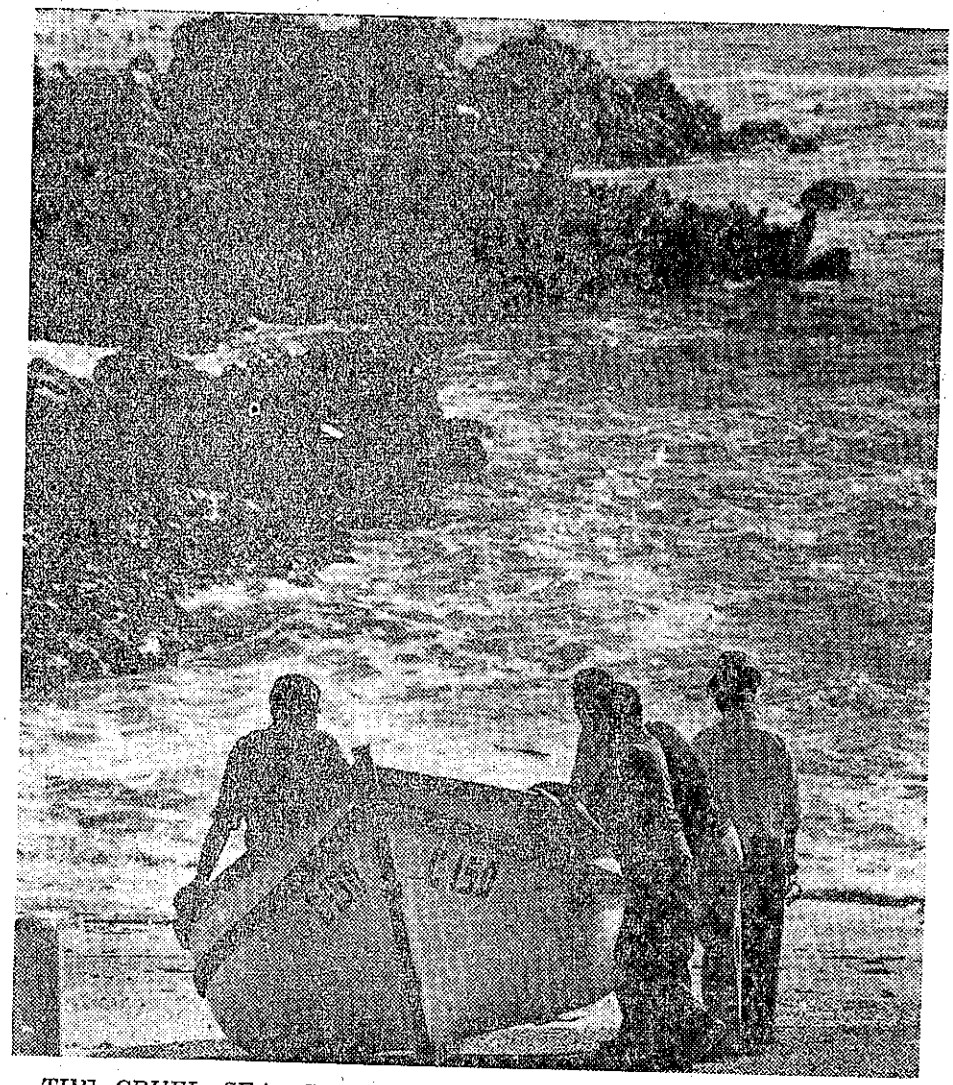
Private individuals will not be allowed to transport more than 20 crayfish in a vehicle irrespective of the number of passengers.

can replenish stocks frequently.
- the firm must be willing to offer assistance to other channel members
ie. training, promoting, credit

POLAND.

Cape perlemoen men risk lives for 'peanuts'

Fishie Argus 24/9/17



THE CRUEL SEA. Conditions for perlemoen diving have been unfavourable for months. But the divers' expenses mount daily.

By Robin Parker

SPARE a thought for the perlemoen diver. He spends three-quarters of his day 20 metres down in icy waters.

Every submerged minute exacts its toll on his health... and he faces the possibility that his life will end prematurely: the victim of a shark, heart attack, or the notorious Cape seas.

And for his strenuous labours all he earns is 95c a kg for the shelled delicacy, while foreign earnings — chiefly from the Oriental market — top R2-million at R25 a kg.

66 MEN

For these men — there are 66 registered divers — the future is bleak. 'As suppliers to a world market their usefulness will extend only as long as the demand requires it.

for 12 years, says: 'In terms of the present framework, the divers find themselves in a cul-de-sac. There exists no pension fund. Licences are not transferable.

(If the holder is unable to continue diving, he may not employ someone to dive for him.)

'And while the quota-holders are being paid R25 a kg overseas, the man who does the hard work is paid 95c and must also bear the expenses.

'All that divers are able to do is eke out a daily living without being able to save anything.'

REALISTIC

The divers unanimously agree that R2 a kg would be a realistic price. 'But the quota-holders band together and decide on a minimal increase annually, and we are powerless to fight them.

'Our lives depend on them.'

PERU

1. Influence of environment on distribution.
2. Major market is industrial goods.
3. Economic development and terrain have affected distribution in Peru - roads are not too good, torrential rains and frequent land= slides often make roads impassable. Mountainous terrain results in the railway system not connecting all major cities.

They face an uncertain future, without a nest egg because of what they term the unreasonable price paid to divers.

The biggest concentration of divers is at Hawston, a small fishing-orientated community an hour's drive from Cape Town.

About 40 make their rather uncertain living from the perlemoen concentration in the waters immediately surrounding the village.

DEBT

Most are beholden through debt — to the factories they supply.

A diver's initial outlay may top R20 000. He requires a four-wheel drive vehicle, a compressor, diving equipment, a boat, outboard motors and labour.

This is only the tip of the financial iceberg.

His daily running costs may top R60, forcing him to spend longer periods underwater, at greater risk to his health, so that he may harvest sufficient perlemoen to offset these.

And as the Western Cape knows, Mother Nature is not always kind.

FOUR MONTHS

Some Hawston divers have not been in the water for four months because of rough seas.

But the men who aid them in their harvesting still have to be paid their daily rate — diving or no diving. So they are forced to borrow from the factories.

Mr Adam Meyer, who has been involved in diving Perlemoen diving was once a lucrative trade.

The men who reaped the benefits lived in large houses and drove the cars of their choice. Now inflation has eaten away their profits.

Stephen Maree, who has dived for a decade, says: 'I have to live in the housing scheme.

'All I can hope to achieve is a good education for my four children.

'My future? Well, that's bleak.'

Mr Meyer said: 'The present-day diver cannot expand. He is restricted.

'He is beholden to the export quota-holder in terms of the law.

'He may only sell his catch to a company holding an export permit.

'For private consumption, he finds himself in the same situation as any other member of the public — only five perlemoen a day.'

FIVE A DAY

It appeared from interviews with divers that there is little sympathy from the factory bosses.

I was told that one man who was forced out of diving by ill-health had been summonsed by the factory he supplied because he was unable to repay a debt of R200.

The man had supplied the factory for 13 years.

● The Nationalist MP for Simon's Town, Mr John Wiley, last week called for an increase in the price paid to perlemoen divers in an effort to offset an international black market trade. Divers are apparently bypassing quota-holders because of the poor price paid locally and doing their own exporting.

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Fisherman drowns

Argus 25/9/81

A FISHERMAN drowned in Kalk Bay harbour yesterday when he fell into the water while boarding a fishing boat.

The dead man was in his forties and was known only as George to fishermen and harbour officials.

Divers recovered his body and he was taken to the Salt River police mortuary.

Six people were injured when two cars collided at the corner of Kasselsvlei and Peter Barlow roads, Bellville South, yesterday afternoon.

Jaws of life were used by the Bellville fire brigade and the Metro emergency service unit to free one of the occupants, Mr D Lyners of Bellville South. His legs were fractured and he was admitted to Tygerberg Hospital where his condition is satisfactory today. The others were not seriously hurt.

LOBSTERS (3) fishing

Quota confusions

FM 4/11/81

An amazing dispute between a Cape west coast lobster catcher and a packer could result in a drastic restructuring of this complicated fishery.

For reasons known only to itself the packer, Omega of St Helena Bay, which formerly traded as Gourmet Fish Products, refuses to accept lobsters from Boetie Walters, a Paternoster-based boat owner. Walters claims to have a contractual entitlement to deliver fish to the packer.

Since the opening of the lobster season on November 1, Walters has been landing lobster at Omega's quay, but the latter refuses to accept it for processing and packing.

Several thousand kilograms of lobster have been taken into cold storage by Walters, but there are fears that its quality may deteriorate and fall below the standards required for export. As a catcher, he is breaking the law by storing the fish.

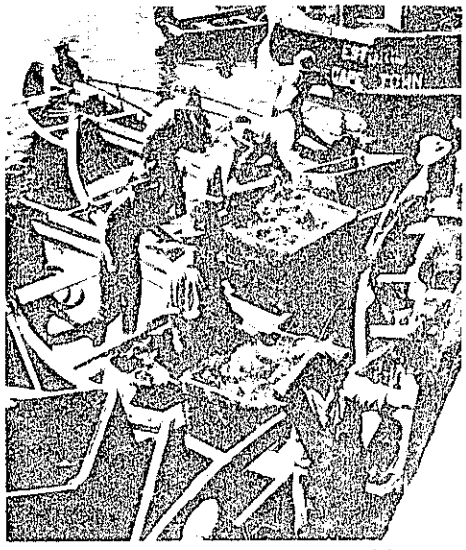
The most extraordinary aspect of the case, which may well have to be resolved in court, is not the dispute between the parties, but that the fishery is structured in a way that this kind of damage can be inflicted on a scarce and dwindling resource.

Even more worrying is the fact that the Minister of Fisheries and his agencies seem powerless to intervene and stop the battle.

The lobster fishery is so structured that the holder of a packing quota may not catch lobster. He concludes a contract with a boat owner to do so. This is known as a catching entitlement and is neither transferable nor negotiable.

A lobster packer, on the other hand, may not market his processed lobster. His production has to pass through yet another agency, the holder of a marketing quota who, in turn, passes his marketing entitlement to Safroc, a non-profit making, one-channel marketing agency, which disposes of all frozen lobster tails.

The net yield on the sale of the season's catch is then divided between catchers, packers and marketers. Last year the yield amounted to about R4,80/kg, of which the catchers received just over R3. At the start of the current season, there was a price dispute between catchers and packers.



Lobster catchers ... working for R2,80/kg

The packers offered R2,60/kg; the catchers wanted about R3. The Minister intervened after arbitration had failed and fixed a price of R2,80 with the promise of an investigation into packers' costs.

The lobster fishery is in a mess. Last year a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry said as much. In the beginning, the commission was greatly confused by the different quotas mentioned. First of all there is a catch quota — the quota of whole mass of rock lobster landed. Then there is the marketing quota which is held by most of the concessionaires.

Then there is also a packing quota which is granted to some to supply their own marketing quota, a packing quota to supply the requirements of other holders of marketing quotas, and a packing quota to supply the requirements of other catchers or marketing quota holders.

It is unnecessary to go into the history of this confusing situation. The commission recommends that there should be one quota only, namely a landing quota, and that an investigation should be undertaken with a view to eliminating the packing and marketing quotas without adversely affecting present quota holders.

As one senior fishery management executive put it this week: "They could not have done a better job of wrecking the lobster fishery if they had appointed the country's top brains to devise a system to do so."

No trace of fisherman

EAST LONDON — The body of fisherman, Mr Frankie van Rooyen, 24, of Lorenzo Avenue, Rosemount, who is presumed drowned in the Buffalo River on Saturday morning, has not been found.

A spokesman for the Railway Police said last night the search was still continuing.

The incident happened while Mr Van Rooyen and a friend, Mr D. Mason, were fishing in the Buffalo River. Mr Van Rooyen was casting his line when the boat from which they were fishing capsized.

Mr Van Rooyen apparantly drowned while Mr Mason swam to the bank to seek help. — DDR

Kreef boat owners in price row

CT 20/10/81

Fishing

By GORDON KLING

A ROW over catch quotas and costs in the Cape crayfishing industry is threatening to develop into a strike by boat owners and still higher restaurant and retail prices for the delicacy from the beginning of the new season on November 1.

More than 50 Portuguese fishermen held a protest meeting in the City yesterday at which they alleged they could not afford to put their boats to sea unless prices paid by the factories to which they had to sell were raised by at least 40 percent. They maintained that a 19 percent cut in this year's commercial quota and higher costs would leave them without a livelihood unless the factory prices were raised or they were permitted to sell elsewhere.

Following the meeting representatives of the boat owners met the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, yesterday afternoon but the issue remained unresolved.

Factory sources said the demands were "outrageous" although there was no doubt there would be a big retail price rise this year, and they would go it alone with their own boats if the independent boat owners were not prepared to fish for them.

Industry sources said the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has reluctantly become involved in the dispute after orginally declining on the grounds that the matter should be resolved by the industy itself.

A spokesman for the South African Rock Lobster Canners' Association, Mr R D Schoonraad, said the factories had not been invited to the fishermen's meeting and it accordingly had no comment on their complaints. He declined to comment on consumer prices and said the factories did not have to establish an independent boat owner's price for the season's catch.

An industry source said an offer based on a new formula had been made by the factories, but the fishermen were not happy with it. Another source said the factories were not prepared to get involved in the issue. "We're just cruising along; if the fishermen want to talk, let them."

The fishermen wanted to talk very badly yesterday outside the meeting hall at the Portuguese Association in Rugby.

Mr Manuel de Sousa said he had had to sell his house to repair his boat. "Now the quota cut means my catch will be down almost a fifth and I can 't even afford to take the boat out at prices as they are now."

He had a quota of more than 7 000kg but after taking bait, traps, diesel, crew wages, food, and other factors into account he did not believe he would break even. "Traps alone cost R120 each and you can lose 15 just like that."

Many of the fishermen had clubbed together two years ago to purchase the crayfish quota held by the Ornellas Fishing Company. The quota had been slashed by 34 percent since the purchase, making the price uneconomic even after the sale of three boats involved in the R300 000 deal.

"The factories just push us around. We have no say in anything and can't even take out the five per person for ourselves that any member of the public is entitled to," said Mr Joao Neaves who was afraid he would have to sell his boat and go to work for the factories.

RDM 21-10-81

Bad 'seas' for Cape fishermen

3 FISHING

A ROW over catch quotas and costs in the Cape crayfishing industry is threatening to develop into a strike by boat owners and higher restaurant and retail prices for the delicacy from November 1.

More than 50 Portugese fishermen held a protest meeting on Monday at which they alleged they could not afford to put their boats to sea unless prices paid by the factories, to which they had to sell, were raised by at least 40%.

They maintained that the 19% cut in this year's commercial quota and higher costs would leave them without a livelihood unless the factory prices were raised, or they were permitted to sell elsewhere.

Following the meeting, representatives of the boat owners met the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, on Monday afternoon but the issue remained unresolved. — Sapa.

LOBSTER FISHING (3) fishing

Crackdown coming

FM 23/10/81

A heavy crackdown on private catching is expected when the Cape west coast lobster season opens on November 1. Evidence of severe pressure on this dwindling resource has resulted in further paring of the landing quota by nearly 19% to 3,7m kg (whole weight). Two years ago the quota was 5,6m kg.

It is understood that stringent controls over private catching may include a ban on the use of unlicensed dinghies and a prohibition on lobster conveyance by motor vehicle.

Pirate catching has assumed such alarming proportions that there is a strong lobby in the fishing industry which would like to see a ban on all unlicensed catching.

Reef piracy was rampant at the end of the last season, which ended on June 30. Quotaholders estimated that at times during the season there was more illegal lobster being traded than lobster caught and processed under licence.

The heavy supply of stolen fish pushed the black market price down to 60c, compared with the "normal" R3. This means that much of the plundering is taking place in the three west coast sanctuaries between Chapmans Peak and St Helena Bay.

If the level of poaching is not reduced, the total catch of west coast lobster (jasus lalandii) could go over 5m kg, an insupportable level of effort.

In money terms, this level of stealing represents a huge loss of potential foreign earnings, given that frozen lobster tails from the Republic are being snapped up by New York wholesalers at $10 per 500 g (cif New York).

Environmental factors, such as the lower oxygen levels in the waters of the fishing grounds in the northern parts of the west coast, have resulted in an intensification of catching effort in the southern grounds, particularly Dassen Island.

About eight years ago scientists calculated the maximum sustainable yield of the island's lobster grounds to be 900 kg whole mass. The current rate of extraction is 1 500 kg-2 000 kg. Government is currently studying proposals to satisfy the heavy domestic demand for west coast lobster.

Last year a parliamentary commission recommended that 25% of total landings should be sold to the public at designated landing points, a sort of fishing industry equivalent of the Stellenbosch wine route. This is not a bad idea, but it remains to be seen whether consumers would be prepared to pay export "parity" of, say, $20 kg. And although this proposal would have the effect of making lobster more accessible to a lot more people (instead of paying R13 for a Crayfish Thermador in a restaurant), it is doubtful whether it will reduce the level of poaching.

The only answer to the problem is increased vigilance by more, better-paid inspectors.

Angling upset by wind

IT has been a windy week for anglers along the whole of the Natal Coast and with still more unsettled weather forecast for the weekend prospects do not look very encouraging.

Inshore conditions are turbulent and yesterday's north-easter did little to settle the surf which was still heavy except in the more sheltered gullies.

A change of wind to the south-west, which could help to settle the sea, was expected to reach the Durban region some time last night, or early this morning, and this is the only hope for any fishable conditions along the coast.

Weekend fishermen will have to watch the wind and weather and change their angling times and spots accordingly.

Zululand

The St Lucia area, where the gunter run is now in full swing, has been the highlight spot along the coast so far this week, and with tides now going on to springs the estuary and the beaches around its mouth could be the best bets tomorrow and on Sunday.

Some good catches of gunter were made during the neap tides of the past few days along the beaches around the estuary mouth. Dorothy Fox bagged five on Wednesday and Chris Sprogis of Durban landed four, his heaviest a very 2,5 kg fish.

The gunter in the surf are showing a preference for sea-lice bait.

Estuary fishing for gunter over the neap tides has been poor but things are expected to improve now that tides are going on to springs.

Fishing in the surf at St Lucia with a small live bait on Wednesday before Peg landed a 15 kg blackfin shark.

In the upper lakes of St Lucia some large kob are being caught at night at Charters Creek and Panics Island but fish have been off the bite in the strong winds of the past few days.

Things are quiet at the moment in the surf at Cape Vidal on the Northern Zululand Coast, and offshore anglers are catching only an occasional barracouta.

[illegible] squid.

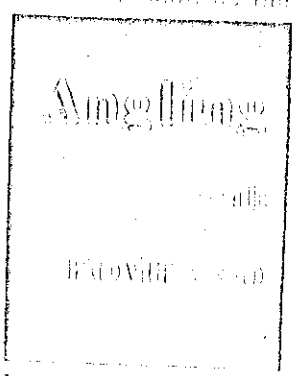
There is still an occasional sizeable garrick about along the upper North Coast but the reason for those fish are really spinner fish is now passed and [illegible]

[illegible] are [illegible] stragglers and bigger and [illegible] gully beam in the rocks and [illegible] along the North Coast.

Durban region

The Durban North beaches have also been unfishable.

Best bets, if a south-wester blows, could be the



beachfront area for panfish and the deep water pools for small sharks, skate and harry nosebeds. [illegible] and some [illegible] around the South Pier.

[illegible] are some sizeable [illegible] in Durban bay but [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible]

[illegible] Durban [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] and some small garrick.

South Coast

All angling has been patchy along the South Coast during the past week and little improvement can be expected this weekend unless conditions settle dramatically today.

There are gully beam in the rocky areas but the strong winds and heavy seas have prevented anglers reaching the pools [illegible] for days.

[illegible] stragglers have been [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Lucia with a small live bait on Wednesday. Lafras Uys landed a 15kg blackfin shark.

In the upper lakes of St Lucia some large kob are being caught at night at Charters Creek and Fanies Island but fish have been off the bite in the strong winds of the past few days.

Things are quiet at the moment in the surf at Cape Vidal on the Northern Zululand Coast, and skiboat anglers out are catching only an occasional barracouta.

North Coast

High winds have made the North Coast beaches unfishable this week, but if today's expected south-wester blows and settles the surf there could be some dusky sharks about in the Mdhloti, Ballito Bay and Tinley Manor areas.

The summer pompano are now due along the sandy middle North Coast beaches at Ballito Bay and Salt Rock and a settled surf could bring these excellent sport and table fish on the feed. Best baits for them are sea-lice and small

South Coast

All angling has been patchy along the South Coast during the past week and little improvement can be expected this weekend unless conditions settle dramatically today.

There are gully bream in the rocky areas but the strong winds and heavy seas have prevented anglers reaching the points to fish for them.

Some sizeable grunter have been taken in the Umzimkulu River at Port Shepstone but no details are available.

Ski-boat anglers out off the upper South Coast report the offshore grounds to be teeming with small dusky sharks and big greys and hammerheads which are taking hooked fish before they can be boated.

High tides
Durban

	a m	p m
Today	0 59	13 28
Saturday	1 45	15 05
Sunday	2 21	14 36
Monday	2 52	15 45



Happiness is catching fish instead of crooks

NM 27/10/81
3-Fishing

NATAL'S most senior policeman, Brig Hennie Viljoen, left, will swap uniform and swagger stick for waders and fishing rod when he begins his retirement at the end of this month.

After a 35-year career with the South African Police in which he rose through the ranks from constable, Brig Viljoen said yesterday he was looking forward to a quiet retirement.

He has held his present rank of Deputy Commissioner of the Natal Division for the past three years. Prior to this he served in Natal, Cape, Transvaal and South West Africa.

'Now it's off with my wife Max to a smallholding in Delportshoop near Kimberley. Just a few sheep, one cow and many streams and dams to keep us happy,' he said.

Brig M J Meyer, presently of Newcastle, is to take over Brig Viljoen's command.

FISHING (3) fishing

Changing habits

FM 30/10/81

Is the shoaling instinct of pelagic fish becoming extinct? Are they "breeding out" their tendency to aggregate because of constant human predation in the form of purse seine netting? If so, inshore fishing operators will have to devise new trawling techniques to maintain the volume of fish landed.

At present, it is no more than a speculative notion that some species, like the anchovy, may be developing genetic instincts which cause them to spend more time in the open or scattered mode than in the shoal mode. The instinct of pelagic fish to aggregate in large numbers to shoal would not be inhibited by trawling because the season is closed when fish gather to "mate."

Speculation on the subject has arisen from a chance observation by Rory Wilson, a researcher at UCT's Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, who is trying to establish why jackass penguins are diminishing in numbers. Working off Marcus Island at Saldanha Bay, Wilson found that the large penguin population of the island was well fed on anchovy after a daily foraging round trip of about 20 km, whereas commercial fishermen complained that there were no pelagic stocks in the area.

As a rule, penguins hunt in pairs and prefer to prey on small shoals of 1 m-2 m in diameter. Like sheepdogs rounding up a flock, they swim around the shoal at great speed until the fish are tightly bunched. They then wade in.

Acoustic experts at the division of sea fisheries in Cape Town point out that small shoals of the type favoured by penguins record approximately the same "blip" as a large tunny on a trawler's sonar equipment. It is possible that the pelagic fish population is considerably bigger than estimates suggest.



Cape fishermen . . . new techniques needed

However, the inshore fishing industry on the Cape west coast has consistently maintained its catch quota at about 380 000 t-400 000 t for the past seven or eight years. This means the shoaling instincts of the anchovy are still well developed. Is it plausible, therefore, to suggest that members of the same species could have markedly different sets of genes — one that is pro-shoaling and one anti-shoaling?

This is virgin territory as far as scientific investigation is concerned. Wilson admits that his theories are pure speculation. But if he happens to be right, there are important implications. If fish prefer or are forced to move around in small shoals, the odds against their eggs being fertilised in the spawning season are heavily stacked.

Fish aggregate in the mating season because they "know" there is a better chance of fertilisation. A series of spawning failures is a threat to the species. Small groups of anchovies would also pose serious problems for commercial fishermen. New boats, new nets and new techniques would have to be devised, probably using a smaller net in a midwater trawl technique. This would mean burning up a lot more fuel for the same amount of fish.

Minister may settle crayfish price dispute

(3) fishing ARGUS 29-10-81

Shipping Reporter

WITH only two days to go to the opening of the crayfish season, Safroc — the controlling body of South Africa's R30-million-a-year crayfish industry — and private boat-owners are still at loggerheads over the catch price to be paid to fishermen.

However, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries is expected to end the dispute by setting a price which will have to be accepted by both sides.

Private boat owners, who are responsible for about 25 percent of the country's annual catch, have written to the Minister, Mr Pietie du Plessis, and say they are prepared to abide by any ruling from him.

CHAIRMAN

The chairman of the West Coast Boat Owners' Association, Mr P J Steyl, said: 'Our drawn-out squabble with Safroc has come to a dead end and the ball is now in the Minister's court.'

Mr Steyl said he could not speak for all private boat owners — about 45 percent of South Africa's fleet of 370 licensed catchers and backbone of the industry — but indicated that there could be a mass 'no sail' movement if the issue was not resolved by Sunday.

Boat owners in Cape Town said: 'The Minister realises that we have to arrange fuel, crew and supplies before the weekend otherwise it's a case of no go when the season opens on Sunday.'

One major owner said: 'We feel that because of these reasons the Minister will probably issue a statement later today.'

Representatives of the boat owners and Safroc have already met the Minister and held talks with members of the Agricultural and Fisheries Marketing Board.

According to a spokesman for the Minister's office, members of the board reported to him and he is fully in the picture.

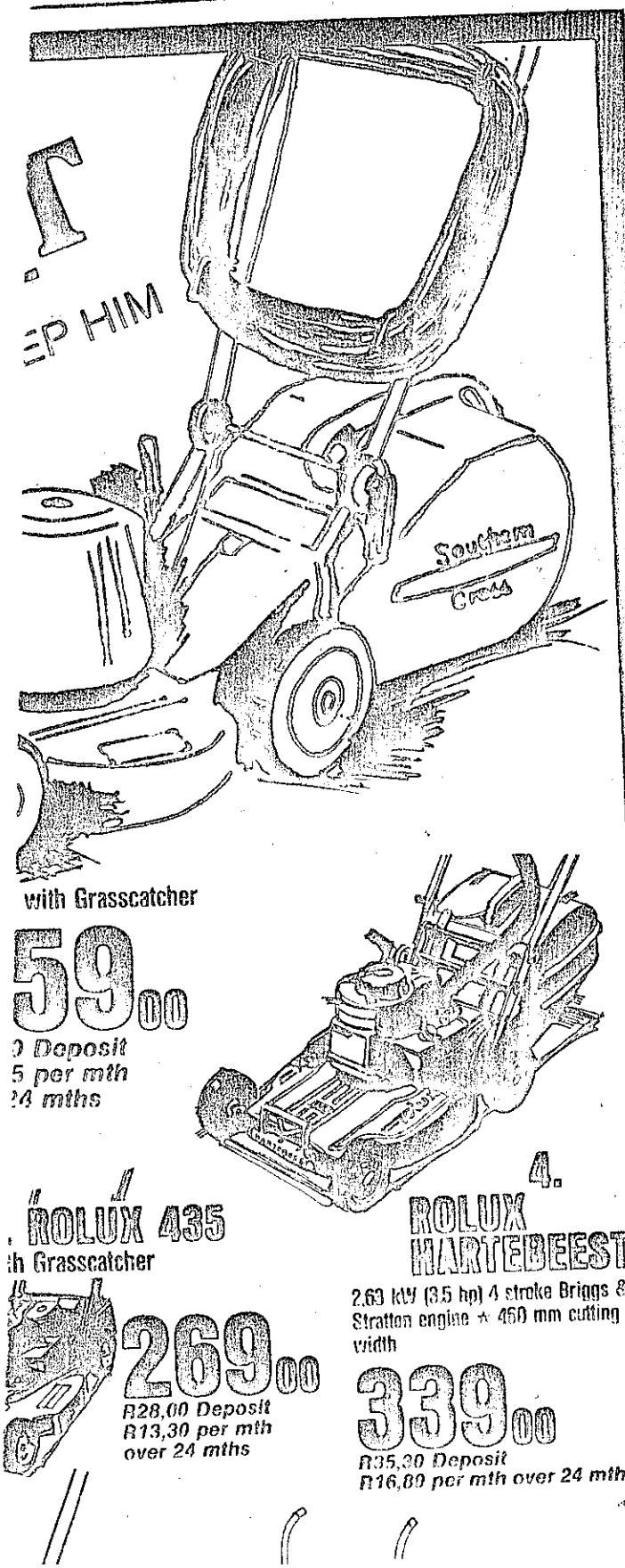
DOMESTIC

'I can assure you, however, that the Minister has not yet made any decision,' said the official.

The Minister was reluctant to get involved because he felt it was a domestic matter.

'But both sides have indicated that they are prepared to accept any ruling by him and it seems as though he will be forced to resolve things.'

November 29 h America and ber 22 (Novem- and the rest of 16); Rest of Europe and Middle East — November 24 (November 17); Zambia and Malawi — December 2 (November 25); Zimbabwe — ber 13 (November 13); Europe — November 13 (November 13); USA — October 27 (October 27); Canada — November 1 (November (November 20); Tristan da Cunha — Deadline expired October 23 — DDR.



with Grasscatcher

59,00

0 Deposit
5 per mth
24 mths

4.

ROLUX 435

h Grasscatcher

269,00

R28,00 Deposit
R13,30 per mth
over 24 mths

ROLUX HARTEBEEST

2,63 kW (3,5 hp) 4 stroke Briggs & Stratton engine ★ 460 mm cutting width

339,00

R35,30 Deposit
R16,80 per mth over 24 mths

DD 30/10/84

Transkei company fined over crayfish

UMTATA — A licensed commercial company, Transkei Sea Harvest, and its manager, Mr N. Bambato, were found guilty in the regional court here yesterday of contravening the Sea Fisheries Act.

The senior regional magistrate, Mr D. B. Muir, fined the company R2 000, half of which was conditionally suspended for three years. Mr Bambato was fined R500 or 12 months imprisonment with R400 or nine months conditionally suspended.

Mr Muir found that on March 31 this year Transkei Sea Harvest had 971 undersized crayfish, 24 crayfish in berry and 2 551 undersized oysters. On April 8, the company had 35 undersized crayfish and 599 undersized oysters.

At an earlier hearing, Mr Peter Rowan, for the defence, had argued that the act under which his clients were charged was not applicable in Transkei.

Mr Muir, however, pointed out that South Africa's Sea Fisheries Act of 1949 was applicable in terms of Section 60 (1) of the Republic of Transkei Constitution Act of 1976.

Before delivering judgment, Mr Muir said the case had revealed "a gruesome example of how the marine resources of Transkei are being depleted.

"For these people to involve themselves in the sphere of exploiting fish for commercial gain, and not take the necessary precautions to ensure that their activities do not contravene the salient provisons of the law governing the sphere in which they are engaged, is tantamount to reckless criminal disregard for all efforts in preserving the marine resources of this country."

Kreef season opens tonight

CT 31/10/87

(3 fishing)

Staff Reporter

THE new west coast crayfishing season begins at midnight tonight with every indication that it will be plagued by the same problems as in the past: Extremely high prices for consumers, lots of poaching and very few changes to government regulations which confine the bulk of the catch to a handful of quota holders.

Restaurant owners yesterday said they had no idea what the wholesale price would be although they expected it to be much higher.

Independent boat-owners fishing for the big quota-holding companies do not know what they will be paid, but they don't expect an adequate rise.

The South African Frozen Rock Lobster Packers organization said it had "no idea" what prices would be, although they were certain to at least reflect inflation.

Black market prices running at about R5 a fish during the closed season can be expected to drop slightly even though the commercial quota has been cut by 19 percent.

So far, last year's recommendations of the commission of inquiry into the country's marine resources remain recommendations calling for more of the catch to be marketed locally, establishment of a kreef route along the lines of the wine route and a further reduction in the private catch quota.

All this means last season's regulations will pertain to private catchers.

Sanctuaries also remain the same this year as last, including the coast from Chapmans Peak to Melkbos and the Smitswinkel Bay marine reserve.

The first legal fresh fish of the new season should start to appear on restaurant menus towards the end of next week.

Court asked to rule company must buy crayfish

AN URGENT application to force a crayfish packing company to accept 20 724 kg of live crayfish this season was brought in The Supreme Court, Cape Town, yesterday.

The application was brought by E F and C Walters — a partnership consisting of Mr Manuel Isadoro Correia Walters and his brother, Mr Ernst Frederick Walters, of Paternoster, and Mr Ernst Frederick Heydenrych Walters, of St Helena Bay — against Gourmet Fish Products (Pty) Ltd of Stompneusbaai.

They have asked, if the application succeeds, that the packing company not be prevented from receiving not more than 14 021 kg of live crayfish from sources other than themselves.

AGREEMENT

In an affidavit, Mr Manuel Walters said that in October 1976 an agreement was entered into between SA Frozen Packaging (Pty) Ltd and private crayfish boat owners in conjunction with the Department of Industries.

The agreement said delivery rights had been granted to private crayfish boat owners in terms of which they could supply crayfish to the packers.

Mr Walters said that during the 1971/72 season the partnership started delivery to the packing company. On his father's retirement, he and his brother continued to deliver.

'REFUSAL'

In the 1975/6 season, the then managing director of the company refused to accept crayfish because, he alleged, they had delivered only during the 1974/5 season.

At the start of this year's season, Mr Walters tried to sell 200 kg of crayfish to the company, but this was refused.

Twice thereafter he attempted to sell crayfish but the company refused.

Mr Walters said the partnership would suffer great financial loss if the company continued to refuse to buy.

In an affidavit, Mr Bernard Solomon Zive, managing director of Gourmet Fish Products, said Mr Walters should not have sought to create a situation of urgency by attempting to deliver crayfish to the company, as he was fully aware of the company's attitude to such deliveries.

Mr Zive said that if a contract still existed between the parties, the rights of the Walters' partnership had expired through the effluxion of time.

Judgment is expected tomorrow.

Mr Justice Lategan was on the Bench.

Mr H C Nel, SC, instructed by Van Dyk and Van Rooyen appeared for the partnership.

Mr J Farlam, SC, instructed by Bloombers and Co, appeared for Gourmet Fish Products (Pty) Ltd.

FRUIT GROWERS

FEELING ROTTEN

S. Times 15/11/81

Export men fly off the handle at SAA

(3 Fruit)

By GHERHARD PIETERSE

SOUTH African fruit and vegetable exporters have lost thousands of rands in spoilt cargoes — and they blame South African Airways for their losses.

They say SAA has been forcing them to use its planes — sometimes to destinations not even served by the airline directly.

Mr Ray Broad, a director of one of the country's largest exporters of fresh produce, said his company had lost consignments because they were out of cold storage too long.

One consignment that was offloaded in London for trans-shipment, disappeared without trace.

He said his company was running the risk of losing markets in Europe built up over many years because exports were either not arriving at all, or arriving in such poor quality that their client refused to accept them.

Desperate

"Until the beginning of October we were allowed to use the carrier of our choice.

"Now SAA have decided that all airfreight should be offered to them first.

"Only when they don't have the capacity will they allow us to go to other carriers such as Lufthansa, Sabena or Swissair."

At stake is the 12 percent a kg export incentive subsidy that exporters are paid by the Department of Commerce and Industry.

If they don't offer their cargoes to SAA first, the subsidy falls away.

"Already the situation has become desperate and we have not even reached peak season yet.

"If we have to continue on this basis, the export market for South African fruit and vegetables will be damaged."

Another exporter who handles predominantly fresh asparagus said she had suffered much damage and the situation was worsening daily.

Mrs Helena Wagner, managing director of Federated Farmers, which is half-owned by the Tongaat group, said she expected major problems as a result of the new ruling.

"It appears SAA is expecting us to accept that it is going to fly highly perishable goods destined for Frankfurt via London.

Unfit

"This is going to mean that our asparagus will be out of cold storage for at least two days.

"This will provide us with a 100 percent guarantee that shipments will be unfit for human consumption when they reach their destination.

An SAA spokesman confirmed that the rule would be strictly enforced but denied it was new.

"It has been in existence for some time, but because we did not have the cargo capacity previously, it was not enforced."

SAA was aware of "certain problems at certain trans-shipment points".

"Steps were being taken to rectify the problems," he said.



MR RAY BROAD
Lost consignments

"shows" late in winter it will be possible to devote the early part of the season to careful catching of scarce resources of pilchard. If all goes according to plan, there is a distinct chance that SWA/Namibia inshore fishing companies will make a few rand next year.

If the quota of 30 000 t of pilchard can be landed in prime condition and canning yields achieved in excess of 50%, then Walvis canners could well notch up a pack of 2m cartons — compared with fewer than 50 000 cartons achieved this season.

This is equal to a fob value of roughly R30m, which would be a welcome boost to potential earnings of R20m from fishmeal and oil derived from the 220 000 t anchovy quota. Meanwhile, Kaap-Kunene (Luderitz) and Fedfood (Walvis) have announced plans to process white fish (hake) in SWA/Namibia's hard-pressed ports next year.

The fedfood project, to produce the full range of frozen processed and value-added fish, will cost about R5m including the cost of three trawlers.

NAMIBIAN FISHING

Starting over

FM 27/11/81 (3) Fishing

SWA/Namibia's sea fishery management has turned back the clock ten years. And it could just mean the beginning of the recovery of this once-rich industry.

The 1982 pelagic fishing season, which opens during the last week of March, will see the reintroduction of the pilchard net. The net has a mesh size almost three times bigger than the anchovy net which has been in use since the early Seventies.

Moves to introduce the pilchard purse seine net next year were strongly resisted by Namibian fishermen, who feared they would have to increase their fishing effort threefold to achieve the same levels of raw fish landings.

However, a quid pro quo has been devised for independent boat-owners. Next year's season will be divided into two periods. From the end of March until the end of May, the catching of pilchards only will be permitted. The pilchard quota has been set at 30 000 t and only refrigerated sea water (rsw) or chilled sea water (csw) trawlers will be used to land the quota with large-mesh pilchard nets.

From June 1, the Walvis and Luderitz fishing fleets will be allowed to start catching anchovy. The quota has been set at 220 000 t. Catches will be strictly monitored and if landings contain elements of pilchard, an immediate halt will be called. Of the anchovy quota, 20 000 t will be divided among private boat-owners to compensate for the loss of rights to catch pilchard. (The industry's six or seven rsw/csw boats are factory owned.)

In addition, agreement has been reached between the sea fishery authorities and the major fishing companies that the latter will provide bridging finance to independent boat-owners to tide them over the initial two months of the pilchard season.

The new dispensation is intelligently conceived and shows the value of continuous research. This appears to indicate that the two major pelagic species of the inshore fishery follow two distinctly different breeding cycles and have identifiably different patterns of migration.

By exploiting the two species at different times of the year, it may be possible to avoid mixed catches. And because the anchovy

AGRICULTURE - FISHING

1982

JANUARY - OCTOBER

'Foreign ships ignore SWA fishing limit'

(3) Fishing

4/1/82 S. Post

Post Reporter

ABOUT 60% of the fish caught in the South East Atlantic are taken off the overfished SWA/Namibia coast because overseas trawlers ignore the 320-kilometre fishing limit.

According to an article in Energos, the Mobil magazine, over-fishing in these waters posed a serious threat to the fishing industries of South Africa and SWA/Namibia.

In 1979 the haul was 2,5 million tonnes, compared with 3,2 million tonnes in 1978 and 2,7 million tonnes in 1977.

Namibian waters provided 60% of this fish haul. Although the territory's "interim government" had proclaimed a 320 km exclusive fishing zone, it lacked the sovereign, independent status to enforce the exclusion of foreign catchers.

A degree of control which did exist was that exerted by the 16-nation International Commission for the South East Atlantic Fisheries. Its members fished to quotas and observed a 20 km offshore "no-go" zone, stretching from the Cunene to the Orange rivers.

The article says that estimates of future fish protein consumption made by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation indicated that there was a growing potential for conflict between coastal states with 320 km exclusive fishing zones and large consuming nations which operate distant water trawling fleets.

So far 93 countries had extended national sovereignty over their coastal waters. Among them are South and South West Africa, Angola and Mozambique.

South Africa experienced a dramatic improvement in the rate of stock recruitment, especially hake, after a 320 km zone was proclaimed in 1977, according to the article.

A shortfall of eight million tonnes of fish products is estimated in the world this year and by the end of the century the gap between world supply and demand will have grown to 30 million tons. Demand is expected to rise from the present 25 million tons to 70 million tons in 1985, and to 110 million tons in the year 2000.

Cape Times 9/1/82 (3 Fishing)

Prof attacks fishing policy

Staff Reporter

THE former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor Jan Lochner, yesterday attacked the government for refusing to do something about the collapse of the fishing industry off the SWA/Namibian coast.

"The reasons for the destruction of the fishing industry have been proved over and over again, but the government [illegible] do, the industry will never be brought under control and is will never be rebuilt."

Addressing local fishermen at Hermanus on the lack of control over fishing resources and the damage caused over the past 10 years, Professor Lochner said the situation was so bad that one [illegible] Walvis Bay was "pretty well bankrupt".

Last year's pilchard catch was less than one percent of the total in 1968.

Professor Lochner said one of the measures needed was a closure of the fishing seas [illegible] 60 percent of the anchovy catch was "[illegible]". This meant that [illegible] not being [illegible] produce.

[illegible]

Professor Lochner, whose [illegible] the SWA/Namibian fishing industry for [illegible], was forced off the [illegible] Fisheries Advisory Board late last year.

Appointed as a member of a commission of inquiry into the industry in the late sixties, he found himself a lone voice calling for caution.

Factors aiding the industry's destruction were in fighting among the [illegible], [illegible] among top scientists and misleading information he said.

Expert accuses Govt. over fishing industry 'collapse'

CAPE TOWN — The former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor Jan Lochner, today criticised the Government for refusing to do something about the collapse of the fishing industry off the SWA/Namibian coast.

"The reasons for the destruction of the fishing industry have been proved over and over again, yet the Government still refuses to accept them.

"Until it does, the industry will never be brought under control and it will never be rebuilt."

Addressing local fishermen at Hermanus, Prof Lochner said the situation was so bad that once-thriving Walvis Bay was "pretty well bankrupt".

Last year's pilchard catch was less than 1% of the haul in 1968.

Prof Lochner said one of the measures needed was a change of the fishing season. Last year 95% of the anchovy catch was "immature". This meant fish were not being allowed to reproduce.

Prof Lochner, whose criticism angered the SWA/Namibian fishing industry for years, was forced off the territory's Fisheries Advisory Board late last year. — Sapa

CRAYFISH

...sh poachers ...avy bullets

RISK

RISK NAVY

Argus 20/1/82

3

Fishing

Bill Goddard

Shipping Reporter

CRAYFISH poachers who make night raids on the lucrative crayfish grounds surrounding Robben Island face the risk of being shot at or having underwater explosives used against them by SA Navy high-speed patrol launches.

This is the warning that has gone out to divers who have been operating a highly profitable racket and follows a request to the Navy from the Department of Prisons.

Robben Island falls within the boundaries of the [illegible] Fisheries' Table Bay crayfish sanctuary, but more important it has a 1 000 metre security circle around it.

Divers have been going into the restricted area at night in unmarked [illegible] and taking [illegible] of [illegible] which [illegible] Town.

Department of Prisons officials are worried by the increasing number of [illegible] which [illegible] the [illegible] island [illegible] SA Navy to include [illegible] in [illegible] time [illegible] of its [illegible] based in Cape Town [illegible] hour.

Patrols

Details of the patrols and the threat of opening fire on any small boat which tries to escape after it has been challenged were spelt out to officials of organised boating and known poachers at a recent meeting in Cape Town.

The threat of using firearms and underwater explosives was confirmed by SA Navy officials today.

In a statement issued through the PRO offices, the Chief of the Navy, Vice-Admiral R A Edwards said: "The Navy will use the minimum amount of force considered necessary to effect an arrest . . . but will make use of firearms and underwater explosives if necessary."

Support

The chairman of the Western Province Powerboating Association and vice-president of the national body, Mr Tony Fraquet, said: "I fully support the move.

"Robben Island offers the poachers easy and rich pickings right on the doorstep of the illegal blackmarket outlets in the

(Contd on Page 3, col 1)

Argus 20/1/82

Crayfish

(Continued from Page 1)

a very serious thing,' he city . . . but security is said.

Mr Fraquet, who attended the special meeting, said the threat of a navy craft opening fire on a poacher's boat that tried to outrun it had a more than sobering effect on the divers who are known to specialise in night raids on the Robben Island crayfish beds.

Under the Sea Fisheries Act divers operating from a boat in a crayfish sanctuary could be sentenced to fines totalling R30 000 or 20 years in prison — or both.

Department of Prisons officials point out that divers caught in the restricted area around the island face penalties of up to R2 000 fine or two years in jail—or both.

3

3 Fishing

Skiboats chased at Robben Island

ARGUS 25/1/82

Shipping Reporter

PRISON authorities are considering prosecuting the five occupants of two skiboats after a high-speed chase across Table Bay from the restricted security area round Robben Island.

The skiboats were seen inside the one-mile forbidden zone early on Saturday afternoon.

Their movements were monitored for several hours before three navy patrol launches and a Department of Prisons craft moved in.

After a chase, one with three men was stopped about 2½ miles off Three Anchor Bay.

The other, with two men, was halted three miles to the west.

NAMES

Naval personnel gave the names of the five to the prison authorities.

The Commissioner of Prisons, Lieutenant-General J F Otto, said today he was considering prosecuting them.

'I feel very strongly about the fact that all people concerned should regard the one-mile restriction with the necessary respect,' he said.

The Department of Prisons called in navy help recently to patrol the security area.

Crayfish and perlemoen poachers were operating inside the restricted area and were warned that the strongest action was to be used against them. This could include being fired on.

(3) fishing

I and J lifts profits by 24%

Star 2/2/82

During the six months ended December 31, Irvin and Johnson increased its consolidated attributable taxed profit by 24,6 percent to R4 130 000 (six months ended December 31, 1980, R3 314 000), equivalent to earnings of 15c (12 c) a share.

The board says that while the economy is expected to be less buoyant in the second six months and trading conditions to become progressively more difficult, it expects an improvement in performance providing no major setback in its fishing operations or vegetable procurement are experienced.

The unaudited interim report shows that turnover was R26 984 000 higher at R153 828 000.

INVESTMENT

The pre-tax profit rose to R7 034 000 (R5 806 000 of which R2 738 000 (R2 322 00) was absorbed by taxation and a further 166 000 (R170 000) by minority interests.

Capital commitments on December 31 stood at R3 705 00 T5 879 000).

Irvin and Johnson continued its capital investment programme during the half-year.

This involved the updating and expansion of cold storage capacity as well as fishing, vegetable and prepared food production facilities. — Sapa.

SWA coastal fishing fails for Portuguese

By GEORGE YOUNG

FOR the Portuguese, fishing off the SWA/Namibian coast has not been successful.

And when, after the change of government in Angola, the ships switched their base from Luanda to Cape Town, things became more difficult.

In a few days the four trawlers, Ilha de St Nicolau, Nova Fé, Almoural and Altair, come under the hammer as a result of financial claims by people who rendered services without payment in South Africa.

The ships will be disposed of voetstoots by what is known as an admiralty court in Cape Town, and in case trawler-owners in the Republic do not come forth with satisfactory offers for what are actually good stern trawlers of 3 230m³ (1 140 tons) each with a six-cylinder diesel and other essential plant, advertisements have been inserted in the maritime Press overseas.

Each is worth well into six units.

There is not much scope for ships of this type in northern waters.

They were built about 10 years ago for working in Angola whence their catches were either sold locally or shipped back in the refrigeration chambers of regular liners to Lisbon.

But the liner services folded immediately black rule came to Angola and the ships have been spending most of their time in South African waters.

Crews were sent back to Lisbon weeks ago, and the quartet has been lying at a lay-up in Cape Town adjoining a trio of steam tugs which the harbour authorities also want to get rid of.

South African trawling companies are enjoying something of a renaissance after lean times, but along the desert part of the West Coast fishing is in a parlous state and pilchards are actually being imported from the Pacific coast of South America, where South African interests initiated a factory some years ago.

Provided the required import permits are forthcoming, South African trawler owners can be expected to make a bid for the quartet even if, as a result of indigenous building programmes and the purchase of sophisticated trawlers in Italy, local fleets are well provided for.

THE OYSTER GATHERERS MUST BEAT THE TIDE

They're at the mercy of the moon

(3) Fishing

By Ron Murtagh

IT is an hour before low tide.

The sea is calm, and the moon is new. It's oyster-gathering time.

With the surefootedness of a mountain goat, Esther Maphumulo clambers over the wet, slippery rocks and enters the water. The point of her steel crowbar crunches against rock — and another oyster is prised from its snug bed.

This lean, spritely 72-year-old has been gathering oysters for 50 years. She has seen numerous full and new moons and spring tides, for those are times to fill the sacks with oysters.

Now up to her breasts in water, she flounders. But undeterred by the waves and frequent duckings, she wipes the water from her eyes, and wrenches another clinging mollusc from its rocky base.

She works fast, filling her hessian bag with the sea's harvest. She must beat the tide.





☐ **Left: 72-year-old Esther Maphumulo with "Briar" Ash , the son of the licence holder. Right: part of a day's haul**

Since such a large

HAKE FM 12/2/82

Cutting quota

(3) fishing

The proposed reduction of the SA hake quota from 153 700 to 136 000 t is bound to squeeze deep-sea trawler operators' margins severely. In fact, their share of the allowable hake catch will be a good deal less than 136 000 t because it includes 9 000 t awarded to inshore operators working the southern and eastern Cape grounds.

Moreover, the remaining 127 000 t will be further reduced by the allocation which is made annually to foreign guests — Spain, Israel, Taiwan and Japan. Their cut is something of a state secret because of the political embarrassment it might cause these nations, but the figures quoted in the 1980 edition of the SA Fishing Industries Handbook have not been denied. The handbook says Japan received 3 700 t, Israel 2 500 t, Spain 3 200 t and Taiwan 2 000 t at a nominal royalty of R25/t, which is roughly 8% of the lowest fob price at which SA trawler operators sell hake to export markets. Moreover, figures released by the international commission for south-east Atlantic fisheries (ICSEAF), suggest that in 1980 the four licenced foreign catchers overshot their quotas.

SA trawlermen suspect, too, that Cape hake taken by foreigners may not all be going to home consumers but is being sold in countries like Australia where SA is trying to build up a firm export base. The proposed cutback in the allowable catch comes at an awkward time for operators. In the past two years, Irvin and Johnson (47% of the quota) has committed about R24m to fleet modernisation and landside capex, while Sea Harvest Corporation (nearly 48% of the quota) has committed about R7m to new ships in anticipation that the permissible catch quota would expand in line with expected improved stock recruitment.

SA fishery scientists admit that their forecasts about accretions to total hake stocks, made in late 1977 when SA proclaimed an exclusive fishing zone of 200 miles, were somewhat over-estimated. It now turns out that their estimates were based on what seems to have been a particularly good yearclass. Subsequent yearclasses have not measured up to expectations, which leads scientists to believe that despite a 50% reduction in fishing effort since 1978, current levels of extraction may be exerting undue pressure on the resource. Another factor may have been that egg and larvae survival rates have been adversely affected by poor environmental conditions. In fact, there are so many variables and imponderables in fishery management that predicting the future health of stocks is even more hazardous than economic forecasting.

SA trawlermen accept this, but there is unspoken resentment of the fact that, in a tough year of high inflation and reduced margins, they have been deprived of a measure of quota flexibility which would have enabled them to increase total revenue by taking the 8 000-10 000 t that will be given to foreigners this year.

Cost inflation in the deep sea trawling industry is rising a good deal faster than the national CPI, especially for companies like I&J and Sea Harvest, which have invested heavily in fleet modernisation. Wage competition is intense, the interest burden heavy and the cost of replacement parts is soaring because of the low external value of the rand. On top of this, the reduced availability of Cape hake means that trawlers have to burn a lot more fuel to catch a smaller entitlement. Scope for ameliorating the pain by hoisting prices is severely limited by competition. Among white fish processors (who are also widely diversified into other frozen food products) competition is probably keener than in any other sector of the food industry.

The only real prospect of relief lies in export markets and a higher rand yield from sales made in dollars. Last year, about 35% of the SA hake catch of about 140 000 t (including the inshore quota) was sold abroad. But even this silver lining has a dark cloud. SA's competitors in the world market for south-east Atlantic hake have been given a favourable edge following a whopping 66% increase in permissible landings by distant water-trawler operators who work the Namibia zone of the ICSEAF fishing grounds. The total allowable catch in this zone, which stretches from the Kunene mouth to the Orange River and 200 miles offshore, is now 352 000 t.

At a minimum value of $300/t, the catch would be worth about $105m but the economic benefit to the people of Namibia is virtually zero, despite the 200 mile exclusive fishing zone.

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3. Cayman Flats slopes very slightly downhill from the south-west corner to the northeast corner. Total drop is 9 feet 3 inches.

4. Although zones S-15, S-17, and S-19 are all classed as "light industry," S-17 has never been developed. It is a small zone of approximately 95 acres, lower in elevation than the surrounding zones, and hence rather swampy. Undoubtedly the amount of fill needed to build it up has hindered its development.

. . . .

At this point an idea occurs to you. If zone S-17 is already acting as a collection point for some of the stormwater from the surrounding zones (principally Cayman Flats), why not excavate it even further and use it as a quick run-off storage pond? If it were big enough you could hold all the stormwater run-off from Cayman Flats, and then pump it at a controlled rate into a smaller diameter outfall sewer from S-17, along the railway line, to the river. It would mean building a pump station (it would have to be automatic), and fencing

Fishing (3) a 'national catastrophe'

fishing
Mercury 1/3/82

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—South Africa and South West Africa's fishing potential has so declined that it is now a 'national catastrophe' and marine expert, Dr Jan Lochner, is to approach the Advocate-General to take action.

Dr Lochner said from Port Elizabeth yesterday that he would give the Government only a 'few more months' to accept his recommendation for the restoration of fish numbers in local waters before approaching the Advocate-General, Judge Piet van der Walt, to investigate the causes of the calamity.

Sardine catches from the areas are now only 1 percent of the catch in 1968.

Dr Lochner is a veteran fighter for greater strictures on fishing quotas after serving on a commission of inquiry into South Africa and South West Africa's fishing industry chaired by the then manager of Fishcor, Mr Charl du Plessis. The commission sat in 1968.

'Catches are declining and have not lived up to expectation since 1969 — something I had predicted would happen.'

3- Fishing 1/3/82

Perlemoen: 'Between devil a

By GORDON KLING

ONE OF the Cape's most famous sea food delicacies, perlemoen, found along the south-west coast, can no longer be legally obtained in either the fresh or frozen state by local restaurants.

The government has yet to give a firm indication when it will act on recommendations on the issue made by its commission of inquiry into the Republic's sea resources, which reported almost two years ago.

Meanwhile, diners who order perlemoen can be almost certain that it will have come from the black market . . . with the worry of unregulated health standards that this implies.

Prices had risen to "outrageous" levels of about R25 a kg in recent months, sufficient for only two good portions after trimming and cleaning, according to restaurateurs. But the total cut in supplies was now threatening the profitability of heavily-patronized by tourists.

The restaurateurs asked to remain anonymous for fear that Sea Fisheries officials would step up inspections of their premises for black market perlemoen when it became apparent that they could not possibly have legal goods in their freezers.

"We are caught between the devil and the deep blue sea," said the manager of one well known restaurant.

"Many of our customers from overseas and the Transvaal come specifically for our perlemoen and if we can't offer it on the menu they won't be back. The shocking prices we were forced to pay left us with no margin for profit anyway, but at least we were able to maintain our reputation."

Restaurateurs maintain they cannot purchase perlemoen from the licensed dealers because almost all of their supplies have been exported.

Only two firms are licensed to process frozen perlemoen in South Africa and both confirmed this week that they had nothing to sell on the domestic market.

Sources at the Sea Fisheries Institute, yesterday told the Cape Times they sympathized with the restaurateurs, but the matter was under investigation by a government commission of inquiry. "We feel certain they will find a way of improving things; we all feel the same about it," said one senior official.

A spokesman for Blue Continent Products, which has one of the two frozen perlemoen licences, said his firm had yet to pack its 1982 quota, but it would allocate some to the local market when it did. This was a voluntary decision. The commission of inquiry into the Republic's sea resources had recommended that 50 percent of the catch be held back for the local market but "the divers are always screaming for more money, and the local market can't pay export prices. If we held back more, we would have to pay the divers less."

Divers are required by law to sell their catch to the quota-holders.

The spokesman accused the restaurateurs of purchasing only a small amount of legal supplies to obtain invoices which they could show to Sea Fisheries inspectors to cover their contraband perlemoen, and said that if the restaurateurs genuinely wanted to satisfy the wants of

The Cape Times, Monday, March 1, 1982 7

nd deep blue sea'

their customers they would use tinned perlemoen, which had a better shelf life in any event.

Restaurant owners, however, maintained there was no comparison between the taste of the tinned product, which was stored in brine, and the frozen meat.

The other frozen perlemoen quota-holder, KDB Holdings, also said it had none to supply.

The licensed suppliers declined to detail their prices, adding they had little control over what their distributors charged.

Only 12 percent of the total yearly quota of 162 786 kg is frozen and the quota holders say they have agreed to retain 10 percent of this for the local market. The restaurateurs say this constitutes an "infinitesimal" portion of their demand.

Three firms hold quotas to supply tinned perlemoen. They are Sea Plant Products, Tuna Marine and Walker Bay Canners owned by I & J.

Figures released to the Cape Times by one of these firms indicate that only about one percent of its pack was supplied to the domestic market last year.

The coastal manager of I & J, Mr Bruce Leask, agreed that the tinned product had a different taste to the frozen and was probably not suitable for many restaurants in South Africa. Most of its local sales were to Chinese restaurants, he said.

"There is a queue a trillion miles long waiting for the damned stuff in the East," said the managing director of Sea Plant Products, Mr Julius Abraham. "Why should we fall all over ourselves to supply for a lower price here?"

Mr Abrahams said his firm was happy to supply the tinned product on the local market, but was not a retailer and purchasers would have to take case lots.

As for the restaurants, they intend to keep the delicacy on their menus, but they aren't shouting about it. "You might just as well advertise that you're breaking the law," said the owner of one establishment.

Call to change perlemoen quota

ARGUS 2/3/82 (3 Fishing)

SOUTH AFRICA's 52 professional perlemoen divers are divided over a recommendation that each diver be given an annual quota instead of them working on a global quota system as at present.

This was made clear at a meeting in Hawston last night between the divers and Dr W Hugo, acting adviser on fishing matters to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

49 ATTENDED

Forty-nine members of the Abelone Divers' Association of South Africa (ADASA) attended the meeting which was called to iron out points arising from the recommendations made to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, by the commission he appointed two years ago to investigate certain aspects of the country's multi-million-rand fishing industry.

One of the recommendations put to the Minister calls for a change in the annual quota issuing system.

RESTRICTION..

The quota of 162 786 kg is now split between the five processing and packing plants, with divers operating on a first come-first served basis until the quota is filled.

The commission of investigation has suggested that the factories retain their individual quotas, but that the divers be restricted to the amount of perlemoen each can gather to fill the quota of the plant for which he dives.

MAJOR ISSUE

The chairman of the Adasa, Mr John Figaji, said today this was the major issue at last night's meeting.

'Many of the divers believe this would be an unfair restriction and would seriously affect their earnings,' he said.

Mr Figaji said a special general meeting of Adasa would be held in the second week of April to discuss the issue.

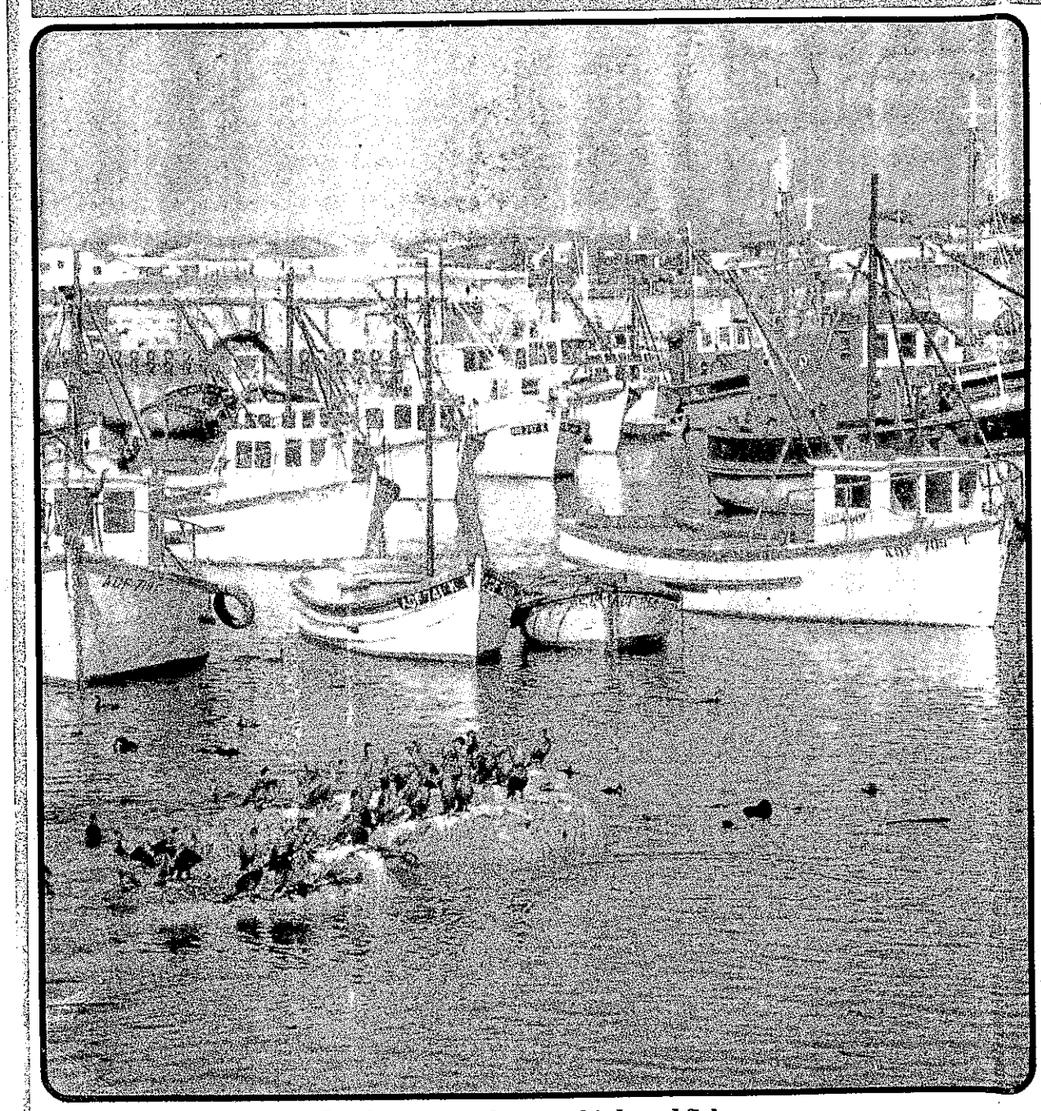
'Another point which divers want to bring up is the regulation which prevents them operating closer than 185 m from the high water mark,' he said.

3 Fishing 7/3/82

SUNDAY TRIBUNE,

Their day sometimes starts at three or four in the morning, and if the

THE FISHERFOLK OF LA



☐ **Lambert's Bay, home to birds and fishermen**

Story and photos by Wanda Hennig

TWO hours before sunrise on a crisp Cape morning. A blanket of stars blinks from the blue-black sky.

In the little coastal village of Lambert's Bay light begins to spill from one window, then another. The fisherfolk are awakening for the new day.

Stumbling from bed, they swallow mouthfuls of boiling brew before donning gumboots, pulling knitted caps low over weathered brows and setting off for their sojourn with the sea.

"We get up at three or four in the morning," says Gerhard Cloete, a fisherman for the past 19 years.

"In the boats we must often travel far, and we must be in the place for the fish when the sun comes up.

"It is in the early morning that the fish bite well. If you are lucky."

Lambert's Bay, roughly 290 km from Cape Town on the west coast leading towards Namibia, is one of the Cape's many small fishing villages. The history books tell that way back in 1487, decades before it was named, Bartholomew Diaz stopped here before rounding the Cape of Good Hope.

It is not this, though, that makes the spot special. It's the huge seabird colony.

The thousands of cormorants and gannets that swoop, dive and shriek overhead, and nest at dusk on adjoining Bird Island

And the fishermen. The people who keep the place going.

Back at the cottages early in the morning, dawn casts its first glow across a maze of dusty streets. Inside the women, wakened so early by their men, are preparing for the day.

Cleaning, washing, spreading sliced bread with jam for the children before getting them up, sending them off to school, then going themselves to the fish factories.

★ ★ ★

"Most of the women here work at the factories," says Carolyne Martin, mother of six, who was born here and has lived all her life in this community.

"They pack the crayfish in boxes and make oil and fish meal," she explains.

Like their men they are hardy and come from fathers and before that, grandfathers, who have lived — and died — on the sea.

And they, like their men, are willing on a sunny Saturday to sit inside their tiny cottages and give a glimpse, if someone cares enough to ask, of an existence eked out from other peoples' appetites. Mainly for crayfish and snoek.

"For the women this life is a worrying one," says Carolyne. "There is worry about money because if our husbands catch nothing, they get nothing."

Then there's the danger of the sea. The unpredictability of its moods. The currents and the winds.

"Often there are drownings. Only last week two men went out in the mist.

"No, they shouldn't have gone in the mist but they needed the money. They would have sold their catch.

"But their boat overturned and they drowned.

"That is something we fear for our men."

She chuckles suddenly and, in a mixture of the Afrikaans they all speak and broken English, recounts the story of the old man sitting by her side. Oom "Jaapie" Jacobs. All of 85, he retired two years ago after 69 years in the boats.

"He kept on working 18 years past retirement so he would not grow old," she says gesturing to the now frail and hard of hearing grey haired grandfather of 15 and great-grandfather of 18.

"Once, a long time ago," she recalls, "he did not return.

"While he was out, the mist came up and he did not come home.

"My brother, Jacobus, went looking for him. He asked all the men when they came off their boats where his father was, but none had seen him.

"He went out to sea in a boat to look, but it was dark and he had to come back.

"That night we sat up, sure he had gone. Then as the sun was rising, there was a knock at the door.

"We thought it was a ghost." She laughs and the old man smiles in vague recollection. "But it was Oom Jaapie, just very cold.

"He had spent the night sleeping in the mist on the sea."

Gerhard Cloete, his face hardened beyond its years by day upon day exposed to searing sun or creeping cold, tells a bit about the uncertainties of life out there at the mercy of the elements.

"If we go one day to a place and the fishing is good, we will try it again tomorrow. If then it gives us nothing, the next day we will go to another place," he says.

"When we go for crayfish, we sit in the small boats. We bait the nets and drop them. Then we sit for maybe half an hour, maybe an hour, waiting.

"When we come back at nine or ten in the morning, the women know the day has been bad and we have nothing. If it is good, we come back in the afternoon, perhaps at five."

Much, he says, depends on the weather.

y don't catch fish they don't get paid

MBER'T'S BAY





☐ **Oom Jaapie Jacobs lines up a collection of his great grandchildren**

☐ **Gerhard Cloete, his face weathered by the elements**

"The wind from the east is a bad wind and if that blows, we stay home. If the mist is heavy, we cannot go.

"If the weather is good, we go into the wind so that we can come back with it."

If they can't go, there isn't much cause to celebrate a holiday. "All it means is time without money."

I wonder aloud whether Gerhard and his fellow fishermen, living this uncertain life, would want to change?

The community school goes only to standard seven and to continue takes a journey of more than 80 km which means that lives are pretty predetermined from the start.

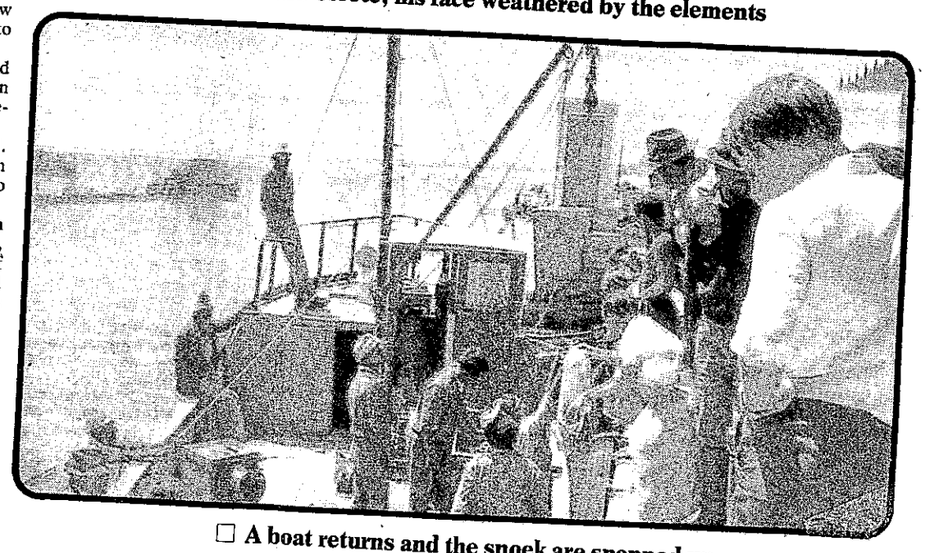
"The people here know no other life," I'm told. "Most are born here and they marry here. Then they die here. They would not know what else to do."

Outside in the dusty streets a group of children play ball. Older girls wander in pairs, chattering, their hair in rollers covered by bright triangles of chiffon. "They're getting ready for the bioscope and and the dance tonight, down there by the hall," says Carolyne.

★ ★ ★

On the other side of the coastal link road that serves as the town's racial divider, white area from coloured, it's a typical Saturday South African small small resort scene.

A couple of windsurfers, their sails billowing, dot up and down on gentle swells. Raucous noises of drinking come from the local hotel. And over the main door to the beachfront cafe the familiar "whites only" sign. As always, there to remind.



☐ **A boat returns and the snoek are snapped up**

Red bait sales monopoly

(3) Fishing Argus 12/3/82

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

A COMPLETE monopoly on the distribution of red bait in the Peninsula, potentially worth tens of thousands of rands each year, is being maintained by Sea Fisheries. The individual who owns the licence pays nothing for it and, although others are keen to get into the field, the licence has never been put to tender.

The individual who owns the licence has other interests, but the Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries, Mr Johan Franken, told The Argus that only one permit for the whole Peninsula was allowed because 'there wasn't enough of a market for more than one distributor.'

He said this state of affairs had existed since the early sixties when the original licence was issued. After the death of the original holder the licence was acquired by the present holder.

CONDITION

According to the licensing system, the distributor supplies all major outlets such as fish and bait shops, sports shops, and cafes which sell bait to anglers.

Collectors are given licences by the department, but licences are subject to the condition that the collected red bait must be sold only to the sole distributor. There is no fixed price for collectors, so the distributor can pay collectors whatever he pleases.

REFUSED

In reply to a letter from one applicant for a licence to pack and distribute red bait, Mr Franken wrote that the application could 'unfortunately not be considered favourably', but that should the institute require the services of another distributor for the Cape Peninsula the application would require further attention.

Asked why the sole licence was never put to open tender, Mr Franken said that was not the way things were handled.

'The sole distributor now holds the licence, and he will continue to do so until we decide otherwise,' he said.

(3) Fishing C. Herald 13/3/82

Factories lived off fat of land

THE Cape's perlemoen divers are hoping that in future they will not be able to merely eke out a living while the factories they supply live off the fat of the land.

At a meeting recently, the divers — who belong to the Abelone Divers' Association of South Africa — were told that the factories were required by law to pay them R1,53 a kg for their catches of the Cape delicacy.

This price has applied as from January 1, which means that the divers who, on average have gathered about 3 000 kg so far, have to receive a substantial additional amount from the factories which had originally paid only R1,25 a kg.

REVIEW

In addition, the Department of Fisheries and Agriculture will review the price in November of each year, using audited statements from the five factories which handle the perlemoen. This could lead to the divers receiving even more for their catches.

In the past the payment received has been a sore point among the divers who were paid 95c a kg last year — while the processing plants were receiving on average R8,50 a kg on the overseas market for the perlemoen.

NOT ADEQUATE

Hawston diver, Mr John Figaji, who heads the 52 member professional Perlemoen Divers' association, said that — Association, said that — the assistance given by the department — even the present price was not adequate.

He pointed out that they were not allowed to have any job other than fishing, while perlemoen diving required a considerable capital outlay.

In addition, it was a hazard and health-affecting job involving diving and swimming around in the icy waters for long periods on a regular basis.

HOPE

The trend where the department set the price offered hope for a better deal, he said.

'I would like to see a price of R2,50 to R3 a kg, then each of us at least has a chance of owning his own home.

'Some people forget we have families to care for,' he said.

The divers are limited as to how much perlemoen they can lift from the sea each year, and said Mr Figaji, his association agreed that the seas should not be plundered.

'The product is getting less plentiful. We are not there to scrape the sea, but to protect it. We would even consider closing particular areas for varying periods,' he said.

ADAMANT

Mr Figaji was adamant, however, that their efforts at conservation would be minimal if the wholesale 'raping of the sea' by other members of the public was to continue. The public is allowed to catch up to a maximum of five perlemoen per person on any particular day.

Unlike the divers, members of the public are not restricted as to where they can gather their catches.

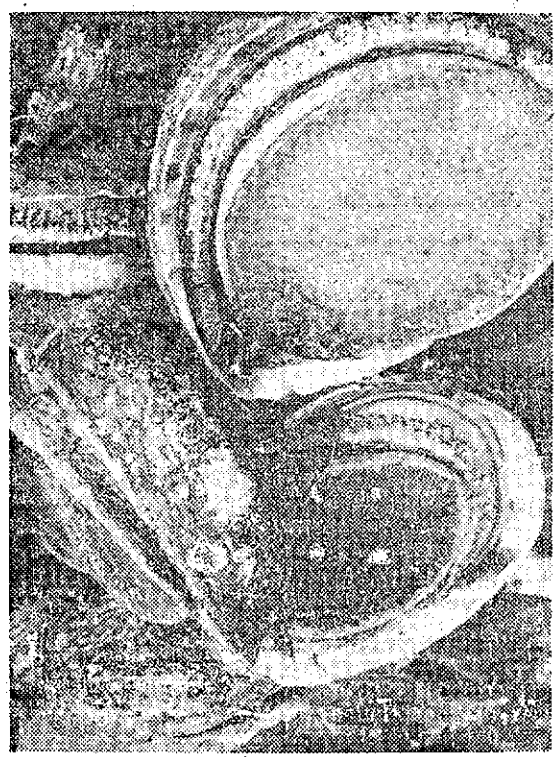
'You cannot compare our quota of 163 000 kg with what the public catches.

'We are restricted in that we cannot dive unless we are a certain distance from the shore line, but they leave the public alone.'

His association is at present considering a proposal that they ask the relevant authorities to grant each diver his own quota.

But while the Cape divers search the icy waters for the delicacy, very few of their catches reach South African tables for the largest portion of the catch is exported.

It is, therefore, nothing unusual to pay up to R25 a kg for perlemoen in local restaurants, while the divers still have to break through the R2 a kg barrier for their catches.



● **PERLEMOEN is an expensive international delicacy, but the divers who collect them from the sea receive a pittance in return.**

MON

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Cape Times 15/3/82 (3 Fishing)

Trawler runs aground at Mossel Bay

AN Irvin and Johnson trawler, the Cape Point, ran aground near Mossel Bay about 4am yesterday.

The 12m Mossel Bay-based steel trawler landed on the rocks about a kilometre west of the Gouritz River mouth. It was being buffeted by heavy seas.

The NSRI was alerted at 5.20am and a rescue launch sped to the scene. But the skipper, Mr Willem Bruintjies, and his crew of 11 had already scrambled ashore in heavy surf.

The NSRI station commander, Mr W Shepherd, said it was an easy rescue with no drama. "The trawler was basically high and dry. All they had to do was scramble on to the rocks."

He said the sea was fairly rough, but he could not say how the accident occurred. "I don't know what the trawler was doing so close in."

Mr Shepherd said that, according to people who had been on the trawler, the boat was "a write-off". He did not think it would be possible to get it off the rocks.

According to a spokesman for the company, the Cape Point had been completely rejuvenated only two weeks before.

Three other I & J trawlers from Mossel Bay — the Hangklip, Shela and Trio Triomf — have been wrecked off the Gouritz coast during the past few years.

● A police spokesman for the South-Western Districts said he had been told there were at least seven tons of freshly caught fish still in the holds of the vessel.

He confirmed that the skipper and 11 crew had reached safety over the rocks and that none had been injured. — **Staff Reporter and Own Correspondent**

(3) Fishing 17/3/82 Hansard Q 61 411-4

Pelagic fish

*5. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether his Department submitted to the Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister the theories and proposals on the preservation of pelagic fish put forward by a person whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purposes of his reply; if not, (a) to which authorities were such person's theories and proposals referred and (b) who were the persons responsible for the evaluation thereof;

(2) whether such authorities have reported on their findings; if not, when is it anticipated that they will report; if so, what are their findings;

(3) whether such findings will be made public?

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes. (1)(a), (1)(b), (2) and (3) fall away.

Pelagic fish

*6. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

Whether the theories relating to critical limits held by a person whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purposes of his reply, were taken into account in determining the quotas for pelagic fish in 1980 and 1981, respectively?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

No. Quotas for pelagic fish are determined on the recommendation of the Fisheries Advisory Council.

Pelagic fish/pilchard fish resource

*7. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(a) What was the total catch of pelagic fish in the fishing zone of the Republic in 1980 and 1981, respectively, and (b) what is the present state of the pilchard fish resource in such fishing zone?

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(a) 1980 ..... 383 000 metric ton
1981 ..... 381 700 metric ton

(b) The state of the resource has now stabilized on a considerably lower level than the record catches of the early sixties.

White steenbras

*8. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

Whether any investigations with a view to prosecution are in progress in respect of the alleged catching of white steenbras by bait-net licensed fishing boats in False Bay; if not, why not; if so, (a) what investigations, (b)(i) by whom and (ii) where are they being conducted and (c) with what result to date?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a) Investigations with a view to determining whether contraventions of Sea Fisheries legislation and/or restrictions have taken place and, if so, to institute prosecutions.

(b) (i) Marine Branch, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

(ii) Kalk Bay, Gordons Bay, Hermanus and Cape Town.

(c) Photo's and sworn statements have been obtained and possible further evidence is being collected.

Bait-net licences

*9. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) What procedures are followed by his Department (a) at landing places and (b) elsewhere in respect of cases where fish other than bait fish are caught by bait-net licensed fishing boats;

(2) what are the duties of a (a) harbour master and (b) fisheries inspector in respect of cases where fish other than bait fish are caught by bait-net licensed fishing boats?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

(1) (a) The procedures are as outlined under (2) below.

(b) The size of the bait boats prevents the landing of fish from them at places other than fishing harbours.

(2) (a) (i) The recording of full details with regard to the boat, crew, catch and purchaser of the catch.

(ii) Confiscation of the catch should the seriousness of the alleged contravention warrants it.

(iii) Consultation with the owner/skipper with regard to disposal, price, etc. in the event of confiscation of the catch.

(iv) Taking statements from all persons involved.

(v) Handing over the case to a Fisheries Inspector if further investigation is found necessary.

(vi) Submission of a detailed report to the Marine Branch.

(vii) Preparation of a docket prior to laying a charge at the nearest S.A. Police station.

(b) The same as under 2(a) above, except subparagraph (v).

1973	47	1
1974	42	7
1975	45	10
1976	54	8
1977	51	1
1978	51	1
1979	47	3
1980	44	8
1981	35	17

* Restricted to the catching of live bait for tuna fishing, except in 1980 and 1981, when 2 licences were also allotted "elsewhere" for ordinary bait

(b) Bait nets used outside False Bay may not exceed 120 fathoms in length and 15 fathoms in width

Purse seine nets for catching pelagic fish inside False Bay may not exceed 50 fathoms in length and 8 fathoms in width.

The permit/licence holder may not operate with a purse seine net within the yellow tail reserve between Quoin Point and Cape St Blaize.

Nets or any portion of a net with a mesh size of less than 2,8 cm may not be used for catching bait.

Pelagic fish may not be delivered to any fish processing factory for processing to fishmeal or fish oil or canning.

Pelagic fish caught may only be used for bait purposes or for human consumption.

The bait boat licence/permit is not transferable without the prior approval of the Director of Sea Fisheries.

X(3) Fisheries **Bait-net fishing** 17/3/82
Hansard Q. Col. 42 [illegible]6

332. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(a) How many licences for bait-net fishing (i) in False Bay and (ii) elsewhere were issued in each of the latest specified ten years for which figures are available and (b) on what terms were such licences issued?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(a)	(i) *False Bay*	(ii) *Elsewhere**
1972	47	

Regular and accurate information regarding catches must be furnished to the Director of Sea Fisheries at the end of each month on the prescribed form.

The boat must be used regularly for the catching of bait in order to qualify for renewal of the licence/permit for the following year.

The Director retains the right to amend, suspend or cancel any rights granted under the licence permit.

The permit is subject to cancellation if the prescribed conditions are not strictly complied with.

Fish such as haarders, steenbras, etc may not be caught and must be returned to the sea without delay in the event of such fish landing in the net.

The concession lapses at the end of the year for which it was granted.

Beach trek-net fishing licences

335. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) (a) How many beach trek-net fishing licences were issued in respect of False Bay in each of the latest specified 10 years for which figures are available, (b)(i) by whom and (ii) on what conditions were they issued and (c) what criteria were applied in deciding to issue them;

(2) how many of the persons who have trek-net fishing licences are full-time trek-net fishermen?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) Particulars are available for the period since 1974 only.

1974	143	permits
1975	131	,,
1976	118	,,
1977	108	,,
1978	103	,,
1979	90	,,
1980	88	,,
1981	86	,,
1982	86	,,

(b) (i) The Sea Fisheries Institute.

(ii) The permit is not transferable.

The permit does not authorize access to public or private property.

The regulations of local authorities must be complied with at all times.

The prescribed statistics of catches must be submitted at the end of each month.

The net must be used only in the prescribed area.

The length and mesh size of the net must comply with the relative requirements.

(c) The following guide-lines were laid down before the implementation of the net permit system early in 1974:

(i) Only *bona fide* fishermen who are totally dependent on this method of fishing qualify for such permits.

(ii) Persons with traditional rights, such as pensioners for instance, may also be considered for permits.

(iii) The area involved as well as the length and mesh size of the net must be prescribed.

(iv) Only a limited number of permits for each of the various areas must be issued.

As a result of the tremendous pressure experienced by the former Department of Industries, the Department felt obliged to deviate from these guide-lines with the result that initially beach trek seine net permits were issued more freely.

During 1976 stricter control over the granting of beach trek seine nets was instituted. It was then resolved that

(i) no new applications for permits to operate within False Bay would be considered favourably; and

(ii) in the case of Fish Hoek, Muizenberg and the Strand the approval of the local authority concerned would be obtained before renewal of any permits.

(2) 14 in False Bay.

Trek-net licences

336. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any of the recommendations concerning trek-net licences made by the Commission of Inquiry into the Fishing Industry, 1971, and accepted by the Government have been implemented; if so, which recommendations;

(2) whether any recommendations concerning trek-net licences have been made by the Commission of Inquiry into Certain Aspects of the Conservation and Utilization of the Living Marine Resources of the Republic of South Africa; if so, what recommendations;

(3) whether any such recommendations have been (a) accepted and (b) implemented; if so, which recommendations in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) The Commission concerned did not make any recommendations with regard to beach trek seine net permits.

(2) Yes.

(a) That the existing number of beach trek seine nets must be circumspectly reduced with due consideration of local requirements and conditions and in consultation with local authorities. In the case of False Bay the large number of beach trek seine net permits should be reduced considerably except in the Strand where only a few permits have been issued. In the case of Walker Bay all permits should possibly be withdrawn but it might not be possible to effect any reductions in other areas.

(b) That the granting of new or further beach trek seine net permits should be considered only in the light of—

(i) the maximum sustainable yield of a particular resource;

(ii) local requirements and circumstances; and

(iii) in consultation with the local authority.

(3) Full particulars will be included in a White Paper which will be tabled in the near future.

The colourful fishing harbour of Kalk Bay and the fishing village on the [illegible]. Except for a few homeowners, the people in the double-storey flats are the only coloured people left in the village which once had 634 families.

Group Areas Act haunts fishermen

Kalk Bay, with its bobbing boats and colourful fisherfolk, is the stuff picture postcards are made of. But reality for some of its people is in sharp contrast to the idyllic image.

The recent Government announcement that coloured people of the village could stay — most of them were born here — has highlighted the harsh effect of the Group Areas Act has had on yet another community.

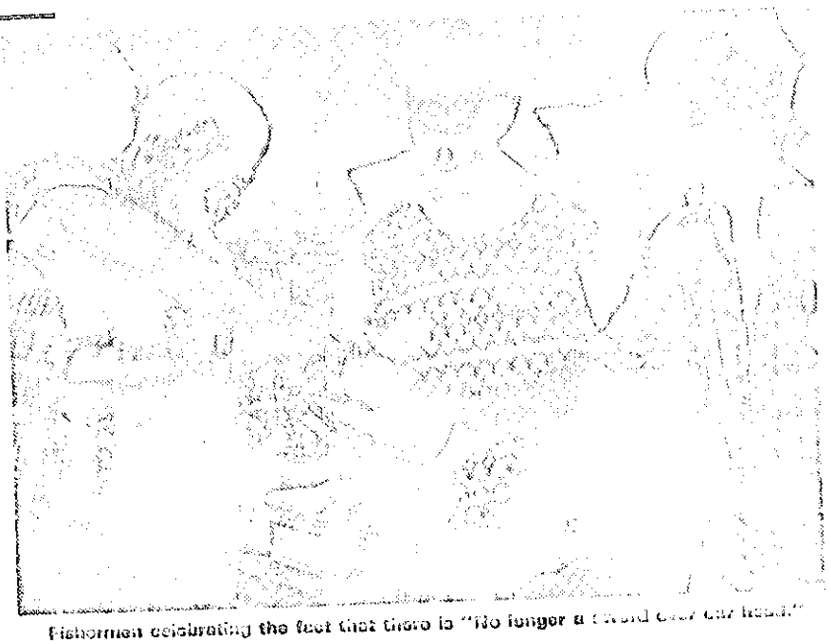
Everywhere in the village people have said how relieved they were, telling tales of displacement, fear of removal and most of all love for this tiny enclave on the False Bay coast.

Ironically, the Government's 1967 decision to uproot the community and the latest "reprieve" have seriously threatened the Gomez family.

The first Group Areas Act proclamation in 1967 decreed Mr Joseph Gomez had to leave the village where he was born because he was coloured.

The rezoning could force his parents out of their council home because the old couple is white.

Their story is one of the many sad tales told by a community whose mixed heritage frustrates a political ideology.



Fishermen celebrating the fact that there is "No longer a cloud over our head."

"My parents will never leave here. We are fishermen, born and bred here, my father and I.

"This place wasn't built for white or for coloured people it was built for fishermen," said Mr Gomez junior, who "lost" his "white status" because he married a coloured woman.

A few blocks away live his ageing parents, Mr Charles Gomez, 73, and his wife, Constance, 70.

The old man who is frail and sickly after suffering a stroke recently, was born in the village where he fished for a living since he was 11 years until he became too old.

He and his wife are the only white people who live in the council flats.

"I'm pleased about them letting us stay but why must they disrupt the people again? This is a quiet place. There's no arguments, no roughness and no knives here," said Mr Gomez junior, who "lost" his "white status" because he married a coloured woman.

When reporters visited his parents, his mother was clearly distressed.

The latest government decision has upset and confused her, and white-haired Mrs Gomez is now wary of opening her door to strangers.

When we tried to explain to her why we wanted to talk to her, she became angry at a system that has twice split up the so called difference between her and her neighbours.

"I'm sick and tired of all this nonsense. I want nothing to do with the Government.

"They say I'm classified White. That's not true. I'm just a white woman and that's all," said Mrs Gomez.

When told what the reclassification could mean to her, she said: "That's all rubbish, I have always stayed here and nobody is going to move me now." An attitude that has the support of her neighbours.

But many people have been moved since the 1967 decision and only 74 of the original 634 coloured families are still in the area.

One of the displaced people is Mr Neville Clarence who says the hurt of having been forced out of his birthplace is aggravated by the fact that he can still see his boyhood home on the mountainside, each day when he puts out to sea.

"My grandmother had it built for us but [illegible] white people live [illegible] there now.

"It's no use them saying we can come back. I couldn't afford to buy our old house at today's prices.

"We don't like like living in Retreat — the wind is often too high when we have to go out to sea late at night — but moving again will just be too much for us," said Mr Clarence.

While we were talking to him in the fishermen's rest rooms on the busy harbour, another Kalk Bay resident interjected, saying: "Ag, who knows they'll probably just take it all away from us again, when they change their minds."

Elsewhere on the harbour, veteran of the sea and village's oldest resident, Mr Jimmy Edwards, 66, was celebrating with some of the younger men.

The group of men were taking some time off from their fishing to drink champagne with a grinning "Uncle" Jimmy.

3 Fishing Hansard Q. 61.

Abalone packers/packing licences

472 ~ 473 24/3/82

341. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) (a) How many abalone packers are there at present and (b) how many packers were there in each of the latest specified 10 years for which figures are available;

(2) how many abalone packing licences were sold in each such year;

(3) whether any sales of abalone packing licences have occurred since the report of the Commission of Inquiry into Certain Aspects of the Conservation and Utilization of the Living Marine Resources of the Republic of South Africa was laid upon the Table; if so, (a) which licences were sold, (b)(i) for how much and (ii) to whom were they sold and (c) by whom was the transfer of such licences approved?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) 4.

(b)

1972	5	1977	5
1973	5	1978	5
1974	5	1979	5
1975	5	1980	5
1976	5	1981	5

(2)

1972	None	1977	None
1973	None	1978	None
1974	None	1979	None
1975	None	1980	One
1976	None	1981	None

(3) Yes.

(a) The licence (quota) of K.D.B. Holdings (Pty) Ltd

(b) (i) Unknown

(ii) Blue Star Abalone Exporters (Pty) Ltd

(c) The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Abalone packers

344. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

Whether the packers of abalone have formed themselves into an association; if so, (a) when and (b) what is the (i) name and (ii) stated objects of the association?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a) Date unknown but my Department was informed thereof in a letter dated 23 December 1981.

(b) (i) The Abalone Packers and Exporters Association.

(ii) Liaison with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (including the Sea Fisheries Institute)
Liaison with the Association for Divers
Liaison with any other organization or persons

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.61. 467-468
24/3/82

Shellfish: cholera

*1. Dr. M. S. BARNARD asked the Minister of Health and Welfare:

(1) Whether his Department has tested shellfish along the Natal coast for cholera; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether these tests proved positive; if so,

(3) whether his Department has called for a prohibition on the collection of shellfish in this area; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:

(1), (2) and (3) Yes.

Shellfish: cholera

*2. Dr. M. S. BARNARD asked the Minister of Health and Welfare:

Whether any of the cholera cases known to date have been caused by shellfish?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:

No.

Call for inquiry into collapse of fishing industry

E. Post 25/3/82 (3) Fishing

A VETERAN fighter for greater restrictions on offshore fishing, Dr Jan Lochner, wants a judicial commission of inquiry into the collapse of the South West African fishing industry.

His call replaces an idea to present his case for an investigation to the Advocate-General, an office created to probe public complaints about the performance of government.

The former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth said the collapse of the fishing industry was a catastrophe which had resulted in the territory losing about R200 million a year.

Fourteen years ago he devised a method of determining safe fish catches to safeguard against overfishing. To date the Government has refused to implement it.

Predictions of a collapse in the fishing industry made by Dr Lochner have been uncannily accurate – within a 1% tolerance of his figures.

Dr Lochner believes the rejection of his work was unscientific and that there might be other motives in the continued refusal to accept it.

He is confident that marine resources can be rebuilt because every marine population has a control system to compensate for increased mortality.

But this system functions only within critical limits which, when exceeded, ceases to function. By applying the principles of control engineering, Dr Lochner has been able to calculate the critical limits for any given fish population.

Fishing racket 'squealers' in fear

ARGUS 25/3/82 3 Fishing

DEATH THREATS

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

DEATH threats against potential State witnesses have allegedly been made by two skippers and crewmen of boats which took part in huge illegal catches of steenbras in False Bay.

One of the men threatened, Mr Ian Dembe, 58, of Kalk Bay, recently had an open-heart operation and a heavy blow to his chest could kill him.

He fears for his life because some of the fishermen involved in the illegal catching believe he has given information to The Argus during its investigation into malpractices in False Bay.

The Argus has not published the names of its sources for fear of this kind of intimidation.

'Dead man'

Soon after The Argus told how R17 000 changed hands between a boat skipper and a dealer for a major fishing concern just after the illegal catches, Mr Dembe was accosted by a crew member of the boat concerned.

'You're the squealer who's talking to the newspapers,' said the crewman.

Mr Dembe was called over by the skipper of the boat and told: 'You can get cut — and I'll do the cutting.'

One of the crew said: 'You're a dead man.'

Later another skipper also threatened Mr Dembe saying that people who made allegations against Kalk Bay fishermen could get 'unpleasantly unpopular.'

Protection

Another fisherman told Mr Dembe that when the court case came up the fishermen would know for sure who had turned against them, and then that person was a dead man.

Mr Dembe has made a statement to the police, and has also asked the National Party MP for Simon's Town, Mr John Wiley, for protection.

In Parliament yesterday Mr Wiley tabled a question for a written reply, asking the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries Mr Piet du Plessis, whether there had been any complaints of inspectors, fishermen and witnesses being intimidated or hampered in regard to illegal fishing.

The reply is expected this week.

No lights

During investigations The Argus spoke to many potential witnesses who were afraid of speaking out against the fishermen.

One man was walking along Strandfontein beach on one of the nights of the illegal catches.

He heard boats netting close inshore and could hear the crewmen shouting.

He identified at least one boat, and could see that the boats did not have their lights on.

The witness said he would make a sworn statement, but changed his mind when he received threatening telephone calls.

Two days after The Argus's first report of the catches, said to be valued at R100 000, was published I had a telephone call at home telling me to 'keep out of fisheries business.'

The caller refused to identify himself but warned me to 'watch out.'

Mr Dembe told The Argus today that there were many fishermen who were fed up with the illegal catches and other malpractices but were afraid to come forward.

'These people can be very violent. There is a hell of a lot of money at stake,' he said.

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.61.491
29/3/82 -493

Abalone

340. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether a price has been determined for abalone; if so, (a)(i) by whom and (ii) on what basis was it determined and (b) what is the price paid to the (i) diver and (ii) packer:

(3) **Bait-net licenced fishing boats** 30/3/82
Fishing Hansard Q. Col. 505 - 506

331. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether any prosecutions of bait-net

licensed fishing boat owners took place in any of the latest specified 10 years for which figures are available; if so, (a) with what result and (b) on what charges were these prosecutions based?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

Statistics of the required information are not kept by the Department of Justice.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

For period 1 July 1980 to 30 June 1981:

(a) 78

(b) 67

WEDNESDAY, 31 MARCH 1982

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†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Prime Minister:

(3) Fishing Pelagic fish 30/3/82
Hansard Q.601.511-512

*1. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Prime Minister:

(1) Whether the Scientific Planning Branch of his Office has considered the theories and proposals on the preservation of pelagic fish put forward by a person whose name has been furnished to the Office of the Prime Minister for the purposes of his reply; if so,

(2) whether the said Branch has arrived at any findings on the matter; if so,

(3) whether the said Branch has submitted a report on its findings; if not, when is it anticipated that a report will be submitted; if so, what are its findings;

(4) whether such (a) report and (b) findings will be made public; if not, why not; if so, when?

The PRIME MINISTER (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

(1), (2), (3) and (4) Following a request by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Office of the Prime Minister commented as follows on 9 October 1981:

(a) The proposed control system in connection with the preservation of pelagic fish by the person concerned has been known for some considerable time.

(b) In order that the scientific accuracy of the theory could be assessed in accordance with an evaluation by scientists, the person was advised to publish it in an acknowledged science journal.

(c) Following an article in the S.A. Journal of Science of January 1980, serious criticism concerning the theory appeared in the October 1980 issue of the same Journal, not only by marine biologists, but also by an expert in the field of model development. The reply to the criticism by the person concerned was by no means convincing.

(d) An application by the person concerned to the CSIR for research aid in respect of the proposals was also considered and turned down by the South African Committee for Oceanographic Research.

(e) The said scientific evaluations point to the proposed control system being unacceptable.

More safety at sea urged

ARGUS 31/3/82

3 Fishing

Political Staff

A COMMISSION of inquiry has recommended big improvements to safety measures in South Africa's shipping and fishing industries.

The commission of inquiry into measures governing the safety of lives and property at sea, under the chairmanship of former Cape Town chief magistrate, Mr Herculas van Huyssteen, was tabled in Parliament yesterday.

The commission found that there were insufficient safety staff in the marine branch of the Department of Transport, training standards were too low and safety measures generally did not come up to standard.

RECOMMENDED

It recommended the establishment of more training facilities for all races, improved training, improved safety standards, particularly with liferafts and lifejackets and a major revision of the Merchant Shipping Act.

It found that stricter application of rules for fishing vessels should be applied as well as stricter accident prevention measures by shipowners and skippers. It also recommended the compulsory fitting of two-way radio apparatus for fishing vessels.

Fishing vessels were often overloaded, placing their safety in jeopardy, capsized when pulling in nets full of fish, went to sea without radios or radio operators and crew members did not know how to handle safety equipment.

The commission has also recommended that the principal officer at a port should have the power to withdraw a safety certificate if satisfied that a ship was not seaworthy.

Deprived of a living, say line fishermen

ARGUS 31/3/82 3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THE line fishermen of Kalk Bay say the boats with net licences are destroying the fish stocks and depriving the 'small men' of a living.

And it is allowed because the netters, who take tons of fish at a time, sell to big fishing concerns, according to a line-boat skipper.

'If there wasn't big money at stake, the illegal goings-on would not be allowed. The bay would not have been opened to netters if they weren't supplying the big factories', he said.

'The netters are stealing the bread from the mouths of the line fishermen who are not favoured because of the smaller quantities they handle.'

Steenbras

This opinion was supported by five other fishermen interviewed on over-use of marine resources in False Bay and other areas.

- About 160 tons of white steenbras were illegally netted in False Bay recently.
- Huge catches of steenbras are being made by trek fishermen whose licences are supposed to be primarily for harders.
- Buyers for big fishing concerns pay skippers tens of housands of rands at a time in cash for catches. Sea Fisheries officials have received presents of hundreds of rands worth of fish from fishermen.
- Anglers' catches of yellowtail have dropped to virtually nothing since the bay was opened to trawlers to catch these game fish.
- It has taken Sea Fisheries officials more than a month to complete what experienced investigators would see as a routine case.
- Apparently no attempt has been made to get the police to help with investigations, although the amounts involved run into hundreds of thousands of rands.

Lenience

In discussions with Kalk Bay fishermen and skippers it emerged that line fishermen think that while they are watched 'like mice by a hawk,' the Sea Fisheries officials are more lenient on their net-fishing counterparts.

Line fishermen have not made official complaints 'because, although we have our differences,

'Recently we found shoals of snoek just off the marine reserve at Castle Rocks. The fish are pelagic and are not part of the eco-system, but when we started catching them a Sea Fisheries patrol vessel came and ran us off,' a skipper said.

'We wonder where they were while some people were making up to R20 000 in one night's illegal netting of steenbras.'

Wildlife Society officials said anglers and divers were repeatedly — 'just about any weekend you care to name' — breaking the law by fishing, spearfishing, catching perlemoen and crayfish in the Castle Rocks reserve. So far the society has not seen any Sea Fisheries inspector nearby.

In general, those to whom I spoke were unanimous about one thing: fishermen who spoke out of turn or who helped the authorities risked being ostracised by the community and even assaulted.

High-ranking Sea Fisheries officials confirmed this, saying intimidation of witnesses was bedevilling investigations.



BOATS return to Kalk

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WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

EDSON

(1)(b) *Area*	(2)(a) *Permit Holder*	(2)(b) *Period*	(2)(c) *Tender Price* R/*Year*
9. From the Simons Town Municipal boundary at Rocklands Point to the Divisional Council border at Klein Koëlbaai near Bakoven, excluding the coastal line of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve, as well as the coastal area bordering the Farm 964 near Quarry Rock	Kelp Products (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 258, Rondebosch, 7700	5 years from 1.12.78 – 30.11.83*	R21 000,00
10. From the border of the Divisional Council of the Cape south of Bloubergstrand to South Head (Saldanha Bay)	Taurus Chemicals (Cape Kelp) (Pty.) Ltd.	5 years from 1.12.78*	R4 000,00
11. Between North Head and the Berg River	Mr. A. A. Nieuwoudt, P.O. Box 73, Garies, 8220	5 years from 1.12.78*	R2 300,00
12. Between the Berg River and the southern boundary of Lamberts Bay, excluding the coastal area from the southern boundary of the State land known as Graauw Duinen Ext. No. 1, northwards to Wadrifsoutpanmond	ditto	ditto*	R3 850,00
13. From Groothoekbaai to the Olifants River	North Bay Canning Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 2, Doringbaai, 8151	5 years from 1.12.78*	R5 000,00
14. From the Olifants River to the Groen River	Mr. H. J. A. Kotze, P.O. Box 334, Vredendal, 8160	5 years from 1.11.79*	R11 000,00
15. Groen River to Kleinsee	S.A. Sea Resources (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 112, Hermanus, 7200	5 years from 1.6.79 – 31.5.84*	R7 000,00
16. Between South Head and North Head, and North Head, Saldanha Bay, excluding—	Taurus Chemicals (Cape Kelp) (Pty.) Ltd.	5 years from 1.3.79 – 29.2.84*	R15 500,00

* These permits are allocated for five years but it is stated in the permit that it may be extended for two further periods of 5 years if the sea-weed is processed locally on a basis acceptable to the Minister.

† As * but extension for 3 × 5 years or as long as the Minister may decide.

‡ Regarded as one area for tender purposes.

→

(a) the Langebaan Lagoon south of beacons LB3 (Oosterwal) and LB4 (Preekstoel);

(b) Rietbaai from beacons LB5 and LB6;

(c) the military prohibited area from Rietbaai (beacon LB6) around the Peninsula to Jutlen Bay; and

(d) the area on which the harbour works of the South African Transport Services are situated

SCHEDULE B

A. *Collected* (metric ton)

Year and species	*Areas* 1 – 4	5 – 8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1977										
Ecklonia	—	1 787	607	366	475	197	121	210	1 308	—
Gelidium . . .	31	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gigartina . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gracilaria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
1978										
Ecklonia	—	3 441	432	62	173	—	—	178	105	—
Gelidium . . .	109	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gigartina . . .	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gracilaria . . .	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	74
Porphyna . . .	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1979										
Ecklonia	—	607	178	209	200	80	44	—	—	—
Gelidium . . .	103	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gigartina . . .	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Porphyna . . .	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gracilaria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	41
1980										
Ecklonia	—	123	127	—	2	4	—	650	—	—
Gelidium . . .	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gracilaria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57
1981										
Ecklonia	—	433	219	321	34	14	—	332	—	—
Gelidium . . .	58	—	20	—	238	—	—	—	—	—
Gracilaria . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	103

B. *Harvested** (metric ton)

1977		Nil	
1978		Nil	
1979	Area 9	61 ton	*Ecklonia*
1980	Area 9	208 ton	*Ecklonia*
1981	Area 9	219 ton	*Ecklonia*

* Only one concessionaire

(3) Fishing Sea-weed Hansard Q.61. 604 – 610

493. Mr. G. S. BARTLETT asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any areas along the South African coast have been opened for the exploitation of sea-weed; if so, (a) how many areas, (b) which areas and (c) what species of sea-weed are being exploited;

(2) whether concessions have been granted to exploit sea-weed in each of these areas since 1 January 1977; if so, (a) to whom, (b) for what period was each of these concessions granted, (c) what was the successful tender price for each concession granted and (d) what tonnage of each species was harvested by each concessionaire in each calendar year from 1977 to 1981;

(3) whether any concessions changed hands during the above period; if so, (a) who was the new concessionaire, (b) for what reason and (c) on what terms, in each case;

(4) whether any changes are anticipated in respect of the rules and terms governing the (a) granting of, (b) payment for and (c) period of concessions; if so, what changes in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

(a) 13.

(b) See schedule A.

(c) *Gracilaria verrucosa, Ecklonia maxima, Ecklonia laminaria, Gelidium cartilagineum, Gelidium pristoides, Gigartina radula, Porphyna capensis.*

(2) Yes.

(a) See schedule A.

(b) See schedule A.

(c) See schedule A.

(d) See schedule B.

(3) Yes.

(a) Area 5—8: From S.A. Sea Resources to Taurus Chemicals (Cape Kelp) (Pty) Ltd on 1 November 1980

(b) Non payment of tender fees.

(c) The same as for all concessions.

(4) Full particulars of changes, if any, will be included in a White Paper which will be tabled in the near future.

SCHEDULE A

(1)(b) *Area*	(2)(a) *Permit Holder*	(2)(b) *Period*	(2)(c) *Tender Price R/Year*
1. Between the Kei River and Seal Point, excluding the area between the Fish River and the Chalumna River	Taurus Chemical Manufacturing Co. (Pty.) Ltd., P.O. Box 68327, Bryanston, 2021	1.5.1977 – 11.12.1982	R1 000,00
2. Cape Seal to Cape St. Blaize	Taurus	5 years from 1.12.1978 – 30.11.1983*	R1 000,00
3. Cape St. Blaize to the Breede River	Taurus	ditto*	R1 000,00
4. Breede River to Cape Agulhas	Taurus	ditto*	R1 000,00
5. – 8. Cape Agulhas to the border of the Divisional Council of the Cape and the City Council of Cape Town, excluding an area at Betty's Bay	Taurus Chemicals (Cape Kelp) (Pty.) Ltd	From 1.11.80 – 5.8.85†	R55 000,00†

Two die in gas blast at fish smokery

ARGUS 14/4/82

3-4 fishing

Staff Reporter

TWO men were killed and a woman seriously injured when a powerful explosion ripped through the fish-smoking factory at Kalk Bay harbour today.

The dead men were Mr Dennis Pretorious, 49, the owner of Kalk Bay Fish Smokeries, and an elderly man known only as 'Oupa Henry' who lived on Mr Pretorious's fishing boat, Maine.

The injured woman is Mrs Bonita Ferguson, 24, of Lentegeur, who was burnt on the face and arms in the blast.

The explosion appeared to have occurred in the smoking ovens and wrecked the smokery.

SEALED OFF

Part of an external wall was shifted outwards and an internal wall was thrown aside by the force of the explosion.

After police and firemen had completed their work the area was sealed off.

The hero of the day was Mr Mohammed Williams, a harbour assistant, who risked his life to pull Mrs Ferguson from the gas-filled interior of the smokery.

'I was in my office when I heard a blast that sounded like the big guns at Simon's Town. I went outside and saw the roof tiles lifting off the smokery and heard Mrs Ferguson scream,' said Mr Williams.

'I ran upstairs, kicked open the door and dragged her out. We were both nearly overcome by the powerful gas smell.'

Mr Pretorious, a former perlemoen diver, had operated the smokeries for about a year. He lived in Kalk Bay and is survived by his wife, Peri, and two children.

CAPE TIMES 15/4/82

3 Fishing

Fish scandal witness dies in factory blast

MR DENNIS Pretorius, who was killed in a gas explosion in his Kalk Bay fish-smoking factory yesterday, had made a "valuable contribution" to the probe into alleged illegal catches of white steenbras worth thousands of rands.

This was confirmed yesterday by Mr John Wiley, MP for Simon's Town, who said Mr Pretorius — a close friend — had been one of the people who recently made statements to him in connection with the allegations.

A senior official at the Sea Fisheries Institute would earlier not confirm or deny that Mr Pretorius was a potential State witness for the investigation because it was still *sub judice*.

It was reported last month that angry fishermen involved in the alleged malpractices in False Bay had made death threats to potential State witnesses.

By MARK VAN DER VELDEN

Mr Pretorius, 40, well known in the local community, and his fisherman helper, Mr Henry Daniel, aged about 60, were killed instantly when gas which had accumulated in the smoking ovens exploded at 10.40am.

Another employee, Mrs Bonita Ferguson, 24, survived the massive explosion in the small upper-floor smoking room, but was admitted to the False Bay hospital with serious burns on her face and arms.

The blast rocked the harbour master's building next door and ripped five out of six stainless steel oven doors clean off their hinges, flinging them into the room in which the two men and Mrs Ferguson were standing.

Although pieces of half-smoked fish still lay undisturbed on the smoking racks inside the distorted ovens, a brick wall dividing the upper storey of the building was ripped out almost in one piece and flung aside, while the outer wall behind the ovens was dislodged and pushed outwards.

The force of the explosion, which was described as "an incredibly loud bang" by people near the building at the time, sent debris from shattered window frames flying nearly 60 metres out on to an open piece of land behind the building.

The fire brigade put out a fire which started after the explosion, and police later sealed off the upper storey of the building.

Muizenberg police station commander, Lieutenant R W Dowd, said the explosion had probably been caused by accumulated gas from outside cylinders igniting in the oven.

Paying tribute to Mr Pretorius, Mr Wiley said his death would be a great loss to a wide range of people both in an out of the fishing industry.

A former deep sea diver and salvor, Mr Pretorius had also been a perlemoen diver and was an office-bearer of the Association of Perlemoen Divers, Mr Wiley said.

He is survived by his wife, Peri, and a son and daughter.



This dividing wall was blasted aside by the force of the explosion. The smoking ovens in which the gas ignited are seen at the back.

Boat arson follows Kalk Bay death

ARGUS 15/4/82

3 Fishing

A LEADING witness in the Kalk Bay illegal fishing scandal, Mr Piet Gouws, had his R16 000 cabin cruiser set alight by arsonists as she lay at her moorings in the tiny fishing harbour last night.

Only prompt action by a fisherman from a nearby boat prevented the cabin cruiser from being burnt out.

Yesterday, another key witness in the illegal fishing investigation, Mr Dennis Pretorius, died in a gas blast in his smokery in Kalk Bay harbour.

Last month an elderly man, Mr Ian Hembe, received death threats from skippers and crew of boats involved in the illegal catching of more than 100 tons of white steenbras in mid-February.

Earlier, an honorary Sea Fisheries inspector, who while walking on the beach at Strandfontein at night had seen and heard boats netting tons of steenbras illegally, was threatened when it became known he planned to make a sworn statement naming the boats concerned.

The Argus reporter who first exposed the illegal steenbras catches was telephoned at home by an anonymous caller and warned to 'keep out of fishing business.'

Mr Gouws told The Argus his 13 m cabin cruiser had caught fire during the night. It would take at least a month to repair the damage.

It was only through the actions of a crew member of the fishing boat Leonard K, who rushed over, smashed the windows of the burning cabin cruiser Sea Bird, and pumped water into the boat, that the complete destruction of Mr Gouws's craft was prevented.

Mr Gouws said a lock on the cabin door had been broken, a heavy old

blast

fishing jersey placed under the engine after the cowling cover had been removed, and then set alight.

'This was a deliberate fire. There is no doubt about that,' he said.

Police are investigating the fire.

Mr Gouws said he had no doubt the fire was caused to try to intimidate him because he had helped The Argus during investigations into alleged irregularities and illegal fishing practices in the area.

Crayfish—

Man fined

ARGUS 16/4/82

R1 200

B Fishing

A CITY MAN, Mr Manfred Wolf, convicted on two charges under the Sea Fisheries Act, was fined R1 200 in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court today.

Mr Wolf, 42, of Hope Street, Cape Town, was fined R1 000 (or six months' imprisonment) for catching or being in possession of 12 undersized crayfish on March 5 this year. He was sentenced to a further six months' imprisonment which was suspended for five years.

On the second count of transporting 36 crayfish without the written permission of the Director of Sea Fisheries, he was fined R200 (or 100 days' imprisonment).

Mr Wolf had pleaded guilty to both counts when he appeared on March 19.

He was convicted for contravening regulations under the Sea Fisheries Act in 1973 and 1981 and fined R200 and R500, respectively.

DESPERATE

He said in mitigation of sentence that at the time of the offence he had 'an extreme financial problem.'

He said that in a final act of desperation he tried to resolve this problem by catching crayfish.

He pointed out that he had not been convicted of an offence other than a contravention of regulations under the Sea Fisheries Act.

Passing sentence on the second count, the magistrate, Mr D Cronje, said the fine would be lower than the one on the first count.

He said this was because of 'the accumulative effect of the sentence.'

Mr T Lerm appeared for the State. Mr Wolf was not represented.

are in the can (200 000 cartons of 48 X 500g tins). If these high yields are maintained until the end of May, when pilchard catching has to stop, a total pack of 600 000 cartons may be possible. This would be worth more than $10m fob Walvis Bay.

On June 1 quota-holders will be allowed to go hunting for non-pilchard species such as horse mackerel and anchovy. An upper limit of 220 000t has been placed on such catches, but fishing will cease immediately should landings be found to contain an "unacceptable" proportion of pilchard.

HAKE QUOTA FM 16.4.82

Something fishy

(3) Fishing

Management authorities of adjacent zones of the south-east Atlantic hake fishery have arrived at sharply conflicting conclusions about the maximum sustainable yield of their respective areas.

This is reflected in their 1982 determinations of total allowable catch.

After quota cuts of 34% and 23% in 1981 and 1980 respectively in the Namibia zone of the south-east Atlantic, the 17-nation international commission, known as ICSEAF, has raised the 1982 permissible hake catch off Namibia 66% — from 215 000t to 352 000t.

In sharp contrast, the SA Ministry of Fisheries has reduced the total allowable hake catch in the SA zone of the south-east Atlantic from 153 700t to 136 000t.

Both quota determinations are based on scientific analyses of last year's catch. A cynical view of the conflicting findings is that the one handed down by ICSEAF was influenced by self-interest of participating nations rather than concern for the resource.

The fact that as host coastal nation Namibia has indeterminate international status may also have had something to do with ICSEAF's liberal catch recommendation.

Although both zones are subject to 200-mile exclusive fishing regimes, the one proclaimed by Namibia's "interim" government is not enforceable. Rather, discipline of fishing effort is maintained on a voluntary basis by the 17 nations which have traditionally worked the Namibia hake grounds.

It is an abiding irony that member nations of the international commission bring together a collection of potentially the most politically incompatible countries on earth — SA, the USSR, Cuba, Angola, Bulgaria, France, East Germany, West Germany, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Spain.

Fortunately for stock management in Namibian waters, political differences have never arisen in ICSEAF deliberations, although South African delegates are openly critical of the scientific data upon which the latest Namibia quota has been based. South African deep sea trawler operators have a 23 000t quota in Namibia and contest the findings of Spain and Russia in submissions to the ICSEAF scientific committee that there was a sharp improvement in the catch per unit on effort during 1981.

Economic rents

Representatives of the Namibia "interim" administration are also disappointed at the response of member nations to pay an "economic rent" for the right to fish in the zone. This includes a royalty of US$10/ton for hake and $5/ton for pelagic species. South African quota-holders have reportedly paid contributions and there are indications that some of the Western members of ICSEAF may do so. Whether communist countries will pay royalties remains to be seen. They could object to the fact that the funds will be paid to a South African-sponsored administration, rather than be held in escrow by the international community and paid over to the government of an independent Namibia after UN-sponsored elections. Meanwhile, royalty payments of more than $20m/year are foregone.

Still, the Namibian inshore fishing season is proceeding satisfactorily. About 10 000t out of the total allowable pilchard catch of 30 000t has been landed so far.

The canning programme has been a success. Yields are up to 50% due to the fact that the raw fish is brought to the factory jetties in refrigerated or chilled seawater ships. Of the 10 000t landed to date, 5 000t

CORRUPTION IN SEA FISHERIES

ARGUS 16/4/82 (3 Fishing)

By GRAHAM FERREIRA
Environment Reporter

SWORN affidavits alleging corruption in the Department of Sea Fisheries will be handed to the newly appointed Chief Director of the department, Dr J Serfontein, at a special meeting with an Argus representative, and Mr John Wiley, the Simon's Town MP, next week.

The affidavits have been obtained during an Argus investigation of illegal fishing practices in the Western Cape, especially in and near False Bay.

During the investigation, the Argus found widespread dissatisfaction with the department among members of the public, especially sport fishermen, professional line fishermen and conservationists.

'COVER-UPS'

Several people said that it was pointless reporting fishing irregularities because of 'cover-ups' in the department.

Recently there was an outcry over the landing at Kalk Bay and other fishing harbours of allegedly more than 100 tons of white steenbras caught illegally in False Bay.

Several senior members of the fisheries department are named in the affidavits to be handed to Dr Serfontein next week, and the allegations go right back to the mid-70s.

The most recent concerns an incident at Kommetjie about four months ago, when an honorary fisheries inspector called the police after he saw the crew of a crayfish dinghy dump nets in the sea just before landing. He believes there were crayfish in the nets, over and above the legal limit in the boat itself.

Before the police arrived, one of the crew waded out and appeared to dump live crayfish out of one of the nets.

A senior official of the Department of Sea Fisheries was one of the crew of the boat, according to the affidavit, and one of his juniors was on the shore. The official on the shore refused to investigate the contents of the nets that were dumped.

REPORTED

The honorary fisheries inspector who was on the beach later reported the matter to the Department of Sea Fisheries, and a senior official promised to investigate.

The honorary sea fisheries inspector says nothing came of the matter.

The same senior official is named in connection with an incident involving alleged crayfish poaching by a member of the same department almost five years before.

On this occasion, according to an affidavit, the official was told that one of his juniors intended to poach crayfish at night on the West Coast. He allegedly said he was 'very tired' and no action was taken.

Another affidavit involving yet another Sea Fisheries official tells of an incident in Hout Bay about a year ago. According to the affidavit Sea Fisheries officials using a Sea Fisheries ski-boat were seen with a big load of crayfish. Asked why they had the crayfish the senior official became aggressive.

STATEMENTS

Later they were seen to dump crayfish just outside the harbour.

During The Argus investigation, written and verbal statements have been taken and documents perused which allege that:

ALLEGED

- A pile of R20 notes changed hands in the front seat of a delivery van and the money was taken into the house of a Sea Fisheries official.
- After a Fish Hoek man had laid a complaint about illegal trek netting, the fisherman involved came to his office and threatened him. The complainant claims that only Sea Fisheries officials could have informed the fisherman of complaints against him, and that the fisherman is a friend of the official involved.
- The illegal netting of tens of thousands of undersize steenbras in False Bay, was 'hushed up.'
- The damaging effects of netting in False Bay have been minimised by Sea Fisheries senior staff in spite of findings to the contrary by three different commissions of inquiry.

Details of these accusations and information gathered by The Argus during our investigations will be passed on to Dr Serfontein at the meeting next week.

'WE WON'T BE INTIMIDATED'

3 Fishing ARGUS 19/4/82



'WE refuse to be intimidated,' said Mr Ian Hembe, (left), and Mr Piet Gouws after they had examined the damage to Mr Gouws's cabin cruiser, seen in the background. The cruiser was set alight by arsonists after Mr Hembe had received death threats. Both men are leading figures in the fight to save False Bay from being turned into a marine desert.

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

IN spite of death threats two Kalk Bay men are determined to see the people 'responsible for the rape of False Bay' behind bars.

A cabin cruiser belonging to Mr Piet Gouws, a businessman who has assisted The Argus in an investigation into illegal fishing practices, was set alight on Wednesday.

But for the prompt action of a crewman on a boat moored nearby, the R16 000 vessel could have been destroyed.

Mr Gouws, a former heavyweight boxing champion, said: 'They can't intimidate me. I'll see the people responsible for this behind bars.

'And when I talk about people, I don't mean only some fishermen but also those who have vested interests in the illegal fishing.'

Mr Ian Hembe, a retired university lecturer who sometimes takes science classes at a local school, has received death threats from skippers and crewmen because he could be a key witness in the investigation.

He assists Mr Gouws in his roof-cleaning business.

Both were close friends of Mr Dennis Pretorius, another witness, who was killed in a gas explosion in his smokery at Kalk Bay.

That tragedy, followed the same day by the arson attempt, has simply strengthened the resolve of the two men to see the whole business through to its conclusion.'

They feel they owe it to Mr Pretorius, who was determined to get to the bottom of illegal practices he believed were turning False Bay into a marine desert.

Mr Gouws said: 'Obviously somebody thought it was a Godsent opportunity to rub the salt into the wound and try to intimidate me by setting fire to my boat while we were still shocked at Dennis's death.

'I had no intention of getting involved until a skipper of a boat which had taken part in the illegal steenbras catches threatened Ian.

'That's when the gloves came off, and now nothing is going to stop me from seeing this thing through.' ● See Page 7.

Gas blast death, boat arson link?

ARGUS 19/4/82

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THE possibility of a connection between the death of Mr Dennis Pretorius in a gas explosion in his Kalk Bay factory last week and an arson attempt on the cabin cruiser of Kalk Bay businessman Mr Piet Gouws has not yet been ruled out, according to police sources.

Both men had made statements to the authorities involving the illegal fishing scandal which shook the tiny village of Kalk Bay last month.

Although it seems Mr Pretorius's death was 'an unfortunate accident,' the arson attempt on Mr Gouws's R16 000 craft, later the same day, coupled with death threats to other key witnesses in the illegal fishing investigation, have made those responsible for investigating the two incidents look carefully at all the alternatives.

Before Mr Pretorius died he made a written statement to me about alleged serious irregularities involving officials of the Department of Sea Fisheries. This has been handed to the police.

I later telephoned the Sea Fisheries official who had been named in the statement. I told him there had been allegations about him but I did not mention the allegations specifically nor did I say who had made the allegations.

I asked him if he would co-operate in helping to get to the bottom of the alleged irregularities involving other senior department officials.

He replied that he'd rather sit in jail than testify against his colleagues.

'I am too afraid to say anything against them,' he said.

An Argus representative is to meet the chief director of Sea Fisheries, Dr J Serfontein, and the MP for Simon's Town, Mr John Wiley, today when sworn affidavits taken by The Argus alleging corruption in the department will be handed over.

Police probe corruption claim

3 Fishing

Cape Times 20/4/82

POLICE are investigating allegations of corruption against members of the Sea Fisheries Institute after the handing over of documents by Mr John Wiley, MP for Simon's Town, to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

This was confirmed yesterday by Dr Jozua Serfontein, newly-appointed chief director of the department's marine development branch, shortly before further information was handed to him at a meeting in Mr Wiley's office at Parliament.

The present allegations of irregularities — relating to the catching of white steenbras — involve Mr Wiley's constituency.

Dr Serfontein said after receiving the information — believed to be contained in three affidavits — that it was "new" to him and would be given to the police.

By STEPHEN WROTTESLEY

Top priority

The police had given the investigation "top priority", he said.

Police, however, were tight-lipped about the investigation. They did not confirm that it related to irregularities inside the Sea Fisheries Institute and said it involved contraventions at "Hout Bay and other places".

Police said on completion of their investigation, the docket would be forwarded to the Attorney-General.

Dr Serfontein said he would await "a court decision" before taking any action against officials who might be implicated.

The meeting at Parliament yesterday between a representative of an afternoon newspaper, Mr Wiley and Dr Serfontein lasted nearly 90 minutes.

Lieutenant Gerhard van Rooyen, a police liaison officer for the Western Cape, confirmed the police investigation. Asked who the investigating officer was, he said this could not be disclosed.

However, he said any information could be given to him at ☎46-6604.

Appeal

Dr Serfontein appealed to people with information on fishing irregularities to resist intimidation and to come forward.

"We need the information," he said.

He said yesterday's meeting had been amicable. The police had started their investigation from scratch. He was happy that the department was handling the irregularities in the right way by handing the information to the police.

Yesterday's meeting was initiated by Mr Wiley.

The latest developments follow recent disclosures about illegal catches of white steenbras in False Bay by boats from Kalk Bay harbour. Following the disclosures, death threats were made and since then one potential witness has died in an accident.

Pledge to uncover fish scandals

ARGUS 20/4/82 3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THE Chief Director of Sea Fisheries, Dr J Serfontein, has given assurances that 'everything humanly possible' will be done to get to the bottom of the illegal fishing scandals uncovered during an Argus investigation recently.

Yesterday an Argus representative met Dr Serfontein and Mr John Wiley, MP for Simon's Town, and handed over sworn affidavits alleging corruption in the Department of Sea Fisheries.

Dr Serfontein told The Argus: 'You have proved your point.'

The statements taken by The Argus and statements obtained by Mr Wiley have been handed over to the police for investigation.

Dr Serfontein said that 'all aspects' of the illegal steenbras catches which were landed at Kalk Bay and other fishing harbours during February had been handed over to the police for investigation.

The other aspects of the investigation including allegations — supported by sworn affidavits — of corruption in the Department of Sea Fisheries, will also be thoroughly investigated.

One of the stumbling blocks in the investigation has been the intimidation of witnesses, and Dr Serfontein said that this was an 'extremely serious problem.'

During investigations The Argus had continually to give assurances to the various witnesses that their identities would be kept secret — at least for the time being.

'We are dealing with some rough customers,' said Dr Serfontein.

One of the witnesses who gave information to The Argus asked if it would not be possible for witnesses to give evidence in court in such a way as to conceal the person's identity.

Dr Serfontein, who took office as head of Sea Fisheries at the beginning of March, said he was glad that The Argus had brought the irregularities to light.

CAPE Times 21/4/82 (3 Fishing)

Illegal trek fishing alleged at Hermanus

By STEPHEN WROTTESLEY

ALLEGATIONS of illegal trek fishing have been made in Hermanus where conservationists believe fish resources in Walker Bay will not last long.

While most of the fish caught in Walker Bay between Hermanus and Danger Point appear to have been netted legally, one witness is prepared to make a sworn statement and testify in court to an illegal catch of about 200 white steenbras off the mouth of the lagoon by trek fishermen.

Sport anglers are up in arms but hopeful that if legislation is introduced along the lines recommended by the N F Treurnicht Commission of Inquiry into aspects of the fishing industry, the destruction of fish resources might be stopped before it is too late.

The Walker Bay Angling and Conservation Club gave evidence to the commission, whose eventual recommendations on certain aspects are even stronger than those of the club.

It is the club that found Mr Jannie Krige, the witness to the alleged illegal fish catching on April 3 by trek netters. He wrote to the club and the contents of the letter have been made available to the Cape Times.

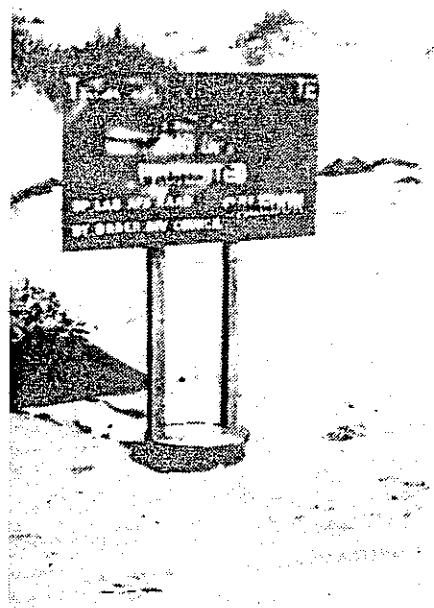
He said he was returning home from Die Plaat about 7pm and was crossing the lagoon where it opens on to the sea. There he found the trek netters with about 20 haarders and about 200 white steenbras.

There is an area around the mouth of the lagoon where it is illegal to trek fish from the beach. Signboards are posted, although one has been covered over with black paint, apparently by fisherman.

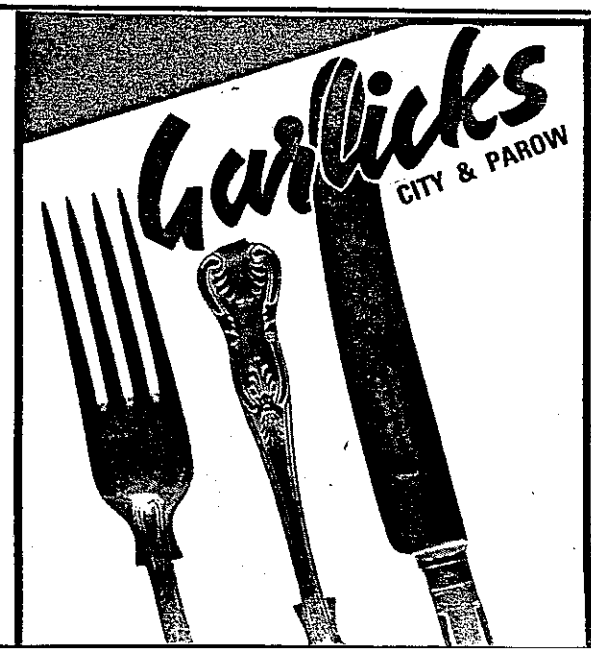
Mr Krige said he contacted the police and this was confirmed by Major George Kersoff, Boland Division police liaison officer. He said police went to the scene but that the fishermen had disappeared by the time they arrived there.

He said there were certain discrepancies about the restricted area near the lagoon and police had taken this up with the Divisional Council. They were awaiting the council's reply.

There is also information available that three men were allegedly given 50 steenbras for helping some trek fishermen pull their nets in.



The painted-out board prohibiting trek fishing near the Hermanus lagoon.



Street race tonight

Staff Reporter

A RACE through the streets of Cape Town takes place tonight.

The festival race is over 10 000 metres and starts at 7pm at the City Hall in Darling Street.

Springboks Ewald Bonzet and Bernard Rose have entered the race, which is open only to registered runners.

The route is first along Darling Street then through Adderley Street, Riebeeck Street and Waterkant Street.

From there the runners

Inspector's private crayfish trips in commercial boat alleged

Argus 22/4/82
3 Fishing

By GRAHAM FERREIRA
Environment Reporter

A SEA Fisheries inspector at Kommetjie is allegedly using a boat licensed for commercial crayfishing for his own private crayfishing trips.

The boat belongs to Lighthouse Fisheries, a crayfish company in the inspector's area.

The Argus visited Kommetjie and spoke to residents who alleged that the inspector used the boat for his own crayfish catching.

The 'K' on the bows of the boat indicating that it is licensed to catch crayfish commercially has been painted out, but the number ST 368 is still on the bows.

A spokesman for the head office of the Department of Sea Fisheries confirmed that the boat was still registered in the name of Lighthouse Fisheries and was still registered as a 'K' boat.

The engine said to have been used by the inspector was found in a store near the caravan in which he lives. The storekeeper confirmed that the engine was used by the inspector on his crayfishing trips.

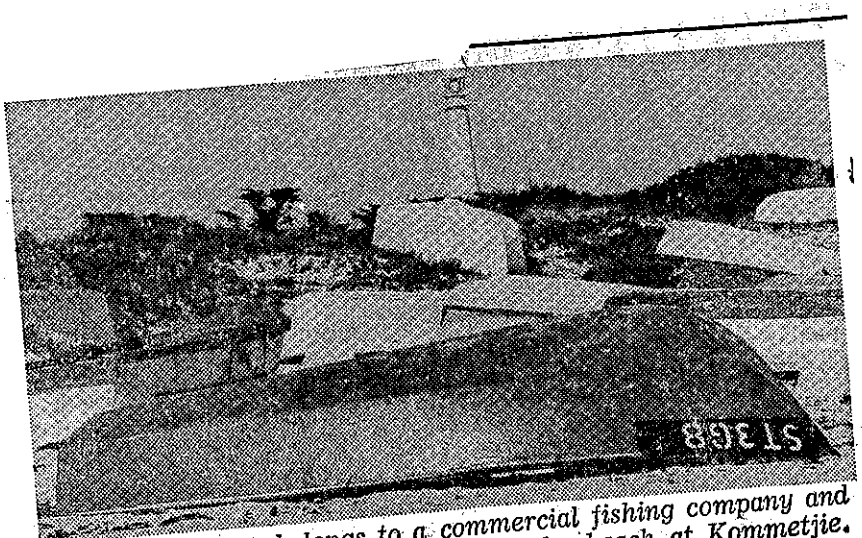
Outside the caravan lay a pile of crayfish nets, oars and several plastic baskets used by professional crayfishermen. The baskets were marked 'Lighthouse Fisheries.'

The Argus is to give all the information including photographs of the boat and equipment to the police officer who has been assigned to investigate reports of illegal fishing in False Bay and nearby areas.

During recent Argus investigations sworn affidavits have been obtained in which it is alleged that several Sea Fisheries officials take part in illegal crayfishing. Senior officials have been named in the affidavits.

The affidavits were handed over to Dr J Serfontein, Chief Director of Sea Fischeries, this week.

A team of detectives has been called in to investigate.



THE boat, which belongs to a commercial fishing company and is licensed to catch crayfish, lies on the beach at Kommetjie.

4
6.

Cape fish stocks ruined for ever?

CAPE TIMES 22/4/82 (3 Fisheries)

By STEPHEN WROTTESLEY

FURTHER reports of illegal fishing in Cape waters this week have shown that recommendations by government commissions into the industry have not been acted on.

Anglers and conservationists believe that if the report of the most recent commission, that of Mr N F Treurnicht, is not acted on soon, Cape fish stocks might be permanently ruined.

The report and its recommendations was tabled nearly two years ago but no major legislation has followed.

As long ago as 1966 a commission of inquiry recommended to the government that the catching of galjoen, white steenbras, geelbek and yellowtail by means of nets should be prohibited between Cape Point and Danger Point near Gansbaai.

The area between the two points includes False Bay and Walker Bay, near Hermanus, scenes of recent illegal catches of white steenbras.

The commission was set up in November 1964 and made its report in May 1966. Chaired by Professor J P Yeats, it was instructed to investigate certain aspects of commercial fishing between Cape Point and Danger Point.

The finding relating to white steenbras was never implemented.

The report is mentioned in the findings of the latest commission.

The fishing industry has argued against the closing down of certain fishing areas by saying there was no statistical proof that commercial fishing was destroying stocks.

The Yeats commission said, however, it could not see why evidence from line fishermen and anglers gained from personal observation and experience could not be accepted and said the absence of statistical data could not be used as a reason for refuting the assertion that fish stocks had decreased.

The Walker Bay Angling and Conservation Club, which has its base at Hermanus, wants a number of bans imposed on certain aspects of fishing. The men involved in present fishing expeditions from Hermanus do not need fishing to survive, according to the chairman of the club, Mr Johan van Schalkwyk.

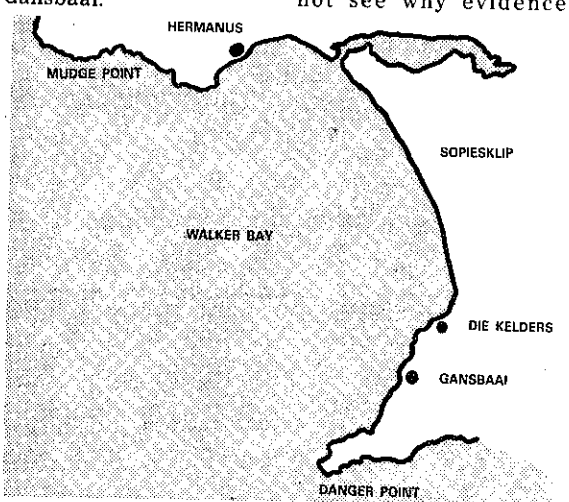
Club's aims

Among the club's aims are to secure a total ban on the use of any type of net in the area of the Klein River lagoon with the exception of throw-nets to catch bait; a ban on any nets along the coast from the new Hermanus harbour to Sopiesklip; a ban on the use of any purse-seine nets in the area between the coast and a line between the harbour and Die Kelders, and a ban on any boats beside those from Gansbaai in the area between the coast and a line between Mudge Point and Danger Point.

They want to see no Hout Bay or west coast boats in the bay as the anglers believe they cause much of the damage.

Ideally they would like to see Walker Bay closed totally to commercial fishing although they understand the needs of the Gansbaai fishermen.

Mr Treunicht's commission makes recommendations which, if accepted, could change the face of the industry.



Anglers in Hermanus want Walker Bay — between Mudge Point and Danger Point — placed out of bounds to fishing boats other than those from Gansbaai because of the depletion of fish stocks in the bay. They also want a ban on trek fishing on the coast from the new Hermanus harbour to Sopiesklip and a ban on purse-seine fishing in an area inshore from a line drawn between the harbour and Die Kelders.

Recommendations

Dealing not only with fishing, it also made recommendations about perlemoen which have been a worry for Walker Bay fishermen. They have wanted locally caught perlemoen available in Hermanus and the commission says fifty percent of each individual quota should be marketed locally.

If the full 50 per cent is not sold locally, the global and individual quotas should be reduced acordingly.

The commission also recommended that:

- Snoek should not be trawled.
- The ban on catching yellowtail by means of purse-seine nets within 15 nautical miles should be effectively enforced.
- False Bay and Walker Bay ought to be closed to purse-seine netters.
- Permits for trek-netters in False and Walker bays should be strictly limited to the traditional local trek fishermen and that sea anglers should pay annual licence fees.

iner's Initials:

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OWN AD

Examination Paper):

books or notes.

4. A candidate attempting to help or obtain help from any other candidate, or having any unauthorised books or notes in his possession will be liable to be disqualified and to be further dealt with as may be determined by the Senate.

5. A candidate must not take out of the examination room any examination books supplied by the University.

6. Pages must not be extracted from this book.

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5. Geen eksamenskrifte deur die Universiteit verskaf, mag uit die eksamenkamer weggeneem word nie.

6. Geen bladsye mag uit hierdie eksamenskrif geskeur word nie.

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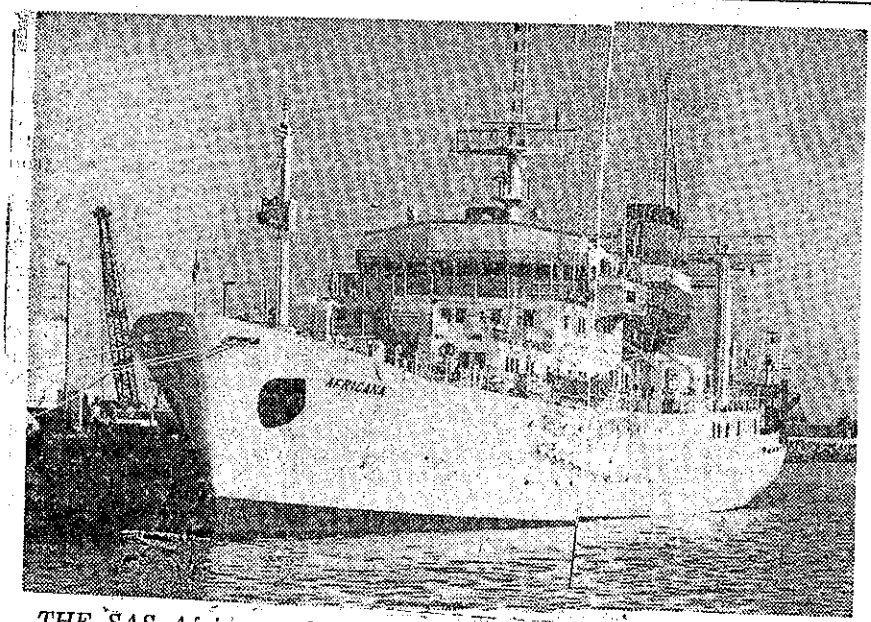

THE SAS Africana, the Sea Fisheries' latest research ship, at berth in Cape Town's Ben Schoeman container basin after extensive sea trials. The Africana is to be officially commissioned in a ceremony in the Civic Centre this evening.

New fisheries research ship

ARGUS 23/4/82 3 Fishing

THE Sea Fisheries' newest research ship, Africana, will be formally commissioned in the Civic Centre this evening.

The R25-million, 2 500-ton vessel was built as a replacement for the Africana II and is rated as one of the most modern of its kind.

Launched in late 1980 the Africana has undergone extensive trials and has just returned from a 'shake-down' cruise.

Today guests were shown around the vessel by Mr A A Richardson, the ship's control technician, who explained the workings of the highly sophisticated electronic and trawling equipment.

Ice-strengthened to enable it to undertake research in Antarctic regions, the Africana has a range of more than 22 000 km and has accommodation for a crew of 37 and 15 scientists.

Included in its advanced fish-tracking electronic equipment is a unique device that edits incoming data, leaving out unwanted information and making the process of data analysis more efficient.

Mr Richardson said past experience had played a large part in the ship's design which, in some respects, was revolutionary.

'Its design was based on the British Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries' research ship Cirolana,' he said.

'Because the ship will do detailed acoustic work, it needs to be very quiet. For this reason all the engines are mounted on a platform which in turn is mounted on rubber supports. The entire engine room is enclosed in an acoustic shield'.

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, will give an address this evening at the commissioning ceremony.

★ 3 Fishing

Illegal fishing: Top-level police probe

By STEPHEN WROTTESLEY

POLICE have launched a three-pronged investigation into allegations and events concerning the fishing industry and illegal catches of white steenbras in False Bay in February.

The investigation is understood to be high-powered but the Divisional CID chief for the Western Cape, Brigadier Dries van den Heever, yesterday declined to name the investigators, or say how many there were or what course of action they would take.

He said if this information was disclosed it would hinder the police investigation and he was "not prepared to allow that".

The investigation was receiving his "fullest" attention as well as the attention of his deputy, Colonel Willem van der Merwe, he said.

The police investigation relates to:

● The explosion at a fish-smoking factory in Kalk Bay earlier this month which killed a valuable witness in the fish scandal inquiry,

● A fire, allegedly started by arsonists, only hours after the explosion, on board another witness's R16 000 cabin cruiser as she lay at her moorings in Kalk Bay.

● Statements, which reportedly contain allegations of corruption in the Sea Fisheries Institute and which were handed to police by Dr Jozua Serfontein, newly-appointed chief director of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, marine development branch.

The investigation has been hampered so far by witnesses fearing to give evidence and by death threats against witnesses.

Yesterday I received a call threatening violence. A reporter from the Argus who is also investigating the fishing industry received a similar call.

A later call to the Cape Times said four earlier calls had been a "joke" but details of the threats have been handed to the police. So has the name of a man accidentally mentioned in one of the threatening calls.

I personally received three calls in which the caller said I would be attacked so violently, "your mother won't recognize you". The news editor's secretary took a fourth threatening call and also received the message that it had been a joke.

Mr Graham Ferreira, who has been investigating allegations involving the fishing industry for an afternoon newspaper, said he had also received a threatening call.

Any information that would assist the authorities in the investigation can be given to Lieutenant G van Rooyen, a police liaison officer, at ☎46-6604.

Crayfish poaching by patrol boat—witness

ARGUS 23/4/82

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

A SEA Fisheries patrol boat caught hundreds of crayfish illegally inside a crayfish sanctuary near Hout Bay, according to a sworn affidavit given to The Argus by a Cape Town game fisherman.

The affidavit is to be handed to the team of detectives investigating allegations of illegal fishing activities in False Bay and surrounding waters.

Following an Argus investigation, other affidavits, photographs and evidence alleging corruption in the Department of Sea Fisheries were handed to Dr J Serfontein, chief director of Sea Fisheries, this week. These have also been passed on to the police.

NAMED

The affidavits allege that officials of the department took part in illegal crayfish. Senior officials were named in the affidavits.

According to the latest affidavit, the eye witness and his crew were out in his boat fishing off The Sentinel, near Hout Bay, about a year and a half ago.

'It was about 3.30 pm. We noticed some floats in the water. For many years I have been aware of illegal crayfishing in that area.

'While we were fishing we noticed a Sea Fisheries vessel approaching from the direction of Cape Town. The vessel made straight for the floats and stopped. I saw crewmen on board pull in the lines attached to the floats.

'At the end was a commercial fish trap full of crayfish. I estimate there were between 200 and 300 crayfish in the net.

'The trap with the crayfish was hauled aboard the Sea Fisheries vessel, and about five minutes later the trap was returned to the water — empty. The vessel then returned in the direction of Cape Town.

'My crew and I discussed the incident and we were of the opinion that something illegal had taken place.'

The game fisherman who gave the affidavit is a boatowner and businessman.

During The Argus investigation into illegal fishing practices, sworn affidavits, photographs, documentary evidence and interviews have disclosed that:

- Inspectors have themselves been involved in illegal crayfishing.
- An eyewitness watched while hundreds of rands in R20 notes changed hands in the front seat of a delivery van and the money was then taken into the house of a Sea Fisheries official.
- After a Fish Hoek man had laid a complaint about illegal trek netting, the fisherman involved came to his office and threatened him. The complainant claims that only Sea Fisheries officials could have informed the fisherman of the complaint, and that the fisherman is a friend of the official involved.
- Reports of illegalities have not been acted on by Sea Fisheries officials.
- The damaging effects of netting in False Bay have been minimised by fisheries officials in spite of the findings of three

(Contd. on Page 3, col. 6).

ARGUS 23/4/82

Crayfish

3 Fishing

(Continued from Page 1)

commissions of inquiry over the past 16 years.

- Reported misdemeanours by Sea Fisheries officials are investigated by other officials from the same department, and this has made witnesses reluctant to come forward with information.
- Although offences by trawlers and so called bait boats operating in False Bay have been noted over the past 20 years, and commented on in three official inquiries, there has to date been no successful prosecution of the culprits.

'Hush-up' alleged over fish catch

ARGUS 27/4/82

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

A CAPE TOWN fisherman, Mr Neville Haynes of Clovelly, says the Department of Sea Fisheries "hushed up" the trekking of 30 000 undersize white steenbras.

Sea Fisheries told angry angling bodies that the fish which had been trekked at Strandfontein were "mooi-nooientjies," but when Mr Haynes wrote to the department he was told the catch was of sand steenbras.

But several expert fishermen who studied photographs of the undersize fish say there can be no mistake. The fish were white steenbras.

NOT PROTECTED

Replying to Mr Haynes's letter, Mr Johan Franken of Sea Fisheries, said that an inspector from Sea Fisheries had been present at the trek and had estimated that about 8 000 sand steenbras had been taken.

The inspector was one of the leading Sea Fisheries figures in the controversial catches of white steenbras landed illegally at Kalk Bay in February.

According to Mr Franken, sand steenbras are not protected and there is no size limit for the species.

Replying to Mr Franken Mr Haynes asked why, "If one of your inspectors was coincidentally present at the trek, did your department originally inform angling bodies that the fish caught were mooi-nooientjies?"

He also noted that he was well aware of the difference between sand and white steenbras and had studied photographs of the fish. There was no doubt that the fish were white steenbras.

"As soon as the public alerts the authorities of irregularities, ways are found to hush things up," wrote Mr Haynes.

The only reply he re-

(Contd on Page 3, col 1)

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NEDBANK STAFF SOCIETY

Year	Membership					
	African	Asian	Coloured	White	Total	
1970				..	..	
1971				..	..	
1972				..	..	
1973				1 773	1 773	+
1974				..	..	
1975				1 773	1 773	※
1976				1 773	1 773	※
1977				1 773	1 773	※
1978				2 672	2 672	$
1979				2 700	2 700	$
1980				2 700	2700	$

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Johannesburg
2000

Telephone: (011) 584 269

Officials: Genera ıger

Area of Operation:

Founded:

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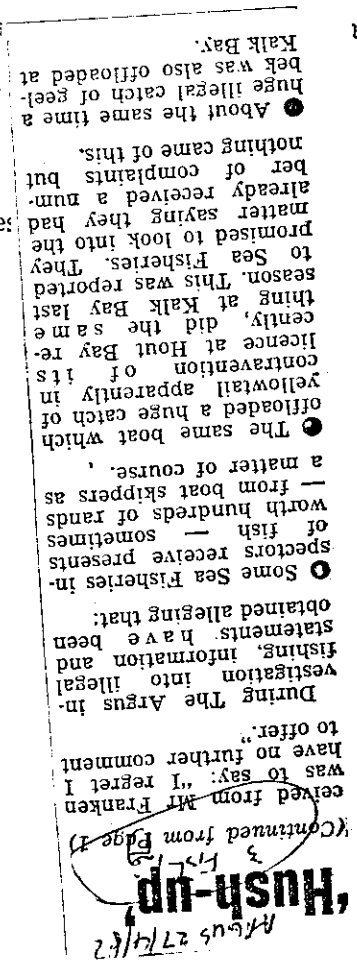

'Hush-up'

(Continued from Page 1)

ceived from Mr Franken was to say: "I regret I have no further comment to offer."

During The Argus investigation into illegal fishing, information and statements have been obtained alleging that:

● Some Sea Fisheries inspectors receive presents of fish — sometimes worth hundreds of rands — from boat skippers as a matter of course.

● The same boat which offloaded a huge catch of yellowtail apparently in contravention of its licence at Hout Bay recently, did the same thing at Kalk Bay last season. This was reported to Sea Fisheries. They promised to look into the matter saying they had already received a number of complaints but nothing came of this.

● About the same time a huge illegal catch of geelbek was also offloaded at Kalk Bay.

Govt outlines plans for fish industry

ARGUS 29/4/82 3 Fishing

PROPOSALS to conserve South Africa's fish resources, give private boat owners a better deal, control anglers, make seafood more readily available to local consumers and curtail seine netting have been accepted by the Government.

The proposals will have a major impact on all sectors of the R240-million fishing industry, which has had reduced catches over the past few years.

They were published in a Government White Paper in Parliament yesterday by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis.

PRINCIPLE

The White Paper stems from the commission of inquiry into the fishing industry and fish resources which completed its report in June, 1980.

Although some of the commission's recommendations have been accepted, the Government had stopped short of committing itself fully on some key proposals, has accepted others in principle and has rejected some outright.

Most of the key recommendations which the Government has accepted concern conservation. However, it has pointed out that the inadequacy of the present fisheries inspection service and lack of funds and equipment make proper policing of stringent conservation measures extremely difficult.

QUOTAS

One of the most far-reaching decisions the Government has taken is not to increase hake or crayfish quotas "until scientific confirmation is available that the source has recovered sufficiently."

But the White Paper has refused to do away with the quotas given to foreign countries in South Africa's fishing grounds and has admitted effective monitoring and control of foreign fishing vessels is "very difficult."

Among the breakthroughs is the Government's acceptance of the principle that the fishing industry is not exclusive and consideration will have to be given to admitting new entrepreneurs on merit.

FALSE BAY

A major recommendation turned down by the State is the closure of False Bay and Walker Bay to all purse-seine netting.

But the white paper said the Sea Fisheries Institute had begun reducing the number of beach seine netting licences.

Another important aspect is the State's acceptance that the vested interests of private boat owners and abalone divers in the industry should be entrenched.

An important concession is the recognition that crayfish and perlemoen should be readily available locally.

Although the White Paper has turned down a recommendation that private individuals obtain a permit to catch the limit of five crayfish or perlemoen, it accepts in principle that some form of control over angling is necessary.

Marine industry White Paper

Cape Times 29/4/82

3 Fishing

By GORDON KLING

THE government yesterday responded to recommendations of a commission of inquiry into South Africa's marine resources, which reported almost two years ago, with a White Paper indicating that long delays can be expected before decisions are reached on the most controversial issues.

Shocked conservationists, anglers and participants in the fishing industry yesterday maintained that urgent action was needed on the recommendations to save fish stocks from being ruined forever.

But yesterday's White Paper emphasized the complexity of various problems, and the inadequacy of inspection, control measures and manpower, adding that further study and funds would be required to bring about an improvement.

Faults

Mr John Wiley, National Party MP for Simon's Town and a member of the commission, said a restructuring of the Department of Sea Fisheries had taken place and many of the faults that had existed for so long had been identified in the White Paper.

Many of the recommendations that were considered to require further study "must be given effect" and he would deal with this further in the debate next week.

One of the few indications of concrete action related to the West Coast rock lobster industry, where, according to the report submitted by the Minister of Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, there were prospects that the quota for the 1981/82 season would be reduced by 19 percent.

Perlemoen

The manager of the Cape Lobster Exporters' Association, Mr J Kroukamp, said last night, however, that the quota for the season had been reduced by an effective 23 percent.

Acknowledging a key complaint on perlemoen, the paper noted: "The abalone industry is prepared to sell abalone locally but at the ruling price there is obviously no demand to speak of."

Cape Times 29/4/82

A

From page 1

3 Fishing

The commission's recommendation that 50 percent of the annual perlemoen quota be sold locally and that the global quota be reduced by that portion which was not sold here, however, also fell into the "thorough investigation" category.

Reacting to the commission's hope that it would be possible to cancel the hake quota held by foreign interests, the White Paper said: "Quotas for foreign countries are allocated on the grounds of considerations beyond the scope of the fishing industry and evidently it is not desirable simply to cancel them at this stage."

Snoek

A call for a ban on the trawling of snoek was accepted in principle, but it would be difficult to control as would a system of control over the catches of anglers.

In an angry reaction to the lack of commitment to action, the chairman of the Walker Bay Angling and Conservation Club, Mr Johan van Schalkwyk, said the White Paper appeared on the surface to conflict with the commission's terms of reference three years ago which were to undertake an urgent investigation.

"They've been brooding on the report for two years and now they come out with this 'nothing'," he exclaimed.

NEDBANK STAFF SOCIETY

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1970				..	..	
1971				..	..	
1972				..	..	
1973				1 773	1 773	+
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1977				1 773	1 773	x
1978				2 672	2 672	$
1979				2 700	2 700	$
1980				2 700	2700	$

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'Rejected' fish scientist vows to fight

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — Marine scientist Dr Jan Lochner said today the rejection of a recommendation that he be consulted about fishing quotas was a rejection of his work, and he would fight to have it accepted.

Dr Lochner, a specialist in marine population dynamics, was reacting to the White Paper before Parliament yesterday following a commission of inquiry into the fishing industry and fish resources completed in 1980.

The commission recommended that Dr Lochner be consulted when fishing quotas were established.

This recommendation was rejected by the Government.

IMPORTANT

Dr Lochner said: "This means a rejection of my work, and a decision which I do not accept as it is of the utmost national importance that it be recognised.

"I solved the problem of the safe and optimal

Dr Jan Lochner



African pilchards resource — which in present terms would be worth an estimated R200-million annually — was completely destroyed."

SUSPICION

Dr Lochner said he suspected his work had been rejected because of pressure from those involved in "the destruction of the South West African pilchards resource."

His work provided the only means of rebuilding this country's living marine resources, and he would continue to fight to have it accepted, he said.

● Government outlines plans for fish industry — Page 25.

"In spite of all my warnings, the South West exploitation of a pelagic fish resource in the open sea in 1968.

ARGUS 30/4/82

'Crayfish smuggled through Hout Bay'

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THOUSANDS of illegally caught crayfish, most of them undersize, are being smuggled through the Hout Bay fishing harbour, according to four full-time fishing boat skippers and a crayfish factory owner. The whole area is being fished out very quickly, they say.

The people to whom I spoke — all of whom are totally dependent on fishing for their livelihood — say they are just about at their wits end. "Our livelihood and our future are being stolen right under our noses, and we are powerless to do anything," they say.

AFFIDAVITS

Everyone I have spoken to in Hout Bay recently is aware of the poaching. I have even spoken to self-confessed poachers, who claim that they are only doing what some of the fisheries staff themselves do. There are sworn affidavits alleging this involvement.

But the "big smugglers" are, according to the local fishermen, knit into a Mafia-type organisation which holds the harbour and its surroundings in a grip of fear.

THREATENED

One boat skipper told how, when he confronted one of the poachers late one night, the man threatened him and drew a gun. The skipper ran away and reported the matter to the police.

But when he spoke to one of the inspectors about the poaching the inspector said: "What poaching? There's no poaching going on here."

According to one skipper, a "decent type" of fisheries official told him that he would not take action outside the scope of his own work which did not include policing work, because he did not want to have "my windows broken, or my tyres slashed, or my children molested on the beach."

The poachers, according to my information, leave the harbour in fast ski-boats around sunset. The favourite area for poaching is round the Sentinel near Duikerklip. The traps stay in position and are simply rebaited at regular intervals. The crayfish are "tailed" — that is the tails are removed from the bodies.

The tails of the undersize crayfish are referred to as "nekkies" by the poachers.

According to my information thousands of these "nekkies" are smuggled out of the harbour at night. Another method is to have the sacks carried over the mountain by "draers" who are paid R10 for each bag carried.

CAREFUL

"Occasionally the inspectors catch someone, but for every one that is caught, a hundred deliveries get through. And what angers us is that because we have a legal crayfish boat we have to be specially careful not to contravene even a minor regulation because we are afraid of having our whole livelihood taken away from us.

"We may not take even one kilogram over our quota. But these pirates have nothing to lose, they respect no laws, no limits and no season. And they're ruining the industry."

MAY LOSE JOB

A senior Sea Fisheries official to whom I spoke said he knew of the "goings on" in the Hout Bay harbour. I asked him whether he would give his evidence to the police, but he told me he was afraid he would lose his job.

A well-known skipper and trawler owner told me that there were many people who could "sink the whole bloody show", but they would never say anything because of their fear of reprisals. "These are rough people you're dealing with," he said.

No information
Presumed defunct.
Date of deregistration

Year	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980
Aft											
Total											

SUNDAY TIMES, May 2 1982

(3) fishing

Death threats over fishing racket claims

By MIKE HEWITT

POLICE are investigating claims of an illegal fishing racket in the Cape — and in the wake of startling disclosures, a key witness has died in a mysterious explosion and others have been threatened with death.

But, this week, two potential State witnesses in a pending prosecution vowed that they would not be intimidated by threats and would fight to see justice done.

Sworn statement

"These intimidators might be a local type of Mafia, but we are still determined to nail them," said burly Mr Piet Gouws, a former light-heavyweight boxer, and his friend, Mr Ian Hembe.

Both men have recently been harassed and ridiculed by angry fishermen in the False Bay port of Kalk Bay after they had signed affidavits alleging corruption and bribery of Sea Fisheries inspectors and illegal fishing practices in the area.

Some of the startling allegations are:

●A huge illegal haul of white steenbras by some Kalk Bay trawlermen.

●The subsequent handing over of large cash sums by the middleman for a fishing company to a boat skipper.

●The illegal landing of yellowtail fish at Hout Bay.

●Allegations that Sea Fisheries inspectors have poached crayfish on the coast around the Cape Peninsula.

●On the same day that Mr Dennis Pretorius died in the mysterious gas explosion at his fish-smoking factory in Kalk Bay last month, Mr Gouws's ocean launch, Sea Bird, was set alight at its harbour mooring.

And two weeks ago, Mr Hembe found his small motorcraft adrift in the harbour. The boat had been punctured below water line in an attempt to sink it.

On another occasion, Mr Hembe — who recently underwent an open-heart operation and could die if struck by a heavy blow to the chest — was threatened with death by a fishing trawler crewman.

And he has returned home at night to find that intruders have entered his house and excreted on the floor and on his bed.

Another potential witness who has been threatened is the journalist who has disclosed most of the startling allegations surrounding the fishing racket.

He is Mr Graham Ferreira, the environment reporter on a Cape Town daily newspaper. Mr Ferreira is now "taking precautions" after the threats on his life.



THREATENED ... Mr Ian Hembe, left, and Mr Piet Gouws aboard Mr Gouws's fire-damaged cabin cruiser

We'll nail the Mafia, say men who seek justice

Grave abuses

At least 12 affidavits alleging irregularities have now been handed over to the police by the Department of Sea Fisheries, whose Chief Director, Dr J Serfontein, has said "everything humanly possible" will be done to get to the bottom of the scandal.

And the Nationalist MP for Simonstown, Mr John Wiley, expressed his concern this week at the allegations and said he was determined that guilty parties should be prosecuted.

"A blind eye has been turned to the grave abuses of existing regulations and concessions for a number of years now — the fish licence system in False Bay and elsewhere has been greatly abused," said Mr Wiley.

"For years, I have said that False Bay should be closed, with only limited exploitation rights by line fishermen, rock anglers and traditional trek fishermen."

The concern of Mr Wiley — who has raised the matter in Parliament — has pleased the men who have been the victims of intimidation.

When I visited Mr Gouws and Mr Hembe in the quaint fishing village this week, many Kalk Bay fishermen were openly hostile and abusive to the men.

Earlier this year, the Kalk Bay fishing community was offered a reprieve by the Government, who announced that the coloured fishing families would no longer have to move from the area under the Group Areas Act.

"But now," says Mr Gouws, "there are agitators spreading malicious stories that we want to hound the coloureds out of Kalk Bay.

Plundered

"That is completely false — all we want to do is see this racket exposed and the offenders brought to book.

"It is two months since the irregularities were noticed, and not one fisherman has lost his licence yet."

The irregularities in the Cape fishing trade first came to public attention in March when it was alleged that Sea Fisheries inspectors had turned a blind eye during a three-day plunder of False Bay's fish resources, when an estimated R100 000 worth of white steenbras was illegally caught and landed at Kalk Bay.

The estimated 160 tons of white steenbras — a sought-after table fish — were landed by boats operating under a bait licence which only permits them to catch small fish, such as pilchards and anchovy.

The huge steenbras haul took place over three consecutive nights in ~~February, but~~ Sea Fisheries inspectors have never prosecuted the guilty parties.

At the time, the Kalk Bay harbourmaster, Mr J Vos, said he had nothing to say about the incident because he had been away at the time.

Further investigations revealed that four boats were involved in the trawling and that the fish were stored in a deep-freeze unit on harbour property.

The name of the major fishing company which bought the fish is also known.

A week after the haul, Mr Hembe says he witnessed the handing-over of R17 000 in cash to a boat skipper.

"The buyer for a large fishing firm came into the cafe where I was sitting. He opened a briefcase and I saw it was stuffed with R20-notes.

"He told the boat owner the money was in packets of R4 000 — it was then placed in a green fisherman's bag," said Mr Hembe.

The fish — which many believe were preparing to breed — fetched R1,20 a kilogram in the transaction.

Both Mr Gouws and Mr Hembe saw the steenbras being offloaded in Kalk Bay. They both spoke to Mr Ferreira, who kept their identities secret in his reports.

But both men were accused of being "squealers" and were threatened with death.

Witnesses to the illegal hauls have also made statements alleging that a Sea Fisheries official loaded the boot of a Government car so full of fish that he had trouble closing the lid.

Four large steenbras were also seen in the deep-freeze of another official.

Then, late in March, an illegal haul of giant yellowtail was offloaded at Hout Bay by one of the boats involved in the illegal catching of steenbras.

Disclosures

Most of the yellowtail were sold to the same middleman who acted as buyer of the steenbras.

Other disclosures include:

●Huge catches of steenbras by trek fishermen whose licences are supposed to be primarily for harders, or mullet.

●After a Fish Hoek man had complained about the trek netting, the fisherman involved came to his office and threatened him. The complainant says that only a Sea Fisheries official could have supplied the fisherman with his name.

●Allegations that Sea Fisheries officials — including a leading figure in the steenbras investigation — have poached crayfish.

●One of these inspectors is alleged to use a commercially licensed boat for his private crayfishing trips.

●A Sea Fisheries patrol boat caught hundreds of crayfish illegally inside a crayfish sanctuary near Hout Bay last year.

(3) Fishing

Fisherman's death hampers R100 000 steenbras inquiry

GOVT OFFICIALS ARE IMPLICATED IN FALSE BAY HAUL SCANDAL

By GERALDINE FARLEY

A CAPE fishing scandal involving about 100 tons of illegally-caught steenbras, allegations of corruption in the Institute of Sea Fisheries and the death in an explosion of a key witness has rocked the picturesque fishing village of Kalk Bay.

Police are investigating the slaughter of R100 000 worth of steenbras by boat crews not licenced to catch them, but are being hampered by death threats to potential witnesses.

Two weeks ago one of the key witnesses, Mr D Pretorius, and his assistant, Mr H Daniel were killed when a gas explosion almost destroyed their smokery in Kalk Bay.

Two reporters investigating the story have received threatening phone calls and only eight hours after the death of Mr Pretorius the cabin cruiser of another leading witness, Mr Piet Gouws, was set alight in the harbour.

The scandal was exposed when photographs of the illegal catches appeared in a Cape morning newspaper after the fishing community of Kalk Bay had spent three days watching the tons of illegally caught fish being landed at the harbour between February 13 and 16.

A full-scale investigation into the circumstances surrounding the huge haul of white steenbras, the cruiser fire, the gas explosion and the allegations of Institute of Sea Fisheries corruption is underway.

Police have seven affidavits containing allegations of corruption in the Institute of Sea Fisheries relating to the incident and crayfishing.

The four boats involved were operating on bait licences which do not permit the catching of steenbras or other large varieties of fish.

Statements were later made by witnesses to the 'slaughter', claiming that sea fisheries officials received about R200 worth of steenbras during the week the haul took place and one official allegedly crammed the boot of his Government car so full of fish that he had trouble closing it.

Affidavits have also been handed to the police which allege that two officials of the Department of Fisheries received pay-offs of R100 and R300.

Following an outcry over the incident by conservationists, the Institute of Sea Fisheries has undertaken to carry out an inquiry but has been criticised for delaying on the matter.

Four criminal dockets, believed to relate to the four skippers involved in the haul, have been opened.

"We are investigating allegations that certain regulations governing the fishing industry were violated. There is no evidence to prove that department officials were involved, but we cannot rule out the possibility," said Colonel Willie van der Merwe, assistant CID chief in the Western Cape.

For many years conservationists have expressed concern over the uncontrolled "rape" of False Bay by fishermen.

A Government commission into the fishing industry recommended in 1966 that the catching of bigger fish, including steenbras, should be prohibited in False Bay, but this was not acted upon.

As one conservationist put it: "If something isn't done soon to control the exploitation of False Bay it will fast become a marine desert."

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Wiley raps the 'greedy exploiters'

ARGUS 4/5/82 3 Fish 7



Mr John Wiley

Parliamentary Staff

AN APPEAL for the public of South Africa to have the privilege of participating in some of the country's marine resources was made in the Assembly yesterday by Mr John Wiley (NP Simon's Town), when he spoke out strongly against the exploitation of marine resources.

During the debate on the Agriculture and Fisheries budget vote, Mr Wiley said the country's marine resources were the property of all South Africans.

These resources had been exploited by concession holders, many of whom had bought their concessions from former holders, concessions which they had been granted by the State.

He said the Department of Sea Fisheries had seldom refused a transfer of a concession.

It was time concession holders were "told in no uncertain terms" that holding a concession was a privilege. They were not entitled to exploit small businessmen, or people such as perlemoen divers and small-boat owners — nor could they monopolise a marine resource.

Mr Wiley said some marine resources had been practically destroyed by the "avarice and greed" of some concession holders.

He appealed for a "fresh start" as far as sea fisheries were concerned and expressed the hope that the Minister, Mr P T C du Plessis, would take a strong line against exploiters and malpractices in the industry.

ARGUS 4/5/82 3 Fishing

Destruction of marine resources — PFP calls for judicial inquiry



Mr Philip Myburgh

Parliamentary Staff

THE official Opposition in the Assembly yesterday called for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry into the destruction of marine resources in South African and South West African waters.

Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP Wynberg), the chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture and fisheries, said such an inquiry was needed to establish who was responsible for the destruction.

Speaking in the budget debate on the Agriculture and Fisheries vote, he said the sea had been open to abuse for many years and the Government, under various Ministers, had refused to take action to protect fish resources.

The continuing destruction of the resources in South African waters was "extremely serious."

The public was alarmed and wanted to see action taken.

It was unacceptable that a State department found itself so short-staffed that the destruction of an economic resource had to be allowed to continue.

Mr Myburgh asked whether there was any reason why the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, should not allow members of the public to assist his department with necessary police action.

Highly qualified and honourable men would be prepared to come forward to help in protecting the marine resources.

Mr Myburgh said the fact that the commission of inquiry into the fishing industry had completed its work nearly two years ago and that the Government only now produced a White Paper on the matter was an indication of the lack of attention paid to the industry.

It was an industry which would have been one of the most important suppliers of food if it had not been almost totally exploited and ruined.

During the past decade South Africans had witnessed the dramatic collapse of the pilchard resource at Walvis Bay and along the South West African coast.

The commission of inquiry had taken note of the fact that the collapse had not been unpredicted.

A scientist, Dr Jan Lochner, had not only predicted the collapse, but had claimed to have worked out a method to enable the resource to maintain itself.

So impressed was the commission with the Lochner theory that it proposed that his proposals be submitted to Dr A P Burger, scientific adviser to the Prime Minister.

Mr Myburgh said that when he asked a question in the Assembly on whether this recommendation by the commission had been carried out, the answer from the Government was "an evasion of the question and just did not make sense."

The way the question was answered led him to believe that Dr Lochner's theories and proposals were never put to Dr Burger in the same form as they were put to the commission.

"If I am correct in the deduction that the correct information was not submitted to Dr Burger, then this is a clear breach of faith by the Minister's department and clearly places the Prime Minister's Advisory Council in a very awkward position," Mr Myburgh said.

Mr Myburgh said that during the last few weeks the Sunday newspaper, Rapport, had been publishing articles suggesting that greed and overexploitation had led to the destruction of the pelagic fish resource.

While direct allegations of corruption were not made, it nevertheless appeared from the articles that certain people were aware of the destruction, but "money and other interests were more important than the protection of our resources."

The destruction continued even today.

3 Fish 1-9

Wiley urges more fishing control

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Mr John Wiley, Nationalist MP for Simonstown, has called for a "new start" in the fishing industry after years of mismanagement and insufficient controls.

Some concession holders, he said, had what amounted to licence to "print money" and had exploited the country's marine resources. It was time they were told that concessions were a privilege and that while they were entitled to a fair profit, they did not have the right to screw the small man out of business.

Speaking during the budget debate on the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Wiley, who has long taken an intense interest in the fishing industry, said the new Minister, Mr P T du Plessis, had made a good start with his new approcah.

He called on him to accept the recommendations of the Treurnicht commission for tighter control over the country's marine resources.

The commission had reported that control measures were ineffective, something the Du Plessis commission had reported 10 years ago.

Replying to the opposition's chief spokesman, Mr Philip Myburgh, MP for Wynberg, about recent fishing controversy in False Bay, Mr Wiley said that a full scale investigation had been ordered.

"Serious malpractices have taken place over a long period but there is a strong likelihood now that they will be exposed and the guilty ones heavily punished," said Mr Wiley.

He praised the advances of the fishing industry since World War II, saying that it provided food for the country and earned R100m in foreign exchange a year.

But, Mr Wiley added: "The fact remains that all our marine resources are in danger of being over-exploited. Some are in real danger of total collapse."

Marine resources were a national asset which had been exploited by concession holders.

"Too many of them have taken what they can while they can, regardless of the consequences for South Africa and South West Africa," said Mr Wiley.

"Some resources have been practically destroyed by their avarice and greed and the pressures they were able to exert on advisory committees, boat limitation committees and the officials of the former department as a result of their economic muscle."

The Treurnicht commission had said that 25 percent of the crayfish catch should be sold locally, but, said Mr Wiley, he was disappointed that the White Paper had said the matter should be discussed with the industry.

"Why?" he asked.

In the past only 10 percent was supposed to have been available locally but no attempt was made to ensure this because more money was available overseas than locally.

"I urge the minister to implement this recommendation with the opening of the new season on November 1," said Mr Wiley.

Mr Wiley also expressed "deep concern" about perlemoen resources and said that in five years there could be no legal-sized perlemoen left.

The Treurnicht commission had recommended that 50 percent of the catch should be sold locally.

Mr Wiley said there was no need to discuss the matter with the industry.

"They have had it too good for too long," he said.

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UNIONS OPERATING IN 1981 GROUPED ACCORDING

Unions have been classified according to the of All Economic Activities. The full extent general workers unions has not been establis

National Federation of W
Orange-Vaal General Work
General and Allied Worker

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING

Black Allied Workers Union
Farmworkers Union
Food and Canning Workers Union
National Certified Fishing Officers Associat
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union
Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union

MINING AND QUARRYING

Amalgamated Engineering Union of S.A.
Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers of S.A.
Black Allied Workers Union
Black Mineworkers Union
Federated Mining Explosives and Chemical Emp.
Iron Moulders Society of S.A.
Mine Coloured Staff Association of South Afr
Mine Surface Officials Association of South A
Mine Workers Union
S.A. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Workers Sh
S.A. Electrical Workers Association
S.A. Engine Drivers, Firemens and Operators
S.A. Technical Officials Association
Underground Officials Association of S.A.

MANUFACTURING

Food & Beverages

African Food and Canning Workers Union
Amalgamated Engineering Union of South Afr
Bakery Employees Industrial Union
Black Allied Workers Union
Boland Inmaakwerkersvereniging (Paarl)
Brewery Employees Union (Cape Peninsula)
Cadbury In-Company Union
East London Meat Trade Union
Food and Canning Workers Union
Food, Beverage & Allied Workers Union
General Workers Union
General Workers Union of South Africa
Natal Baking Industry Employees Union
Natal Sugar Industry Employees Union
National Milling Workers Industrial Union
National Union of Dairy Employees
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Marine resources: PFP wants inquiry

CAPE Times 4/5/82

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP Wynberg), yesterday called for a judicial commission of inquiry into the destruction of marine resources in SWA/Namibian and South African waters.

Speaking during the debate on the agriculture and fisheries budget vote, Mr Myburgh said that as a result of exploitation, South Africa today found itself with a fishing resource which had been virtually ruined.

"Over the years the sea has been open to abuse and this government under various ministers — I cannot include the present minister — has refused to take action to protect the resource."

He said the fact that a White Paper was presented only two years after the commission of inquiry into the marine resources completed its work, was an indication of the lack of attention paid to the fishing industry.

Suspected

Mr Myburgh said he suspected that the theories of scientist Dr Jan Lochner regarding the collapse of the pilchard resource in SWA/Namibia were never put to Dr A P Burger, scientific adviser to the Prime Minister, "in the same form and manner as to the commission". Nowhere in the commission's recommendations was any reference made to the need for scientists to evaluate the accuracy of Dr Lochner's theory on limits which could be placed on the catch to enable the resource to maintain itself.

"If I am correct in the deduction that the correct information was not submitted to Dr Burger then this is a clear breach of faith by the minister's department, and certainly places the Prime Minister's Advisory Council in a very awkward position.

"Before the end of this debate the minister (Mr Pietie du Plessis) should be able to give us an answer on this matter. Otherwise I suggest it should be investigated inter-departmentally."

There were also numerous newspaper reports on events taking place in False Bay in which so called inspectors were bribed. Cover-ups and under-the-counter payments seemed to be the order of the day. However, he believed that these were only the small fry.

"The big names behind this debacle in the fishing industry must be found somehow."

A commission of inquiry had to be appointed to establish who was responsible for the destruction of pelagic fish in SWA/Namibia and who, if anyone, was responsible for the destruction of marine resources in South African waters. — Sapa

Promise to fight fishing wrongs

3 Fish

Cape Times 5/5/82

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The government yesterday promised a merciless exposure of any wrongs in the fishing industry and punishment of any guilty without fear of favour.

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr Pietie du Plessis, gave this undertaking to Parliament during his reply to the budget debate on his department.

His statement followed references during the debate to alleged irregularities — which some sea fisheries officials were said to have condoned or been involved in — in False Bay and other areas of the western Cape coast.

Newspapers

Mr Du Plessis said, however, that he would stand by every one of his officials on the basis that they were innocent until proven guilty. He deplored the fact that some were being "tried and convicted" by newspapers.

He also rejected requests from both government and opposition members for official recognition of research by Dr Jan Lochner into the exploitation and conservation of fish reserves.

Dr Lochner claims to have predicted the collapse of the SWA/Namibian fishing industry because of over-exploitation and has warned of similar disasters here.

Mr Du Plessis said Dr Lochner's theories had been rejected by the SWA/Namibian fishing industry at the time as "scientifically unacceptable" and after careful investigation were regarded in the same light by his department.

Referring to the alleged fishing scandal in the Cape, Mr Du Plessis said

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3 Fish

C.T. 5/5/82

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he was prepared to stake his reputation on ridding the industry of wrongdoers.

"I will eliminate any fraud, irregularities or injustices in the industry in a cold-blooded way. I will not be put off by big money or big names," he stated.

Mr Du Plessis promised firm action against any official convicted of an offence, but warned that the industry was "being killed by gossip".

However, he thanked newspapers for evidence and information they had submitted.

He denied opposition allegations that he had dragged his feet over implementing recommendations by the Treurnicht Commission after its investigation of the fishing industry.

'Needed time'

Mr Du Plessis emphasized that Sea Fisheries had only recently been merged with his department. He had not been prepared to take ad hoc or over-hasty decisions, but had needed time to familiarize himself with a complex subject.

The recommendations were being considered in depth and on the basis of expert advice.

Parliament

FISHING 'CLEAN UP'

ARGUS 5/5/82 Fishy



Mr P T C du Plessis

Parliamentary Staff

THE Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, yesterday undertook to "clean up" the fishing industry and promised severe action against people found guilty of malpractices.

But he dismissed a call from the official Opposition for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry into the destruction of marine resources in South African and South West African waters.

Replying to the Assembly debate on his budget vote, the Minister also:

- Promised to act against any officials found guilty of irregularities.
- Swiped at newspapers for publishing "negative and demoralising" reports about alleged malpractices.
- Promised action in the "foreseeable future" to improve the department's fisheries inspection service.
- Expressed doubts about the feasibility of giving police powers to honorary sea fisheries officers.
- Defended inspectors of his department on the grounds that they were doing good work and were innocent until proved guilty of any malpractice.

Mr du Plessis was reacting to concern expressed by speakers — on both the opposition and the Government sides — over alleged irregularities in the fishing industry and the apparent failure of the Government to stop the further destruction of marine life.

The Minister said his door was open when it came to complaints of malpractices in the industry.

"Let us clean it up, but let us not have unsubstantiated gossiping," he said.

Earlier in his address he said: "I am not prepared to react to vague allegations and unsubstantiated stories."

He called on people making such allegations to come forward with the evidence.

Mr du Plessis sharply criticised a call by Mr Philip Myburgh (PFP, Wynberg) that the "big names" behind the fishing debacle of the last decade had to be exposed.

Certain remarks by Mr Myburgh appeared to have a "personal connotation" involving a person in the industry.

"I think he (Mr Myburgh) made a mistake ... He should rather have left it unsaid," the Minister said.

Reacting to Mr Myburgh's call for a judicial commission of inquiry, Mr du Plessis said he found it "curious" that Mr Myburgh should ask for "yet another commission of inquiry" after the recent thorough investigation by the Treurnicht commission.

"I will not for the sake of expediency be pressurised into hasty decisions," Mr Du Plessis said.

He had been accused of dragging his feet in implementing recommendations of the commission of inquiry into marine resources.

He acknowledged that there had been a lapse of time, but said he would not accept allegations that he had dragged his feet.

He refused to treat the very important subject of fisheries in an ad hoc manner. He would not comply with "artificial deadlines" set by people who had interests other than the country's valuable marine resources at heart.

The White Paper on the commission's recommendations had been a major task in itself. He was only now in a position to give sensible and practical effect to some of the recommendations.

In spite of the complexity of the major problems involved and the time required for responsible action, many recommendations had already been implemented.

The Minister said Press reports had brought certain alleged irregularities to light and a number of court cases were pending.

Under these circumstances he was not prepared to make a hasty decision.

On the issue of Dr Jan Lochner, a scientist claimed to have predicted the collapse of the South West African fishing industry, Mr Du Plessis said he was not prepared to waste any more time on theories that were not scientifically acceptable.

He now regarded the matter as closed.

A NEW PAY DEAL

ARGUS

AN interim payment equivalent to an additional 45c a kilogram would be paid to crayfishermen for crayfish delivered to packers, Mr du Plessis said yesterday during the debate on his budget vote.

Packers would be instructed to make payment within a fortnight.

Did a five-star hotel get 'illegal' lobster?

Parliamentary Staff

MR George Bartlett (NRP Amanzimtoti) told the Assembly yesterday of allegations that R5 000 worth of illegally-caught lobsters had been delivered to a five-star hotel in Cape Town.

Speaking in the budget debate on the Agriculture and Fisheries vote, Mr Bartlett wanted to know from the Minister, Mr P T C du Plessis, whether or not the allegations were correct.

The Minister interjected: "Have you reported this to the department?"

When Mr Bartlett said he had not, but would bring the matter to the Minister's attention, Mr Du Plessis said Mr Bartlett had neglected his duty.

During his address Mr Bartlett said his impression was that the department was "not exercising its mind" and was "buckling under pressures from vested interests."

Replying to the debate, Mr du Plessis said any malpractices in the fishing industry would be dealt with severely.

He said he had recently cut a certain firm's perlemoen quota by 20 percent as punishment for serious irregularities.

This meant that the company concerned would lose R120 000 of its pre-tax profit.

"This was a hard punishment," he said.

If people in these industriies contravened regulations they would be severely dealt with. One way to hit them hard was to reduce their quotas.

"I have said we must clean up the industry," the Minister said.

FOR CRAYFISHERMEN

ARGUS 5/5/82 Fishing

The balance would be worked out when details of sales, costs and sums realised were given to the department in June and September.

As usual, the final settlement would be made early in 1983 when the final figures were available. — Sapa.

Fish farming to the fore

Pretoria Bureau

AQUACULTURE — the breeding of freshwater fish for food — had much potential for providing an important staple food for the growing population, delegates to a conference were told yesterday.

Mr J J Wilkens, the president of the South African Agriculture Union, addressing an aquaculture conference in Pretoria, urged the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to play a bigger role in aquaculture.

He said food producers saw the industry as an important provider of high protein food, and that it had the potential to develop as a model industry.

He told delegates they would have to compete with a big,"relatively cheap" sea-fish market, but they should see their role as supplementary to that market.

Dr R G Noble of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, stressed the importance of co-ordinating the activities of fresh fish producers.

He said the CSIR could only co-ordinate aquaculture research.

Dr P F S Mulder of the Department of Nature Conservation said fresh water fish farming had to be based on sound ecological principles, and had to be extended to the homelands.

He also warned of the danger of introducing diseases through the import of freshwater fish.



Great shoals of common species of fish have been shattered. Accusations have been levelled that the Government has allowed profit to come before scientific advice.



pilchard resource of Namibia is finished — off South Africa's west coast it is down more than 90 percent on 1968 figures.

The seas are dying

(3) Fishing Star 8/5/82

By James Clarke

South Africa's fishing industry — once the world's eighth largest — continues to sink. The credibility of its scientists and inspectorate has been shot to pieces.

Latest figures show that the great shoals of pilchard (sardine), anchovies, hake and other once common species are shattered. Fish on the South African market is now a luxury food. Even tinned sardine now has to be imported.

Accusations of greed, nepotism, corruption and even Mafia-type killings have been levelled.

The pilchard resource off Namibia is finished and off South Africa's west coast pilchard are down more than 90 percent on 1968 figures. This year's quota is 30 000 tons in fishing grounds that used to yield 1,5 million.

The anchovy resource has also collapsed. Its potential yield is 2,5 million tons a year. Recent catches are about 12 percent of that.

Hake which once yielded 1 million tons a year is now rationed to 153 700 tons. According to the Government White Paper released this week "the (hake) resource appears to be recovering, but at a slower rate than was expected."

Fishing firms are clamouring for bigger quotas.

The hake catch reveals the credibility gap in the fishing industry: the 17-nation commission which controls international fishing off South Africa has "on scientific advice" upped quotas by two thirds. South Africa, fishing the same resource, has cut quotas by 12 percent — also on scientific advice.

The suspicion is that the international commission which includes communist as well as non-communist nations has put profits first and scientific advice last. It was just this that demolished Japan's pilchard resource and the fishing grounds off Peru in the early 70s.

Crayfish (rock lobster), once a massive export commodity, have slumped. The latest figures show that where the south coast grounds produced R10 million worth in 1975 they now produce not much over R1 million even though crayfish prices are just about the highest in history.

Dr Jan Lochner, the fishing industry's persistent critic who, as far back as 1968 warned that greed and nepotism would wreck the industry, was recently fired from the Fisheries Advisory Board in Namibia after his prediction that the pilchard and anchovy catch would collapse came true.

Board chairman, Mr Pieter Kruger, told The Star: "It was nothing personal. We need new blood." But he criticised Dr Lochner for "running to the Press" with his facts and figures.

The commission of inquiry recommended that the Institute for Sea Fisheries be compelled to consult with Dr Lochner when working out quotas. The Government replied this week: "The Government is not prepared to oblige the department or the institute to consider the theories of specific persons."

The commission also recommended that the monopolistic situation in the industry be diluted with some competition. It felt there was a need for smaller entrepreneurs to be let in.

The Government has now replied that that will only be possible when the resources recover and that, even then, it will have to consider present permit holders much of whose equipment has been mothballed awaiting the recovery of the resource.

Dr Lochner has told The Star that Namibia's pilchard resource will probably never recover but its anchovies might yet be saved — if the catching season is postponed until the fish have had time to breed. He said last season's catch was 95 percent immature. Most of the fish had never bred.

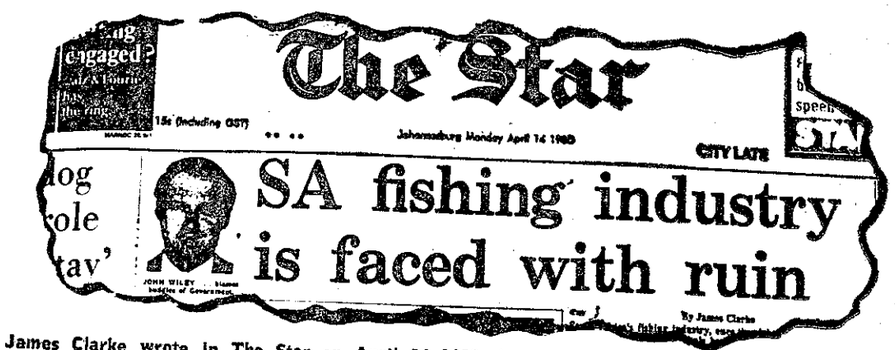
The Government this week rejected the commission of inquiry's recommendation that the industry's present one-channel system of marketing be investigated. The system "is to the advantage of the local market and local consumers receive adequate protection," said the White Paper.

The Government has agreed to apply more research and to seek a system of levies for research funds — the money coming from within the industry.

The Department of Agriculture's annual report says that the Government is hamstrung by a lack of inspectorate (20 percent below what it should be) and says "there is no need to enlarge on the serious implications of this shortage."

Commercial landings of demersal fish (species which in mature form live on the sea bottom) dropped 8 percent overall in the space of a year. Hake dropped 5 percent, maasbanker by 32 percent, mackerel by nearly half and panga by 86 percent.

Trawled snoek catches were up by 54 percent, John Dory by 28 percent and jacopever by 93 percent.



The Star

Johannesburg Monday April 14 1980

CITY LATE

SA fishing industry is faced with ruin

By James Clarke

James Clarke wrote in The Star on April 14 1980 that some of the resources could be saved — if changes were made.

FISHING REPORT
FM 14/5/82

All at sea

(3) FISHING

It took government nearly two years to work out an appropriate response to the 1980 report of the parliamentary commission of inquiry into the SA fishing industry.

A glance at the Ministry of Fisheries' ensuing White Paper shows why. The authors had to deal with a report that was eccentric, to say the least. To shoot it down without inflicting loss of face on the commissioners clearly demanded tact.

In most cases, the White Paper got around the zanier aspects of the report by vagueness and informative discourse on the workings of the industry.

This is not to say that the commissioners approached their task with anything but good intentions. Their report reflects concern for a depleting natural resource. But it also betrays a lack of understanding of the inter-relationship between the economics of fishing, on the one hand, and the unpredictable facts of nature which determine the behaviour of living marine resources on the other.

While developments in the world's major fisheries reflect a trend towards smaller, more efficient catching fleets and stricter control of fishing effort and gear, the parliamentary commission recommended increased competition among an increased number of participants. It said the industry should not become a closed shop in the hands of a limited number of quota holders and provision should be made for new entrants from time to time.

In the pelagic fishing industry, for one, these concepts are mutually exclusive. Competition in industry generally is healthy, but in fishing it invariably leads to the destruction of stocks because companies compete by striving for the heaviest hauls at the lowest possible cost per unit of effort. But if their permissible hauls are controlled by global and company quotas and competition is fostered by allowing new entrants, everyone will go to the wall because unit costs would rise to uneconomic levels.

This is why in recent years inshore fishing companies in SA have opted for radical rationalisation of catching and processing effort.

The only way new entrants could be accommodated would be to increase the global quota. In view of the precarious state of the inshore pelagic and lobster fisheries, this is clearly not in the national interest.

Another extraordinary recommendation of the commission was that "quotas in all cases should be granted for seven years provided that applications giving grounds for such quotas are made annually."

For a start, the commission was obviously referring to concessions, not quotas. Quotas are adjusted annually in the light of changes in the maximum sustainable yield of a given resource.

On the questionable workability of concessions with a seven-year currency, the White Paper's authors discovered on inquiry that the commission intended that each concession should run for a continuing seven-year period. In other words, after one year's passing another year could be added to maintain the currency at seven years "if it is in the interests of the resource and if the concessionaire concerned has not been guilty of malpractices."

Since government has always retained the right to withdraw an allocation at any time, the commission's recommendation serves no purpose — more so if it would have guaranteed a concessionaire seven years minimum exploitation rights whether he abused them or not.

(1) Whether any (a) companies and (b) co-operatives at Gans Bay are in possession of pelagic fishing licences; if so, (i) which companies and co-operatives, (ii) what is the amount of the quota allocated to each and (iii) when were the (aa) licences granted and (bb) quotas allocated in each case;

(2) how many fishing boats attached to or catching for each (a) company and (b) co-operative;

(3) whether any such boats were registered for the first time during the latest specified period of five years for which figures are available; if so, (a) which boats and (b) where were they registered previously;

(4) whether the constitutions of any such co-operatives were changed during the past five years; if so, (a) of which co-operatives, (b) for what purpose in each case and (c) who are the major shareholders and directors of the co-operatives concerned?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(i) Moolman and Lourens (Pty.) Ltd.

(ii) 86,1 tons hake and 7 tons sole.

(iii) (aa) 1972.

(bb) 29 December 1981 for the 1982 calendar year.

(2) (a) One.

(b) Falls away.

(3) No.

(4) Falls away.

(3) Fishing Hansard Q. 61. 845 – 846 17/5/82

Gans Bay: pelagic fishing licences

596. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

Threat of fishing collapse

ARGUS 18/5/82

3 FISHing

THE Cape's pelagic fishing industry is in danger of collapse because the Government allows 55 000 tons over the safe limit to be taken each year.

And former Sea Fisheries scientists warned today that the Government's persistent refusal to heed scientific advice would spell the end of the industry.

Scientists I interviewed this week say that the Government's priority in awarding quotas is guided by short-term economic advantage rather than, scientific good sense.

Influence

The pelagic resources fish found at the surface are being exploited far over the safe limits, and all it will take to cause a South West African-like collapse in the Cape is a natural disaster.

Mr Oliver Centurier-Harris, a former Sea Fisheries scientist, said that the Government decision to award 380 000 tons as the Cape pelagic quota, when the best scientific evidence available showed that the figure should be 325 000 tons, was an indication of how the large vested interests influenced decision-makers.

"The scientists' best possible estimates are explicitly made within limits which extended both below and above the best estimate. It is, therefore, as likely that the maximum sustainable yield under current fishing methods is less than 325 000 as it is to be higher", said Mr Centurier-Harris.

Another scientist who also worked for Sea Fisheries said it was not only disheartening to be a scientist in Sea Fisheries bent on trying to protect the resource, it was also difficult not to be intimidated by the fishing industry.

"Their attitude is always that the scientist could have erred on the side of caution and that they didn't believe the situation to be as grave as scientists painted it.

"But on the other hand there was nobody saying that perhaps the scientist was too optimistic about the fish stocks. There was just no balance to the pressure of the industry for higher quotas," said the scientist, now working for a university.

One scientist told me he had left Sea Fisheries because he had eventually questioned his role as a scientist when much of his research was ignored by decision-makers.

Since 1980, the Government has had access to a PhD thesis written by Dr R J M Crawford whose extensive research showed that the quota should not be above 325 000 tons each year. But for three consecutive years since then the agovernment has stuck to the 380 000 mark.

In explaining how a natural catastrophe — virtually unpredictable — could push the teetering pelagic resource right over the brink an ichthyologist described how an important fish nursery in Swartvlei was almost destroyed because low rainfall pushed up the salinity in the vlei, causing a vital plant to die.

The plant afforded most of the shelter and was a link in the food-chain of fish such as the leervis.

Catastrophe

After this natural catastrophe, 70 percent of the small fish in the lake died off. A gap in the stocks of these fish will occur in the year when those juveniles would have begun breeding.

A comparable natural die-off of pelagic fish in the Cape could cause a disruption in the recruitment of breeding stocks. That year the overfishing would be fatal. The next year there would just be no fish.

"It happened in Peru and South West Africa, and we go on happily overfishing as if it couldn't happen here in

(Contd on Page 3, col 2)

Rugby m ref punch

A WESTERN PROVINCE Rugby Union forward today said that after he had been punched in the face by a referee during a friendly match, he noticed a spectator clutching an iron bar, running towards him.

Mr Aslam Toefy, 32, was giving evidence in the Strand Magistrate's Court where he and his brother,



Referee Adley Arnold

Nazeem, 31, are appearing on a charge of assaulting a Somerset West referee, Mr Adley Arnold.

The brothers, both members of the Kalk Bay Marine Rugby Club, pleaded not guilty at a previous hearing.

Mr Aslam Toefy told the court he was a lock-forward for his club which was affiliated to the Western Province Rugby Union.

He said that on March 13 this year he was a



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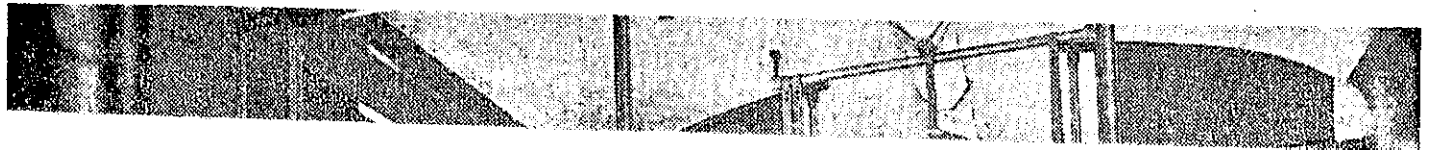
LONDON. — helicopter British task Falkland Isl in the So.

Take your partners for the 8.46 from Paarl

THE 8.46 from Paarl to Cape Town must be the



Cartel threat to crayfish industry

ARGUS 19/5/82 (3 Fisheries)

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THE Government's refusal to accept key recommendations of the Treurnicht Commission — and its apparent desire to help a cartel of large companies keep control of the crayfish industry — is threatening not only the private crayfish boat-owner's existence, but the entire industry.

This is the warning of leading members of the industry and scientists.

The existing quotas for the northern areas controlled by the cartel are based on catch performances bolstered by undersize crayfish. These catches were allowed when the South West African size limit was lowered in the face of widespread opposition and "the best scientific advice."

Now, with the northern crayfish resources all but wiped out, the cartel is unable to fill quotas in its own areas, and has turned its efforts to the rich southern grounds. This is preventing any growth in the industry outside the cartel.

Recommendations by the Treurnicht commission, aimed at breaking the cartel's stranglehold and promoting the interests of the small businessman, were rejected by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis.

NEGLECTED

This week, representatives of nearly a quarter of the catch effort of the R40-million crayfish industry told The Argus they were completely dissatisfied with the Government's response to the Treurnicht recommendations.

They are asking why Mr du Plessis would not accept zone fishing after it was recommended by the former Director of Sea Fisheries, Dr Barry de Jager, with the support of the findings of the commission of inquiry on the advice of experts, including leading scientists.

"The Department of Sea Fisheries had for years neglected the advice of its scientists. This had brought about untold problems with the industry, and it was because of this that the former Minister in charge of the industry, Mr Chris Heunis, appointed a parliamentary commission to do a thorough investigation into all aspects of the industry," I was told by a representative of Cape Town's private boat owners.

"This was done primarily because the private boat owners complained about the prices they were receiving from rock lobster packers," he said.

"Then, after the commission had presented its very promising report, we had a two-year wait for the Minister to make up his mind on the findings.

"After all the recommendations, and evidence, we find Mr du Plessis has refused the key recommendations and the private boat owner is no better off at all — and all the questions over their rights and interests remain unanswered.

PROTECTION

"The question to be asked is whether the Minister is really committed to looking after the interests of the small businessman and is not being influenced by the large business concerns as he claimed in Parliament."

The private boat owners say they are not asking for higher quotas, but for a system which really protects the crayfish industry instead of strengthening the already powerful monopolies which the Government seems bent on doing.

From 1963 to 1970, the factories operating in the northern areas were allowed to land crayfish of 7,5 cm instead of the limit of 9 cm in operation at that time.

This was allowed because the legal size limit in nearby South West Africa was dropped, causing confusion about who was catching which crayfish and where.

At the end of that seven-year period, the Government awarded quotas based on the catch performance. On this basis, including the undersize crayfish caught, large quotas were awarded to the cartel in the north.

But the catching of undersize crayfish had taken its toll on the resource, and the northern areas, from the Orange River to the Brak River, were just about fished out. No longer able to fill their quotas in their own areas, the big companies turned to the southern areas.

It was at this stage that Dr de Jager recommended zone fishing and that quota holders be allowed to fish only within their own zones.

PLUMMETED

But his recommendations were turned down at Government level, and the cartel's catch efforts in the north were allowed to turn southwards.

Catches at Port Nolloth have dropped from 910 tons in 1969 to 47 tons in 1979. At Hondeklipbaai catches plummeted from 216 tons in 1969 to one ton in 1979.

In the rich southern grounds the reverse is true.

Dassen Island, which in 1969 provided 610 tons, was in 1979 required to provide 1 480 tons, while the catch at Saldanha Bay during the same period was increased from 496 to 1 191 tons.

To prevent a repetition of what happened in the northern areas, Mr Boetie Laatz, secretary of the Cape Town Private Boat Owners' Association, Mr Corrie van Zyl, who represents a large number of private boat owners on the West Coast, and Mr George Lamb, a representative from the Hout Bay area, say the zoning recommendations put forward by the Treurnicht Commission must be adopted.

According to the recommendations, "the West Coast should be divided into three zones — from the Orange to the Brak rivers, from there to Saldanha Bay, and from there to Cape Point. Quotas for a particular zone may be caught only in that zone and with boats registered in that zone."

CAREFUL

In practice, this would mean that quota holders would be far more careful with resources in their areas. But the Government rejected this idea, saying: "The system would be discriminatory as regards interests in certain areas."

overfishing and enjoying years of benefit from being able to take the smaller size limit," said Mr van Zyl.

They have built-up vast reserves and diversified doing this. But now that their areas are fished out the whole industry has to suffer with them."

Mr Laatz said: "By ignoring most of the commission's findings Mr du Plessis is actually casting a vote of no confidence in his parliamentary colleagues. And not only that but he is reneging on his promise to protect the interests of the small man.

DRASTIC

"But the people most affected by the cuts are those who have done the least damage to the resource, the small operators. We just can't afford to have such a drastic reduction in our income, while the cartel has for years now been diversifying. Those big companies can stand it, we can't."

Another bone of contention in the industry was the status of the

"But the only interests which would suffer are those who have been private boat owner.

Earlier, the private boat owner was allowed to catch his quota and sell on an open market system to the highest local bidder.

But in a series of legislative decisions which in effect greatly strengthened the cartel, the Government decided to force the private boat owners to catch and deliver to a particular party, thus effectively taking away the bargaining power which the private boat owner previously enjoyed.

"But the situation now just enforces the monolopies of the big concerns. Slowly the small businessman is being squeezed out," said Mr van Zyl.

Tunny bonanza for the Cape

CAPE TIMES 21/5/82 3 FISH

By ALEX PETERSEN

CAPE fishermen have been scoring from a bonanza tunny run in which catches have been three to four times that of a normal season, earning an estimated R4- to R5-million in foreign exchange.

The run, which lasted from March to early this month, was of long-fin tuna, or albacore, which yields a high-quality light meat.

But, while the South African catches are usually counter-cyclical to other major world catches, other areas, in particular the Pacific, have also been experiencing abundant catches for the last few months.

The net effect has been to depress the prices in the world market, and particularly prices in the United States, which is normally a major buyer.

Europe buying

"Prices have come down about 25 percent in the last three months," commented a spokesman for a Hout Bay fishing concern.

But Europe has been a major buyer, and another source reported that this week he had sold several tons to Spain.

Estimates of the total tuna catch for the season are difficult to obtain. As a migrant fish, it is not subject to quota. Both commercial and sports-fishing craft have been landing big catches, but the packers who buy the catches, and then freeze the fish for export, tend to see the figures as trade secrets.

However, one leading packer estimated that if catches landed at Peninsula and west coast harbours were combined, the figure would be at least 2 500 tons, compared to about 800 tons in an average year.

Live bait

The increase has also been ascribed in part to a more intense catch effort and a change in catching technique, with more widespread use of live bait.

Fishermen have been getting prices around R1,40 a kg, but with the fall in the world price over the last few months, some packers have been caught short. In the words of one: "Our margins have been cut to ribbons. With this sort of catch last year, we would have earned 30 percent to 40 percent more."

An indication of the size of the glut is that in the United States several canners have temporarily closed down factories, and closed down others permanently. Further shut-downs of factories in Samoa and Puerto Rico are scheduled, because of large stocks overhanging the market.

Another factor depressing the US tuna demand is the low price of chicken, resulting from good grain harvests.

However, a director of Tuna Marine, Mr Brian Cohen, feels the price will improve. "We believe this is a short term thing. There is always a demand for protein."

While holding frozen tuna stocks can be expensive, canned tuna stocks have lower overheads, and the fish matures in flavour in the can.

"We have been canning flat out, and we are extending our canning operations," he said.

Although he saw Cape waters as an extremely rich tuna ground, the main problem, he said, was the erratic nature of the tuna. Three years ago, following good catches in yellow fin tuna, some companies "spent a fortune gearing up". But then a very flat season followed.

As yet fishing experts are still unsure what factors influence the tuna's migratory pattern.

Kidney patients do well

Staff Reporter

BLIND Mr Richard [illegible] and his

Fishing: Former employee 'appalled'

ARGUS 26/5/87

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

A FORMER employee of a big fishing concern, who was the engineer responsible for some of the West Coast factories, left the industry with serious reservations about its future because of the way the pelagic stocks were being overfished.

Mr Leif Westvig went to school in a fishing village on the West Coast and, as a qualified engineer returned in the late seventies to work for the fishing industry, continuing a family involvement in fishing.

But the industry to which he returned was a far cry from the one he remembered as a child.

APPALLED

"I was appalled by what was happening. It seemed that those in charge of the pelagic industry just didn't care what happened to the stocks on which the industry relied for its very survival.

"When I was a child a large proportion of the fish caught were canned. But two decades later the canneries were either demolished or idle.

"Now, except for pet food production, the canning industry on the west coast has almost closed down. The pilchards and other pelagic fish are now mostly turned into fishmeal."

FISH SIZE

Even more disturbing to Mr Westvig was the size of the fish being caught.

"You hardly ever saw an adult fish. Almost the entire catch consisted of very young fish which certainly had not yet had a chance to reproduce."

This posed a few questions which Mr Westvig was not hesitant to put to the industry at the time:

Why had the legal net mesh sizes been reduced from 38 mm, used until 1955, to 32 mm until 1963 and finally to 12,7 mm — the so-called anchovy net, still in use today? And what was the effect of this drastic reduction on the size of fish being caught?

- What effect did the landing of large masses of immature pilchards and maasbankers have on the fish stocks?
- What did the absence of mature pilchards indicate, and what were the effects of the depletion of the pilchard stocks on marine ecology in general?

COMMONSENSE

"I am not a marine scientist or a biologist, but commonsense tells me something is very wrong in the SA pelagic industry," Mr Westvig said.

"I believe that all it will take to push us over the brink into a total collapse is a bad year for fish breeding."

Another point of issue is the distribution of profits from fish catches.

"In principle the profits made from fishing should be ploughed back into the industry, instead of being spread into diverse activities," he said.

LITTLE PROFIT

One of the arguments raised by the industry, whenever reduced quotas are in the offing, is: "How are the poor fishermen going to live."

"But these 'poor fishermen' have been living with very little return from the fish which they catch. Much of the profit is being ploughed into other industries and investments.

"Unless South Africa takes notice of what the scientists have been telling them for years we will lose even what remains of our pelagic fish stocks."

(3) Fishing 26/5/82
Hansard Q.Col. 900 - 901

Pelagic quotas

*5. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether his Department avails itself of scientific studies when determining pelagic quotas; if so, (a) how frequently are such studies made, (b) what is the date of the latest study made in this regard and (c) what was the pelagic quota recommended in that study;

(2) whether the report of the study was made public; if not, (a) why not and (b)(i) to whom and (ii) on what basis was it made available?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

(a) Annually.

(b) October 1981.

(c) 325 000 metric tons (lantern fish quota of 75 000 metric tons excluded).

(2) Yes.

(a) Falls away.

(b) (i) International Commission for South East Atlantic Fisheries and the Fisheries Advisory Council.

(ii) For scientific discussion and advice to Minister.

→

†Mr. P. A. MYBURGH: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the hon. the Deputy Minister's reply, is he aware that former officials of his Department allege that the quota that is determined exceeds the availability of the source to such an extent that even the mere exploitation of the prescribed quota will damage the source even further?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not aware of any such allegations by any official. However, if that is the case and the hon. member for Wynberg can supply us with the necessary information, we shall investigate the matter. I just want to add that this quota was determined in accordance with the normal procedure of research that was done by each of the two bodies to which I have referred.

†Mr. P. A. MYBURGH: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the hon. the Deputy Minister's reply, do I have it correct that the hon. the Deputy Minister said that the recommended quota is 325 000 tons?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I did not mention a recommendation at all.

†Mr. P. A. MYBURGH: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the hon. the Deputy Minister's reply, I understood the hon. the Deputy Minister to have said that the recommended quota was 325 000 tons. Is that not correct?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the hon. member has put his question. My reply to paragraph (1)(c) of the hon. member's question was—

. . . 325 000 metric tons (lantern fish quota of 75 000 metric tons excluded)

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.601. 93

Dassen Island: rock lobster resource

28/5/82

*12. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any measures have been taken to protect the rock lobster resource around Dassen Island from being over-exploited; if not, why not; if so, what measures;

(2) whether any persons have been caught violating such measures during the current season; if so, how many;

(3) whether any action was taken against such persons; if so, what action?

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

—For the 1980-'81 season catches were limited to 780 tons.

—Catch season started on 15 November instead of 1 November.

—For the 1981-'82 season catches were limited to 645 tons.

(2) and (3) The rock lobster industry itself was authorized for the 1981-'82 season to control the catches in the various areas on a voluntary basis. The control is exercised by an association, namely the West Coast Rock Lobster Sea Management Association, which was established by the Industry. Due to an alleged misunderstanding, one company caught approximately 30 tons of rock lobster at Dassen Island without having obtained prior approval from the Association. However, the authorized maximum catch was not exceeded.

The actions of the Company concerned were strongly condemned by the said Association. The Company was also reprimanded in writing by the Department and requested to give its co-operation to the Association.

Whether his Department has received any representations since 1979 in regard to the levels of pelagic quotas; if so, (a) from whom, (b) when and (c) what was the nature of such representations?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a)	(b)	(c)
The Municipal Councils of Lamberts Bay, Velddrif, St. Helena Bay, Vredenburg/Saldanha and Gans Bay.	June 1979.	That the pelagic fish quota of 380 000 tons not be decreased for the next year.
The pelagic fish quota holders.	July 1979.	That the pelagic fish quota of 380 000 tons not be decreased for the next year.
The West Coast Boat Owners' Association.	September 1981.	That the quota be increased.

Pelagic quotas

*4. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agiculture and Fisheries:

On whose (a) authority and (b) decision are the levels of pelagic quotas finalized?

†The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(a) and (b) The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Pelagic quota

696. Mr P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries

(1) Whether a pelagic quota was recommended for each of the latest specified three years for which figures are available; if so, by whom were the levels of such quotas recommended;

(2) whether the pelagic quota for each of these years was above or below the recommended levels; if so, what was the (a) extent of and (b) reason for the difference in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes, the Fisheries Advisory Council.

(2) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

'Hidden facts' in fishing collapse

ARGUS 1/6/82

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

ILLEGAL practices, dishonest weighing of catches, quota busting, pressure by politicians, and inefficiency and corruption on the part of the inspectorate, were the reasons for the crash of the South West African fishing industry, says the former Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries in charge of South West Africa at the time, Dr David Cram.

In an American scientific publication, virtually unread outside professional circles, Dr Cram, who now works in West Germany has written the inside story of what he terms the "hidden facts" of the SWA/Namibian fishing disaster.

The article published recently, seeks to destroy finally the South African Government's "Russian alibi," and to show that it was gross mismanagement and bending to vested interest, and not overseas fishing boats, which destroyed the SWA/Namibian pelagic resource, once one of the richest protein sources in the world.

Dr Cram draws attention to the structural defects of the Fisheries Advisory Council, which gave the Government an excuse for ignoring their scientists' recommendations and warnings. The FAC allowed the scientific representation to be constantly overshadowed by several political and economic representatives.

Among the illegal practices which apparently passed unnoticed by the Sea Fisheries inspectorate were:

- Dumping of unwanted catches.
- Scale manipulation to defeat quotas.
- Mislabelling of the kinds of fish caught.

All this went on under the noses of the inspectorate, and eventually measures had to be introduced to police the inspectorate itself.

Referring to the scale manipulation, Dr Cram says: "Knowledge of this alleged practice was so widespread that efforts were made to stop it during each season, but by 1974 it was plain that persuasion had failed and an alternative strategy would be required.

"Because of the requirements of inspection, these allegations implied inefficiency or corruption on the part of the inspectorate".

Dr Cram traces the decline of SWA/Namibia's once fabulously rich fishing industry, outlining the scientists' fight to save a resource which, it has been calculated, could have provided the necessary protein for the entire SWA/Namibia needs, with more than enough to export for the next 100 years.

He lays the blame for the decline squarely at the door of South African fishing interests which turned their attentions to SWA/Namibia after the decline of the South African pilchard industry.

Referring to a speech in Parliament by Mr John Wiley, MP for Simon's Town, in February 1971, in which Mr Wiley accused Government and National Party members of awarding exorbitant quotas to companies in which they had financial interest, Dr Cram says:

"If the above interpretation is correct, the additional concessions and quota increases originated in political pressures that overcame vigorous opposition, and that were not supported by any scientific assessment of the ability of the stock to sustain those extra catches."

Referring to the companies responsible for the over-exploitation and insistence on higher and higher quotas, he says that fishing is regarded in South Africa as a high-risk investment.

"These incorrect, optimistic analyses should have increased that risk. In fact they did not, because the optimism was long term and the risks were minimised in the short term by landings in excess of the quota through the alleged irregularities at the scales and alleged misidentification of species on landing.

"The long-term risks were also minimised by most companies through diversification out of fishing.

"The public view of fisheries management is that it is a purely scientific exercise and that conservation policy is derived in an orderly way on a scientific basis.

"It has been demonstrated that this was not the case for the South West African pilchard fishery.

"The result was that in spite of strenuous work and scientific initiatives, the hidden political, administrative, legal and economic factors outweighed scientific argument and led to the decline of the stocks and the industry."

Wilbarz, Swafish look to anchovy catch

By PENNY CUMMINS

ANY increase in profits this year for Willem Barendsz or Swafish depends on whether they can fill their anchovy quota in the short fishing season which opens today.

In his annual reports the chairman of both companies, Mr R Silverman, is not overoptimistic.

Both Swafish and Willem Barendsz have a stake in United Fisheries Enterprises, which has 68 000 tons of the 220 000-ton anchovy quota for the fishing industry this year.

"In view of the problematic weather conditions which one might expect in the month of August, our catching and processing capacities will be severely strained to reach our target within the restricted period," he says.

The opening of the season has been delayed because of Government conservation measures.

After a year without a pilchard-canning quota, the authorities seem satisfied that there has been an improvement in the fish population, and have granted the industry a 30 000-ton quota for canning, with 11 880 tons for Willem Barendsz, made up of 9 140 tons for United Fishing Enterprises and 2 740 tons to be processed on behalf of Consortium Visserye.

Mr Silverman believes UFE will have no difficulty in catching its pilchard quota before the season ends on August 31, and should be able to produce more than 600 000 cartons of of pilchards.

If UFE fills its pilchard and anchovy quotas Mr Silverman expects that Swafish and Willem Barendsz profits this year will exceed 1981 figures.

Swafish owns a third of UFE, and Willem Barendsz has a 20,9% interest in UFE Holdings, which last year acquired a 50% stake in a Chilean fishmeal processing enterprise.

The factory in Coquimbo has been completed, and as the Chilean fishing season only started in April, it is too soon to give any meaningful report on its activities. It includes a 25-ton an hour fish reduction plant brought from Walvis Bay, and five fishing vessels which are now commissioned.

The expected production of canned fish in South West Africa and South Africa will meet about half the domestic market requirement. The balance will be met through imports, mostly from Chile and Peru.

The requirements of the South African balanced feeds industry outstrip the production of SA fishmeal, so except for a small percentage reserved for political reasons for neighbouring countries, all production will be sold in SA. The new season's price has been set at R414 a ton, a 10% increase over last year's price.

SA demand for fishoil has increased, and Mr Silverman sees no prospect of 1982 repeating last year's record production. He does not expect a repetition of the 1981 export of 10 000 tons. He thinks it may be a blessing in disguise, as last year the oil was sold on a depressed international market, and thus brought down the average pool yield.

Swafish's salt division is making good progress, says Mr Silverman, with pans extending over 4 500 ha, probably the largest salt-producing unit in Southern Africa. He expects that salt's contribution to group profits will increase this year as African export markets are consolidated.

The lobster season at Luderitz this year has been successful in spite of adverse conditions, and more than 75% of the catch has been processed whole for the lucrative Japanese market.

Year	Membership				
	African	Asian and Coloured	White	Total
1970				
1971				
1972				
1973				
1974	3 900			
1975	3 900			
1976	6 700			
1977	7 000			
1978				
1979				
1980				

SWA fish scandal alleged

(3) Fishing Star 1/6/82

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Illegal practices, dishonest weighing of catches, quota busting, pressure by politicians and inefficiency and corruption on the part of the inspectorate were the reasons for the crash of the South West African fishing industry, says the former Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries in charge of South West Africa at the time, Dr David Cram.

In an American scientific publication, virtually unread outside professional circles, Dr Cram who now works in West Germany has written the inside story of what he terms the "hidden facts" of the South West African fishing disaster.

The recently published article is said to destroy the Government's "Russian alibi" and show that it was gross mismanagement and bending to vested interests, and not overseas fishing boats which destroyed the South West African pelagic resource, once one of the richest protein sources in the world.

AN EXCUSE

Dr Cram draws attention to the structural defects of the Fisheries Advisory Council which gave the Government an excuse for ignoring its scientists' recommendation and warnings.

Among the illegal practices which apparently passed by the Sea Fisheries inspectorate unnoticed were: Dumping of unwanted catches; scale manipulation to defeat quotas; and mislabelling of the kinds of fish caught.

All this went on under the noses of the inspectorate and eventually measures had to be introduced to police the inspectorate itself.

THE BLAME

Dr Cram traces the decline of South West Africa's once fabulously rich fishing industry, outlining the scientists' fight to save a resource which, it has been calculated, could have provided the necessary protein for the whole of South West Africa with more than enough to export for the next 100 years.

He lays the blame for the decline squarely at the door of South African fishing interests which turned their attentions to South West Africa after the decline of the South African pilchard industry, and refers to a speech made in Parliament by Mr John Wiley, MP for Simonstown, in February 1071, in which Mr Wiley accused Government and National Party members of awarding exorbitant quotas to companies in which they had financial interest.

UNIONS OPERATING IN 1981 GROUPED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Unions have been cl
of All Economic Act
general workers uni

AGRICULTURE, FOREST

Black Allied Worker
Farmworkers Union
Food and Canning Wo
National Certified
Orange-Vaal General
Trawler and Line Fi

MINING AND QUARRYIN

Amalgamated Enginee
Amalgamated Union c
Amalgamated Society
Black Allied Worker
Black Mineworkers U
Federated Mining E
Iron Moulders Socie
Mine Coloured Staff
Mine Surface Offici
Mine Workers Union
S.A. Boilermakers,
S.A. Electrical Wor
S.A. Engine Drivers
S.A. Technical Off
Underground Offici

MANUFACTURING

Food & Beverages

African Food and
Amalgamated Engi
Bakery Employees
Black Allied Wor
Boland Inmaakwer
Brewery Employee
Cadbury In-Compa
East London Meat
Food and Cannnin
Food, Beverage &
General Workers
General Workers
Natal Baking Inc
Natal Sugar Indu
National Milling
National Union o
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Operative Bakers
Pretoriase Bakny

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Welders Society

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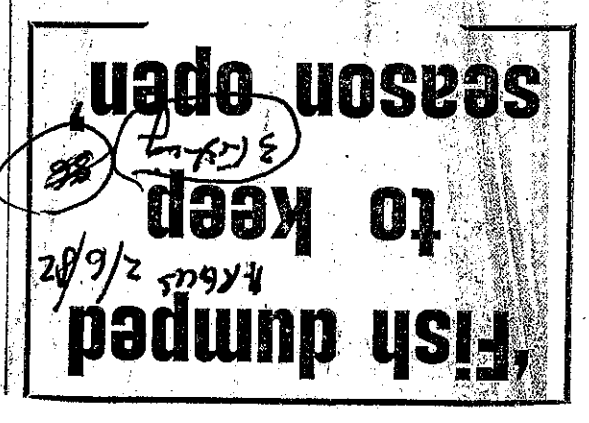

By GRAHAM FERREIRA
Environment Reporter

A FORMER deputy director of the Department of Sea Fisheries, who was in charge of South West Africa, says the pelagic fishing industry there had to be policed with methods that almost eliminated reliance on officials because of either inefficiency or corruption in the department.

Writing in a publication read mainly by scientists, Dr David Cram, who now works in West Germany, recalled efforts to police the industry and stamp out widespread illegalities aimed at breaking quotas, such as scale manipulation, misidentification of catches and illegal dumping.

In 1971, automatic scales which recorded the catches as they were brought in were made compulsory.

"A considerable expansion of the staff was made to supervise landings by recording scale readings before and after off-loading and to take samples of the catch for species identification," he says.

"Almost immediately there were allegations that pilchards (more economically viable per catch weight than anchovies) were being misidentified on landing, and recorded as other species to defeat quota limits.

"Because of the requirements of inspection, these allegations implied inefficiency, or corruption on the part of the officials.

"Knowledge of this practice was so widespread that efforts were made to stop it during each season, but by 1974 it was plain that persuasion had failed and an alternate strategy would be required.

"In addition there were allegations of abuse of automatic scales and, at least until 1974-1975, it was apparently not appreciated by authorities that scales could be made to record almost any value desired while operating at maximum throughout.

TOTALS

"As the scale printed before and after" totals on a slip, any substantial under-recording could occur only with agreement of the fishermen concerned.

"The seriousness of these allegations was such that official investigations demonstrated the potential for irregularities, but did not confirm any corruption.

"Nevertheless, in 1976 all factories were required totally to enclose their scale houses (including the roof and floor), leaving only a sealed window to observe the scale and a locked and sealed door for access."

In 1970 split quotas — separate quotas for different species — was introduced, with the proviso that the season closed when the pilchard quota was filled.

This led to widespread dumping of unwanted pilchard catches to keep the season open long enough to fill other species quotas.

Dr Cram says it was imperative to stop the dumping.

PERSUASION

"Persuasion was tried before the 1973 and 1974 seasons, because dumping affected the quality of management advice through bias, thus working against the best interests of the industry.

"In 1974 it was realised that the effectiveness of the split quota had been reduced over the years by illegal practices, and that a different system had to be devised that permitted single-species management."

But the next try at single-species management was bedevilled by misidentification of catches, and so the malpractices continued until the resource was almost wiped out.

Fishing 4/6/82
3 Hansard Q. Col. 982 – 984

Rock lobster quota

707. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) What is the rock lobster quota for the current catch year;

(2) (a) what is the estimated number of rock lobster caught to date and (b) in which areas were they caught;

(3) what percentage of the catch was from Zones A, B and C, respectively, as defined on page 24 of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Certain Aspects of the Conservation

and Utilization of the Living Marine Reources of the Republic of South Africa?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) 3 700 tons landing weight (1 114 tons tail weight production quota).

(2) (a) ± 9,7 million (3 683 tons)

(b)

Area	*Tons*
1	48
2	0,8
3	463
4	430
5 + 6	1 523
7	645
8	573

(3) Zone A—1,3 per cent
Zone B—24,2 per cent
Zone C—74,5 per cent.

Rock lobster population

708. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) Whether there has been a scientific study into the exploitable rock lobster population of Zones A, B and C, respectively, as defined in the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Certain Aspects of the Conservation and Utilization of the Living Marine Resources of the Republic of South Africa; if not, why not; if so, (a) when was the study conducted and (b) what were the findings of the study;

(2) whether (a) current and (b) past quotas have exceeded the recommended levels; if so, (i) to what extent, and (ii) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

(a) From 1969 to date.

(b) The findings were that from 1977 the pressure increased on the southern areas, especially at Dassen Island, due to a decrease in the catches from Lamberts Bay northwards. This resulted in an over-exploitation of the southern areas and the total quota was therefore decreased in 1978, 1980 and 1981.

Marketing programmes indicate that the southern areas are more productive than the northern areas.

As a result of research the following recommendations with regard to the maximum authorized catch in the relevant areas (with maximum variation of 7,5 per cent) were made to the Fisheries Advisory Council:

Area	*Tons whole mass*
1, 2	50
3	450
4	400
5, 6	1 600
7	600
8	600

(2) (a) No.

(b) No, not in the previous five seasons.

(2) (i) and (2) (ii) fall away.

Fisheries report altered

ARGUS 4/6/82 3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

DOCUMENTARY evidence shows that a senior Sea Fisheries scientist in charge of research on the South West African fishing industry was made to change a vital research progress report drastically because the original report told of inefficiency in the department.

The printed and bound reports, signed by Dr David Cram, were recalled on Government instructions from a high level and the revised report which he was, according to a former colleague, obliged to sign, had all the references to the inadequecies and inefficiency of the system removed.

The Argus has copies of both versions of the reports.

Shortly after this, the research programme, known as the Cape Cross Programme, broke down and was drastically changed. Even its name was changed. Two years later the whole South West African pelagic fisheries collapsed.

DISSATISFIED

In his original report Dr Cram referred to the great number of dissatisfied scientific staff of the department, saying that the successful management style adopted in 1970 was considerably reduced in effectiveness.

"Thus all the investment in Swapels is wasted, for at a time when the estimate is most urgently needed, when quotas are reviewed administrative problems prevented the transformation of raw data into valuable results."

The revised version of the report tells a completely different story.

"The processing of Swapels is heavily dependent upon computer work, and serious delays were encountered in writing and debugging the very large programme in use.

"These problems were solved finally by the use of an outside programmer who produced highly satisfactory results," said the second version of the report.

"For this style of management to be effective it is required that the personnel involved feel that they receive acknowledgement of their efforts and feel that these efforts contribute to their advancement," he said.

"It is widely felt that the high level of effort and responsibility displayed justifies a freedom from administrative inadequacies. It is in this sphere of management and administration that the programme particularly suffered and the repercussions still continue.

RESIGNATIONS

"The Walvis Bay scientific establishment suffered particularly badly, for due to resignations, there are at present no trained technicians and the professional staff has been further reduced."

The revised version said the production of the report had been delayed that year.

"The reason for these delays centres mostly upon the very high staff turnover in 1973," it said.

Dr Cram's reasons for the staff turnover as laid out in his original report are ignored in the second report.

In the original report Dr Cram noted that the South West African Pelagic Egg and Lava Surveys (Swapels), a vital part of the survey, had been seriously hampered because "the officer concerned had been prevented from effecting his approved transfer to Cape Town and had thus been denied access to essential computer facilities."

This week a former colleague of Dr Cram, himself a PhD graduate and former senior member of the department, said it was policy for all scientists to have any report checked by "political appointments" in the department.

Year	AF
1970	
1971	
1972	
1973	
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1975	
1976	
1977	
1978	
1979	
1980	

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and with

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Corpo
Cape
8001

Officials: Sec

Area of Operatio

Founded: 1939

Registration:

433658

1980/81
Report
Posatu Annual

460	
445	$
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377	x
222	x
331	x
322	x
418	x
Total	

ARGUS 7/6/82 (3 Fishing) 7

Inquiry into fishing urged

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

PROFESSOR John Grindley, one of Cape Town's best-known marine experts, has called for a judicial commission of inquiry into the fishing industry, and warned that many of the same factors which brought about the collapse of the South West African fishing industry are operating in the present Cape fisheries.

And the influential conservation body, the Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape (CCNCC), has warned that the "hidden elements" which Dr David Cram, former Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries in charge of South West Africa, says brought about the crash there are to be found in the Cape right now.

COLLAPSE

Both Professor Grindley and the CCNCC believe that if the lessons of South West Africa are not taken to heart, a major collapse of the Cape's fisheries is on the cards.

Last week The Argus reported that Dr Cram had recently written a scientific paper in which he says that hidden economic and political pressures, coupled with illegal practices and maladministration brought the once fabulously wealthy South West African fishing industry to its knees.

POINTS

The points Dr Cram made were:

- Scientific advice was ignored;
- The Scentific Advisory Council was overloaded with vested interests, and the scientist was forced into a conservators role:
- Scales were manipulated to break quotas;
- The inspectorate was not doing its job properly;
- Unwanted catches were dumped completely distorting catch returns.

The head of Sea Fisheries, Dr J Serfontein, was reported as saying that no problems would be solved by delving into the past. He said the inspectorate was "putting its house in order."

Both Professor Grindley, known in conservation circles for his conservative attitudes, and the chairman of the CCNCC, Professor Anthony Hall pointed out that the advice of scientists was still being ignored when it came to setting quotas. The scientific advice for the global Cape pelagic quota was 325 000, but annual quotas of 380 000 were awarded by the Government.

Both scientists pointed out that dynamic population systems were so intricate even the best scientific advice could be inaccurate.

"Even 325 000 could be 50 percent over the safe limit. Now we go and add on another 17 percent on an arbitrary basis," said Professor Grindley.

Call to scrap Fisheries Advisory Council

ARGUS 10/6/82
3 Fish 17

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

THE Fisheries Advisory Council should be scrapped and replaced with an independent body if the marine resources of South Africa were not to suffer the same fate as those of South West Africa/Namibia, scientists and men in the industry said this week.

This was spelled out by scientists and men in the industry this week, and echoes one of the major recommendations of the Treurnicht Commission which was turned down by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, recently.

A senior member of the council described the body as a farce as it was presently constituted. "It just represents the industry who have all the profit motives for overexploiting," he said.

The Treurnicht Commission recommended that "the present Fisheries Advisory Council be abolished and replaced with a new statutory council."

But the Government, in the White Paper published recently, said:

"The commission heard allegations that the Fisheries Advisory Council is ineffective in its present form, that it is not objective in its dealings and that members favour their own interests. From its experience of the council the Department cannot subscribe to these allegations."

The recommendation to scrap the council was turned down, but additional members were brought on to the new council.

Dr David Cram, former Deputy Director of the Department of Sea Fisheries, who was in charge in South West Africa at the time of the fisheries crash there, said in a recent publication that the Fisheries Advisory Council was "ineffective" and that political and economic elements on the council constantly overshadowed scientific advice. This in his opinion was one of the major causes of the fisheries crash.

Several scientists and men in the industry whom I interviewed this week said that in spite of the small changes to the council, exactly the same situation prevailed now in South Africa as was the case in SWA.

Fishing industry being ruined — PFP

Argus 11/6/82

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

VESTED interests helped by a Government cover-up were running the fishing industry and within five years the pelagic industry would be finished, Mr Philip Myburgh, Opposition spokesman on fishing matters, said today.

"The question must be asked whether vested interests held by people who are in top decision-making positions are not sending the industry on a suicide course like the South West African industry followed," said Mr Myburgh.

"It's about time that public representatives as well as senior officials were obliged to declare their vested interests."

Referring to the Government's refusal to accept most of the recommendations of the recent parliamentary commission of inquiry into the fishing industry, Mr Myburgh said the disregard for main points of the report and the delay between the tabling of the report and any Government response — nearly two years — showed the low regard the Government had for the nation's natural resources.

Mr Myburgh said that Dr David Cram, a former Sea Fisheries official in South West Africa, had recorded that a structural deficiency in the Fisheries Advisory Council had led to scientific advice being constantly overshadowed by political and economic representatives.

DUMPING

"Besides this, malpractices such as dumping, scale manipulation, and mislabeling of catches on landing were pinpointed by Dr Cram as major factors in the demise of the fish populations.

"He noted that these practices were widespread and by implication the inspectorate were either incredibly inefficient or corrupt.

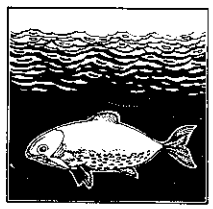
"I make the allegation that similar malpractices are taking place in our waters. Recent cases in False Bay where officials have misidentified illegal catches and taken no action while many tons of illegally caught fish pass through fishing harbours is more than enough indication of this."

He said the only way the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries could sort out the problems in the Department of Sea Fisheries was through a judicial inquiry in which many key witnesses who would otherwise not come forward for fear of intimidation could give evidence — in camera if necessary.

"But I believe the Government is afraid of the whole thing coming out in the open because if the truth behind the fisheries debacle were ever published, it would make the Info scandal look like small change."

FISHING SHARES (3) fishing

Promising signs FM 11/6/82



The first signs of life appear to be emerging from the Namibian fishing industry. This could be good news for the shares in the sector, but the change of administration which now appears to be on the cards for the territory could be a major deterrent to an investment at this stage.

In the late '60s and early '70s, the Namibian pelagic fish catch ranged between 350 000 t and 500 000t a year. However, the warning signs were already there and the proportion of pilchard in the catch declined rapidly at around that time.

Over the past couple of years, the industry has been suffering a severe shortage of fish. The pelagic catch declined to 236 000 t in 1980 before picking up slightly to 252 000 t in 1981. In 1981, however, pilchard catching off the Namibian coast was banned for the first time, as part of a programme of resource conservation.

Despite the ban, the early part of last season saw fairly large catches of pilchard. Though fishing was stopped for a time, more than 50 000 t of pilchard was taken up during the season — the highest since 1977 and compared with only 10 000 t the previous year.

This year, in response to some scientific optimism over the recovery of the resource off Namibia, a quota of 30 000 t of pilchard has been allowed for canning purposes. By the time the season closed on May 31, all this had been caught, says United Oceana's Abe Shapiro. What is more, the quality was good and 50% of the catch was put in the can — a particularly high yield. As a result, the industry should turn out more than 1,5m cartons this year — though this compares badly with the 4m-plus cartons produced a few years back and peaks of around 10m cartons.

Nevertheless, the indications are that the resource is indeed recovering, says Shapiro.

For the rest of the season, the fishing companies' performance will depend on catches of anchovy, the yields of fishmeal and oil they produce and the price received for these products.

This year's fishmeal price has been set at R414/t against R370/t last year. Imports will again be necessary. Oil yields from anchovy in 1981 were particularly high and allowed exports of 10 000 t from total production of 47 000 t. This year, the yields are not expected to be as high and exports may be out of the question, though these are still early days. Export prices again will not be high while local prices are generally expected to be satisfactory.

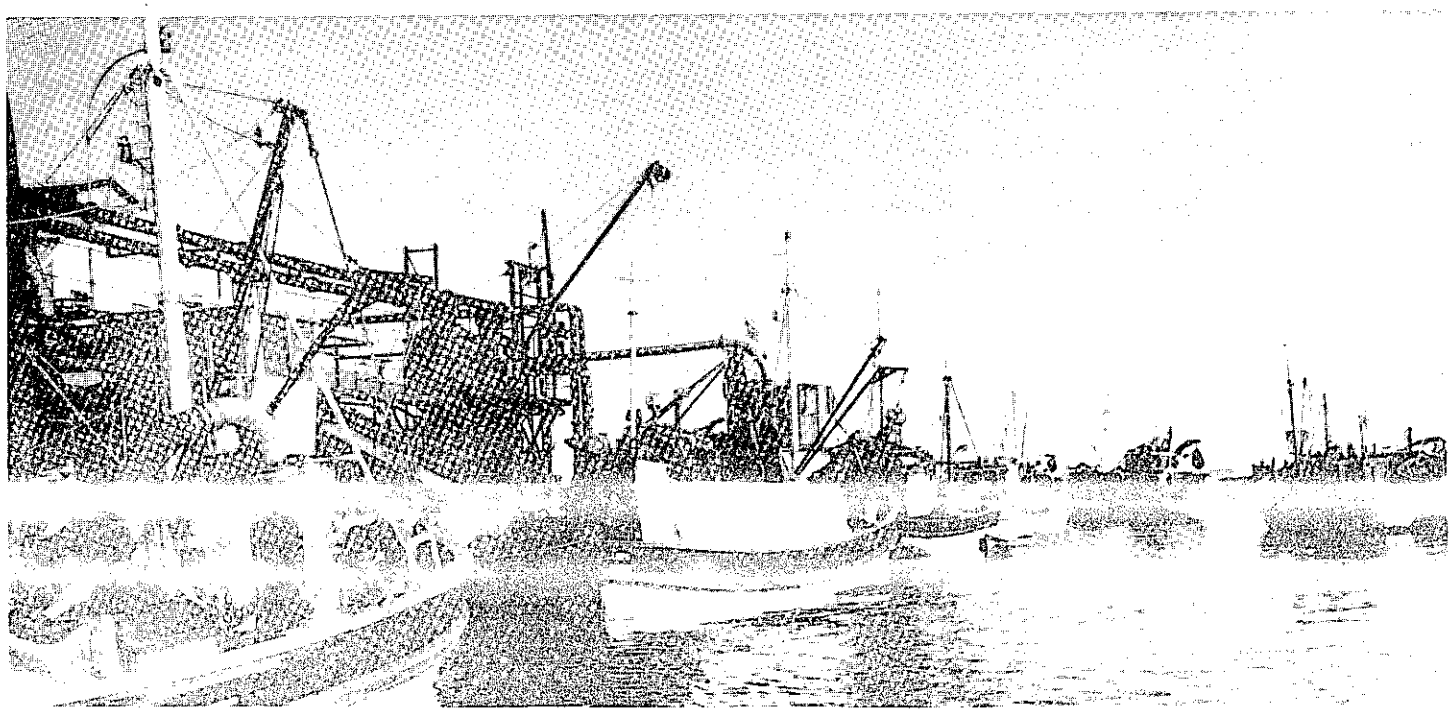
The non-pilchard pelagic catch is at present limited to 220 000 t and the season has been restricted to only three months from June 1 to August 31. This means that if weather conditions are bad, or the fish shoals are a long way from the ports, the anchovy catch may not be fully taken up. However, the authorities could extend the season if they wish. A decision on this will probably depend on whether significant amounts of pilchard are caught as a by-catch.

Last year's rationalisation in the industry centred around the operations of United Fishing Enterprises (UFE) — jointly owned by Willem Barendsz (21%), SWA Fish (33%) and Sea Products (30%). The remaining share is held by unquoted Sarusas. Fish processing was also carried out at only one plant. Unfortunately, however, the fishing companies now appear to have reverted to using their own factories once again and this may curb profitability more than would otherwise have been the case.

Cross-holdings within the industry are fairly complex (see chart) and the largest of these groupings falls ultimately under Tiger Oats — a perk for Barlows when control of Tiger becomes effective from the begining of next month.

In this group, **United Oceana** acts as a dividend funnel for Tiger's fishing interests. It is 97%-held by Tiger and as a result the shares see little trade. In the 14 months to end-February — the year-end changed with that of Tiger and the next reporting period will be for the 7 months to end-September — Units paid an annualised 14,6c. At its current 187c, the share offers an historic yield of only 7,8%. The market would appear to know something that the industry does not. Presumably its tightly-held position is the reason for the low yield.

Subsidiary **Lamberts Bay** has the advantage of fishing largely in SA waters, where the pelagic quota has remained unchanged



Fishing fleet ... better times on the horizon?

Made in South Africa TRIO-RAND/S.P.C.T. PSL/UPD 100 000 1978 PD UCT AM7a Vervaardig in Suid-Afrika

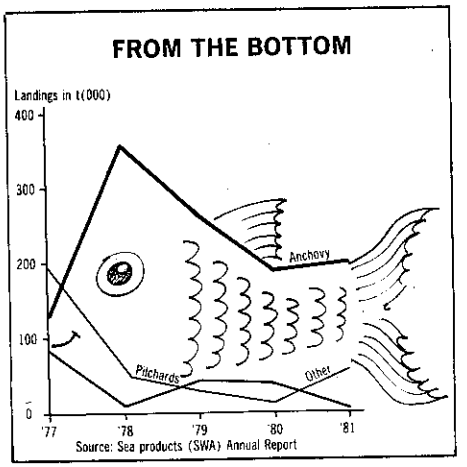
at 380 000 t for some time. Its annualised dividend for the period to February 28 was 28,3c. At 282c, its historic yield is 10%. Lamberts owns 52% of Namibian-based **Sea Products** which yields 12,1% at 280c on its annualised payout of 34c (40c) — the only company in the group to cut its rate of dividend. The actual 40c payout should be repeated this year, however, for a reasonable prospective yield of 14,3%.

These three companies have large cash and investment portfolios in their balance sheets, but the bulk of the cash is on deposit with the holding company. Presumably, therefore, they have not been able fully to take advantage of the higher interest pattern, though interest on investments still contributed 49% (52%) of taxed profit for Sea Products last year.

For most of the trio, it is probably safe to assume that the recovery in the Namibian pelagic industry and the conditions in SA waters will be such that, though earnings may be boosted, dividends will remain unchanged. There must be little likelihood that new parent Barlow Rand will change dividend policy that far down the line when cover is already slim.

Shapiro points out that the trio's cash holdings, which allowed unchanged dividends when earnings dropped last year, are still intact, and he appears confident that dividends will again at least be maintained.

Sea Products also owns 21% of **SWA Fish**, and an additional 21% is held directly by Tiger. Willem Barendsz has a further 16% stake. In the year to December 31 last year, SWA Fish's investment income provided 58% of taxed profit, against 67% in the previous year. Fishing, on the other hand, chipped in an improved 25% (22%) of earnings.



SWA Fish's 60c dividend has now been maintained for more than four years. With interest on its deposits again high this year, and chairman Robert Silverman forecasting improved earnings if the anchovy catch can be taken in time, there may be a chance of an increased payout. The market appears sceptical. At 390c, the share yields 15,4% — the highest in the sector and perhaps in line for some capital appreciation.

It certainly seems out of line with Sea Products, which derives its income largely from the same sources.

Wilbarz earned over 70% of its taxed income from fishing in calendar 1981 and is perhaps more highly-geared to the difficulties in Namibia than SWA Fish. Its cash holdings are around R3,3m. If the resource does recover significantly, however, Wilbarz should be well placed to take advantage of it.

The dividend was increased slightly last year from 8c to 8,5c, covered 1,2 times (nil) and there must be some prospect of a gradual return to the more usual 11c payout over the next couple of years. At its present 72c, the share offers an historic 11,8% and could also see a small price advance if the industry is felt to be recovering well.

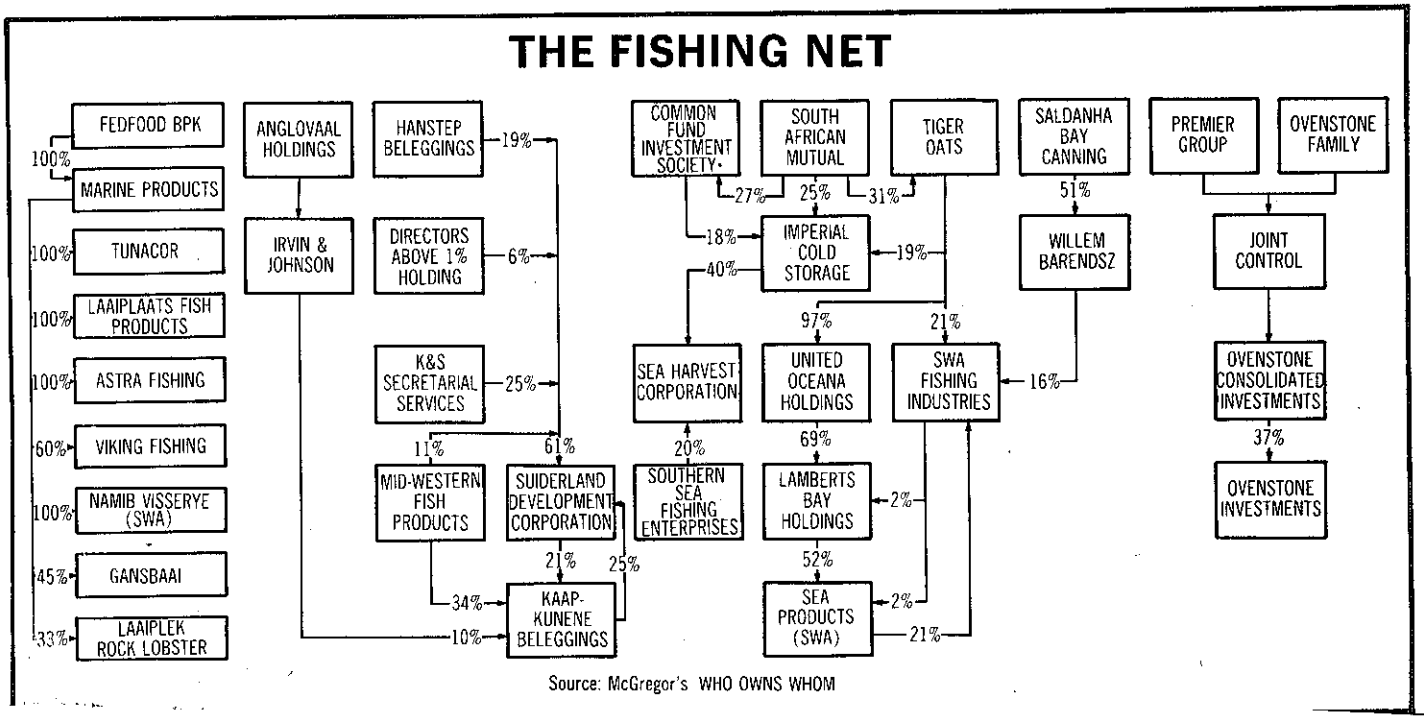
Outside the Tiger/Wilbarz grouping lie Kaap-Kunene, Suiderland and Ovenstone, as well as the major white fishing companies like I & J.

Operating mainly out of St Helena, **Kaap-Kunene** has the advantage of higher exposure to the SA fishing industry and its strong results for the year to end-December reflect this. Some analysts believe the local industry may be facing a downturn at the same time as the Namibian catch is picking up. Nevertheless, a stronger Namibian catch will probably mean an unchanged 16c payout from Kaap-Kunene for this year at least. At 138c the share yields an historic 11,6% and looks fully-priced.

Industrial holdings listing **Suiderland** sold off the major part of its hardwood interests to HLH during the year for R9,5m as well as selling its farms for almost R3m. The cash income was used to repay all debt with the balance being placed on deposit. When rates come down, the cash holdings should give the company considerable scope for further diversification.

The dividend has increased steadily over the past four years and there is likely to be a further hike to around 10c this year (8c). At 70c the share offers a prospective yield on this basis of 14,3% and looks a good buy for its diversification prospects.

Oil is already more diversified, with interests in building and a broader range of investments through listed Diroyal. Nevertheless, the group has been through a tricky patch over the last five years or so. Taxed



Source: McGregor's WHO OWNS WHOM

profits have been static or have declined and the dividend has been maintained at 3c since the increase in share capital in 1979.

It is probably too early to forecast an increase in the payout this year but the market is clearly expecting little change and the share offers an historic 11,5% at 26c. Net worth is more than well over double this and there is always the chance that Premier may be tempted to take out minorities, as has previously been rumoured.

Investors looking at the sector will be heartened by the apparent recovery in what had earlier seemed a doomed resource. However, the political considerations behind the Namibian industry add a significant element of risk to the shares. There are still good yields available because of the earlier attempts to diversify and because of their large cash holdings — though the market has been quick to pick up some opportunities. But a long-term purchase of shares with a high Namibian exposure even now is hardly justifiable.

Scott Hawker

(3) Fishing Hansard QW.
Pelagic quota 1049 - 1050
11/6/82

742. Mr. P. A. MYBURGH asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

Whether the pelagic quota for each of the latest specified three years for which figures are available exceeded limits recommended by scientists of the Sea Fisheries Division; if so, (a) by how much, and (b) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a) 1980—55 000 tons
1981—55 000 tons
1982—None

(b) 1980 and 1981.

(i) Because the scientists' recommendation was not so much based on over-exploitation of the source and the immediate weakening in the source as a result thereof, but on the danger of a possible recruitment failure regarding the anchovy source at the relatively high rate of exploitation.

(ii) Because there has in the preceding years in fact been a notable saving in the quantity of fish caught due to, for example, the determination of factory quotas, the change to a dry off-loading system, a reduction in the number of boats and a changed catch strategy.

(iii) Because the quotas for the years concerned, as well as for 1979, were caught within an average of six months of the catch season of eight months and because the catch per unit of effort indicated a rising tendency.

(3. Fishing Sea-weed Hammond
11/6/82 Q. 61. 1038 - K:39

Mr F K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

(1) How many concessions for the collection of sea weed were granted by his Department in each of the latest specified five years for which figures are available;

(2) whether these concessions include a maximum permissible tonnage per area; if so, (a) what is the tonnage and (b) how has it been derived;

(3) whether steps are taken to guard against over-exploitation; if so, what steps;

(4) whether reports have been received by his Department on the effects of such collection on the coastline; if so, what were the findings of such reports;

(5) whether his Department has initiated or intends to initiate studies of the effects of such collection of sea-weed?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES:

(1) 16 (One in each of the 16 zones in which the coast is divided for this purpose).

(2) No.

(3) Since mainly washed ashore sea-weed is collected, over-exploitation can not take place. In the case of certain types of sea-weed, the harvest of which is permitted, it is prescribed that the plants may not be uprooted.

(4) No.

Kaap Kunene optimistic on Walvis Bay

By ALEX PETERSEN

THE KAAP KUNENE and Ovenstone groups have rationalized their fishing operations at Walvis Bay under an agreement whereby the catches of both groups are processsed at the Kaap Kunene factory.

Kaap Kunene directors note in the group's annual report that the move has been satisfactorily completed, and the joint venture now has an efficient fish meal, oil plant and cannery which can handle the fish intake of both partners.

The fishing fleets will remain under separate control.

The benefits from the rationalization as well as the allocation of a separate pilchard quota for canning for Walvis Bay factories gives reason for a more optimistic outlook for 1982, the directors say.

On a turnover of R26 648 000 (R21 936 000) in the year to December the group's pre-tax income rose from R4 374 000 to R6 314 000, while net attributable income rose from R2 831 000 to R4 943 000, while earnings a share rose to 29,3c (20,7).

Chile setback

The group's investment in fishing in Chile has clearly suffered a considerable setback, and provision has been made for R1 million for losses which may be suffered.

The directors say that "certain unforseen circumstances have had a detrimental effect on our operations and drastic dchanges and adjustments have and will still have to be made to protect our interests to the best of our ability".

On the home front inshore fishing pushed up its contribution to the group's after-tax income from 34% to 51%, and in both the Walvis Bay and St Helena factories high oil yields were achieved from fish meal processing.

Income from investments marginally dropped its share of the larger total from 42% to 37%, but cash resources made "a substantial contribution... and will make a greater contribution during 1982".

On the farming front the group has sold its farms in the Western areas of South West Africa, concentrating its cattle operations in the Gobabis area. Satisfactory income is also anticipated from fruit farming developments in the Western Cape.

(3) Fishing RDH 14/6/82

Kunene-Ovenstone venture

By ALEX PETERSEN

CAPE TOWN. — The Kaap Kunene and Ovenstone groups have rationalised their fishing operations at Walvis Bay under an agreement whereby the catches of both are processed at the Kaap Kunene factory.

Kaap Kunene's directors say in the annual report that the joint venture has an efficient fishmeal, fishoil plant and cannery which can handle the catch of both partners. The fishing fleets remain under separate control.

The benefits from the rationalisation as well as the allocation of a separate pilchard quota for canning for Walvis Bay factories gives reason for a more optimistic outlook for 1982, the directors say.

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* * *

THE WITHDRAWAL of a Chilean partner from a joint venture in pelagic fishing has delayed commissioning of a fishmeal plant in Chile, says Mr Rudi Frankel, chairman of United Oceana Holdings, in the annual report.

United Fishing Enterprises — 30% held by Oceana subsidiary Seaswa — has a 50% share in the Chilean venture. The Chilean partner's 50% holding has been bought in equal shares by Oceana subsidiary Sea Products (SWA) and one of its co-shareholders in United Fishing.

The plant has been completed and the fishing fleet is engaged in trial runs.

"At this stage," says Mr Frankel, "it is not possible to assess the viability of the undertaking."

Fishing risk: New evidence

Argus 14/6/82

3 Fishing

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

NEW scientific evidence is available that the South African pelagic fishing industry is on the point of collapse because of the Government's awarding excessive quotas.

A report by a Sea Fisheries Institute scientist says a bad breeding year for anchovies would be the end of the pelagic industry.

The report, to the International Commission for Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), by P A Shelton, was written a few months ago.

It says: "In recent years, the catch has consisted almost entirely of anchovy one-year-old and less.

SUSCEPTIBLE

"This means the fishery is now very susceptible to recruitment failure".

But in spite of this and other evidence by scientists regarded as world leaders in their field, the Government has consistently awarded quotas grossly in excess of the limits the scientists believe safe.

Scientists to whom I have spoken recently challenged the Minister of Agriculture and Sea Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, to say how he arrived at the 380 000 tons awarded as the global pelagic quota each year, rather than accepting the figure of 325 000 which scientists believe is the maximum safe limit.

But the Government has kept silent.

Fishing industry men, scientists, politicians, members of the recent Treurnicht commission of inquiry into the industry and conservationists I have interviewed in recent weeks all believe that either vested interest on the part of influential Government members or pressure by politically powerful interests in the industry have hamstrung attempts to manage the industry on a rational basis.

72 PERCENT

As a result, the Cape anchovy stocks — which, since 1977, have constituted 72 percent of the pelagic catch — have been brought to the verge of commercial extinction.

From being a multi-species resource with a number of contributing year classes, it has deteriorated to almost a single species with only a few year classes, the Sea Fisheries report says.

A simulation model — thought to be one of the best ever constructed — was used to test the maximum safe quota.

"This model indicates a long-term yield, under average conditions, of 325 000 tons for the combined pelagic species resource in the ICSEAF Division 1.6 (from just south of the Orange River to Cape Agulhas.)

"Maintaining the quota at the current level of 380 000 tons will result in a decline in the anchovy catch," the report concludes.

stery of Pik's pips solved

stery surround- pips has been

The surprise nce of the of Foreign Pik Botha, in m of a SAAF press confer- eek had news- ed.

day inquiries efence Force with a "no nd no record ound of Mr been given an honorary rank in the Air Force.

Mr Botha's appearance in uniform was at Oshivello with the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, and the Minister of Defence, Mr Magnus Malan. A SAAF spokesman flatly denied on Saturday that the honorary rank of colonel had been given to Mr Botha by an Air Force unit.

But, it appears today that the Defence Force was taken by surprise when No 3 Squadron made him an honorary colonel — without the pomp and ceremony which usually accompanies such an honour.

The denial on Saturday by the Defence Force that Mr Botha had been made an honorary colonel by one of the Air Force units was put down to a "misunderstanding" between different air force departments, a Defence Force spokesman said.

British retake last island in Falkland chain

British con- seized back land in the dependencies Argentinian

of at least 50 es went in by Morrell Thule — an outcrop north in the South ain — at the

orts of a Brit- g on South out 2 800 km of The Falk- from Buenos high command which said elicopters had -gunned an scientific sta- hat troops had

ish Ministry of as slow for eact night issued a tement saying Argentinians on ie had surren- British forces. are believed to have been 10 men on the sub-Antarctic island where the Argentinians set up a scientific research base illegally in 1976. Some reports, however, claim that they were naval personnel, and were armed.

Argentina has protested to the United Nations about Britain's occupation. The country's representative at the UN, Dr Arnaldo Listre, said the landing was "a new act of aggression by the United Kingdom."

In Buenos Aires Argentina's ruling military junta failed to decide on a successor to ousted President Leopoldo Galtieri last night and agreed to continue their deliberations today.

The junta, formed by the commanders of the three armed forces, concluded their third round of discussions on the leadership crisis in the apparent deadlock, informed sources said. — Argus Bureau and Sapa-Reuter.

men held in Argentina'

us Bureau

— Britain's continue hold- senior Argentin- captured in the may be de- to win the release members of the Air Service who — in one of st-kept secrets of — have been in hands for more onth.

laim that British had been cap- the Argentinian d was first made Argentinian news- arin on May 19. port was prompt- d in both London nos Aires.

But in Washington at the weekend senior United States intelligence officials insisted that seven SAS men — three officers and four NCOS — were being held in conditions so secret that not even the International Red Cross had been told.

According to the officials, the SAS men were captured in mid-May near a military base at Rio Gallegos in Southern Argentina.

They had a mobile radar and were apparently keeping track of Super Etendard and Skyhawk operations from the base.

The Americans say the seven were part of a much larger SAS contingent, sent for reconnaissance and sabotage, and there is some evidence that they destroyed aircraft and fuel dumps.

They apparently reached Argentina by way of Chile after being ferried there from the task force in helicopters.

A Sea King helicopter which crashed near the Chilean port of Punta Arenas was part of this operation, the sources say.

The three-man crew later gave themselves up to the Chilean authorities and were repatriated.

Undersize catches threaten hake stock

Argus 21/6/82

3 Fishing

By GRAHAM FERREIRA
(Environment Reporter)

SOUTH AFRICA'S most popular tabl fish, hake, may become a rare delicac because so few of these fish are being allowed to breed before they are caught.

During the past few years the appearance of so-called baby hake has become more and more commonplace.

Statistics show that nearly half of the catch of one of the two main companies trawling for hake is made up of fish which are so young they have not had a chance to spawn.

This means that a small percentage of individual fish caught are being allowed to spawn first, and this week scientists warned that the trawling could be following the same path as pelagic fishing.

In spite of drastic cuts in quotas, catch records show that during the past year only about two percent of fish caught reached full size.

Scientists say hake is a slow-growing fish which reaches well over a metre when mature. It takes four years before these fish reproduce.

OPTIMISTIC

In his book the Living Shores of Southern Africa, Professor George Branch says this slow growth makes the hake stocks far more stable from year to year, that the recruitment of young is far more predictable and that the trawling industry has far more warning than the pelagic industry of impending disaster.

Some 95 percent of the 117 000-ton deep-sea hake quota is divided between Irvin and Johnson and Sea Harvest.

The managing director of Sea Harvest, Mr Eckart Kramer, said recently he was optimistic about the future of the hake stocks.

He said the trawling industry was concerned about declining hake cat-

'Settlement impossible unless Cubans go'

UPINGTON — No settlement plan or proposal for SWA/Namibia could be implemented unless all Cuban troops were withdrawn from Angola, Mr Pik Botha said here.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs described as "a serious development" reports that Angola believed the withdrawal of Cuban troops concerned only Cuba and Angola and could not be linked to a settlement in SWA/Namibia.

He told a National Party meeting that South Africa had accepted phase two of the settlement plan, subject to conditions.

GUARANTEES

One was that South Africa be given reasonable guarantees that the UN Secretary-General would be impartial over SWA/Namibia.

These guarantees were still being awaited.

Mr Botha said there would also be further negotiations on the size, composition and functions of the UN transition assistance group. Considerable progress had been made with these negotiations.

The SA Government was also interested in a fund which it hoped the Western countries would set up to support the constitutional principles

UCT honour for five

niversity of Cape ill confer honor- rees on five past at its mid-year on ceremony this

ae Mr Justice M tt, judge of the Court; Professor

UCT honour for five past students

iniversity of Cape will confer honorrees' on five past at its mid-year tion ceremony this

are Mr Justice M rbett, judge of the Court; Professor Kipps a founder r of the College of ne of South Africa; or Jannie Louw, under of paediatric in South Africa; chard Luyt, former ancellor and Prinof UCT; and Miss Rainier, South -born musician and er.

ustice Corbett was ed to the Cape Bar s, appointed QC in acting Judge in nd judge in Octothe same year. He ppointed Judge of on June 1, 1974.

ge Corbett served Council of UCT 1969 to 1975 and this time was an of the Council's ission of inquiry the Students Repreive Council.

hur Kipps graduat UCT's medical ool in 1936 and me professor of bacology in 1957 and tor of the Virus Rech Unit a year later.

fessor Kipps played or part in setting up Medical Research cil. He is a member the World Health nisation expert panel irus diseases and has served as a member of the Prime Minister's Scientific Advisory Council and director of the SA Inventions Development Corporation.

Professor Jannie Louw joined the staff of the medical school and Groote Schuur Hospital after World War 2 as a part-time lecturer in surgery and an assistant surgeon. Following postgraduate study in Britain and Sweden, he became professor of surgery in 1955.

KNIGHTED

In 1966 he performed the first successful separation of abdominally-joined Siamese twins in South Africa.

He was decorated by the State President for meritorious service in 1980.

Sir Richard Luyt's 13 years as Principal of UCT followed a distinguished career in the British Colonial Service.

Sir Richard Luyt has been awarded honorary degrees from the University of Natal, the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of South Africa.

Miss Priaulx Rainier, who lives in Britain, is internationally recognised as one of the leading women composers in the world today.

She was born in Howick, Natal in 1903. In 1919 she won the University of South Africa's overseas scholarship and studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London from 1920 to 1925.

In 1952 she became a fellow of the Royal Academy and became a professor there in 1953, retiring in 1961.

of Sea Harvest, Mr Eckart Kramer, said recently he was optimistic about the future of the hake stocks.

He said the trawling industry was concerned about declining hake catches and had voluntarily accepted the recent 12 percent quota cut.

PLOUGHED

"The difference between our industry and the pelagic industry is that my company, for instance, has not diversified." We have ploughed all our profits back into trawling. We came into the business when trawling was considered a very high risk business and we are here to stay."

Mr Kramer believes hake catches can be restored to their former abundance.

One of the problems facing the hake stocks is that big hake feed on small hake.

The big fish, having been depleted by the industry, now no longer take a heavy toll on the small hake, and this could be one of the reasons why so many small hake are being caught.

But small hake don't breed, and as catching efforts intensify, and the remaining large hake are caught along with huge numbers of baby hake, the breeding potential of the stocks is slowly winding down.

negotiations.

The SA Government was also interested in a fund which it hoped the Western countries would set up to support the constitutional principles which they proposed once SWA/Namibia had achieved independence.

BIGGEST

The aid South Africa was giving the territory at present could possibly be the greatest amount per capita given by any one country to another.

South Africa would never go back on anything it had ever said regarding SWA/Namibia, Mr Botha said.

The world could know South Africa was to be trusted. — Sapa.

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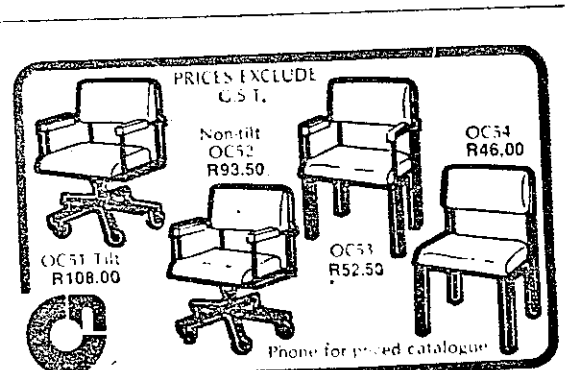
arist 'old' old boys

SPECIAL dinner for old" old boys will be id at St Joseph's Colge, Rondebosch on Wedsday — the first dinner its kind held at the hool. Those invited are arist old boys from the ars 1918 (when the chool started) to 1959.

The object of the diner is to explain to them he background to the successful campaign to save this historic Marist school from closing down, and to seek their support.

Among the older Marist's old boys who have been invited are Owen Cardinal McCann and Mr Boon Wallace, former president of the SA Cricket Association.

Tickets for the dinner (R10 all found) can be had from Mr Chris Swanson (54-1677), Mr George Dobson (69-5719) or Mr Chu Chu Gawlowski (66-4612).



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Ovenstone pulls out of West African fishing

(3) Fishing C. Times 24/6/82

By ALEX PETERSEN

OVENSTONE INVESTMENTS have suspended their fishing operations off West Africa, because of the "calamitous drop" in fishmeal prices, combined with the excessive cost of the West African fishing rights, the chairman, Mr Andrew Ovenstone, told the group's annual meeting yesterday.

The fishing fleet has been relocated in Chile where the group has "a considerable minority interest" in an on-going concern.

Ovenstone have previously remained a low profile on the West African fishing operation, referring to it in reports as "the eastern Atlantic".

Mr Ovenstone said that the cost of the fishing rights in the region, where they "had operated for 12 years pretty successfully" had increased from $1,2m in 1979 to $4,1m. This meant that even achieving it full quota the operation would only be operating at break-even point.

Replying to a question by Mr Issy Goldberg of the Shareholders' Association, he said that the group had had to write off R3,5m in West Africa, which represented certain infrastructure costs.

Mr Ovenstone said that prospects in Chile looked promising in the medium term.

The Chilean peso was recently sharply devalued against the dollar, which would affect profitability on the canning side. While the current world fishmeal price was still depressed — a major factor in the sharp drop of the fishing contribution to profits — there were indications of a recovery in the medium term.

In South West Africa the anchovy fishing had not been up to expectations, but a lot of pilchard had been evident, which was encouraging.

On the property side the group's Kudu property project in Pretoria was now financed on a long-term basis, as a result decreasing short-term borrowing by R8m.

The contruction side had good order books, and was looking for a substantial improvement in the profit contribution.

In reply to Mr Goldberg, Mr Ovenstone said that the group was "at the upper limit of our debt:equity ratio," and was taking steps to change this.

TH

Crayfish figures are 'unrealistic'

ARGUS 24/6/82 (3 Fishing)

by Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

SCALE manipulation and the illegal landing of many tons of crayfish at the wrong landing sites during the past season have given an unrealistically optimistic view of the stocks in certain areas, scientists and researchers told The Argus this week.

The west coast crayfish stocks were in serious trouble and although the industry had "pulled itself together" during the past two years there were still many problem areas, and still many who would "take a chance when they could" scientists said.

Filling quotas

And Dr Dave Pollock, chief technical official of Sea Fisheries, denied he had given certain price figures to Die Burger which were quoted in a front page article yesterday.

He said the article gave an "over optimistic" view of the crayfish situation.

During an Argus investigation it came to light that certain fisheries based in the north, where crayfish stocks were critically low, were filling their quotas from the rich fishing grounds south of Elands Bay.

Dr Pollock today confirmed that at least 30 tons of crayfish had been added to the Elands Bay quota because of catches which had been made there by boats from other areas.

"We have a real boundary problem in that area," Dr Pollock said.

According to a university student who worked part time for Sea Fisheries on research during the vacations, many boats were being taken from one area to another to fill quotas in areas which had been fished out.

He also told how he had watched scale manipulation during the offloading and weighing of crayfish.

According to him there was only one inspector on each scale, but the inspector also had to check for undersize crayfish.

Fishermen

"The only way he can check for undersize crayfish is to watch the boat as the catch is being unloaded into the big baskets which are to be weighed. If he does not watch the unloading, they put the undersize crayfish under the bigger ones in the basket and slip them through unnoticed.

"But a further problem arises when the inspector doesn't watch what's going on at the scale, because the operator simply does not register a basket every now and again."

Dr Pollock said he could not say anything about the scale manipulation allegation as he did not know anything about it.

Offloading

"But now the fishermen themselves watch the weighing because they are paid for each crayfish caught, and they don't want to be done out of money. So at present it's a case of the fishermen watching the factory and the factory watching the fishermen.

"Generally speaking, however, I am amazed at the change over the past two years. Then the attitude was prevalent that the sea was there for everyone and everyone exploited the general resource as much as possible. Now it's different, but there is no cause for super-optimism about the industry."

MUST enter in each question in which it has columns (2) and

External
(3)

Paper No. .....

(to be copied from the heading on the Examination Paper)

NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
2. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
3. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
4. Do not write in the left hand margin.

WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

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CAPE TIMES 24/6/82

3 Filing

Crayfish: Hope for recovery

Industrial Reporter

WEST COAST crayfish may be on the road to recovery after years of overfishing, according to a senior authority at the Department of Sea Fisheries, Dr Dave Pollock. Many in the industry agree.

Dr Pollock yesterday said the effective quota cut of about 23 percent in the past season and improved control of fishing in the past two had given reason for hope.

"I think in the long term we're going to see a recovery as part of the natural cycle," he said.

Slow

He emphasized that the process would be slow and that the most recent figures indicated improvements in only two of the eight fisheries along the West Coast.

One senior crayfish-marketing executive said: "As far as we are concerned, yes, the resource as a whole seems to have picked up. But of course there is still the drop-off in the northern fishing grounds."

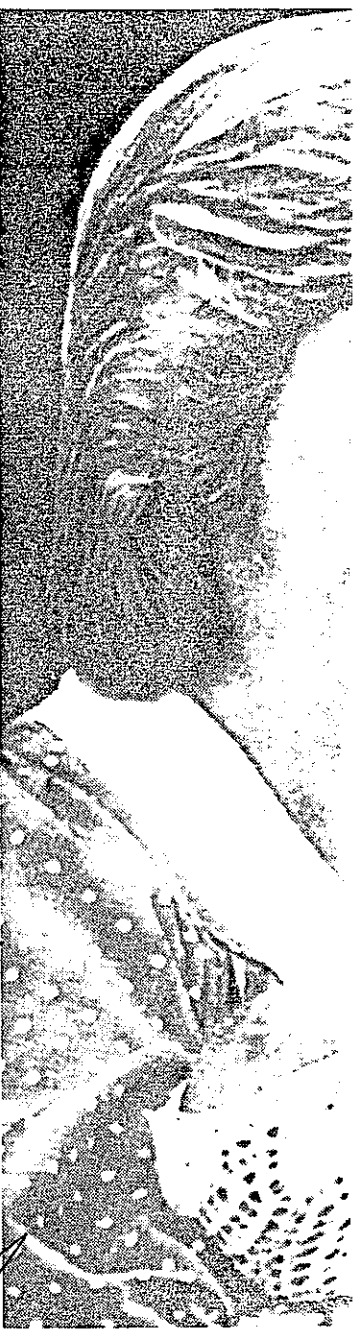
Like other similarly-minded executives, he wished not to be identified because of the sensitivity surrounding the industry.

'Swarming'

Even though quotas had been filled for the year, fishermen reported to their company head offices in Cape Town that the waters around St Helena Bay, Saldanha Bay and Dassen Island were swarming with fish.

The Sea Management Association formed about two years ago by boat owners and the fishing groups to co-ordinate and control the industry was considered by both Dr Pollock and the fishing companies a major factor in the recovery of the resource.

No change is anticipated in the quota for the next season beginning in November.



The Princess of Wales holds h
London less

Biko: Complaint about 4th doctor

CAPE TIMES 24/6/82

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — A fourth Port Elizabeth doctor, specialist neurologist Dr R J Keeley, is cited in a new complaint to the South African Medical and Dental Council about the treatment given to Steve Biko before his death in 1977.

The council has not yet replied to five doctors who four months ago appealed for a fresh inquiry into the conduct of four "Biko doctors".

The other doctors referred to are Dr Benjamin Tucker, principal district surgeon in Port Elizabeth; Dr Ivor Lang, senior district surgeon, and Dr Colin Hersch, a private physician.

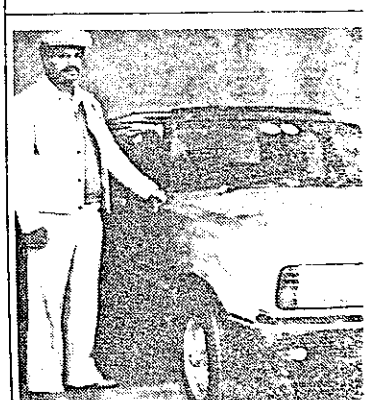
Dr Keeley was consulted by Drs Lang and Tucker and gave advice without seeing Biko.

that the group, in calling for an inquiry, was not engaged in a witch-hunt. "We have no vengeful desire to see these doctors punished.

"Our objective is to see the highest ethical body in the medical profession in this country make an unequivocal statement about the ethical duties of doctors towards their patients in any and all circumstances."

One of the five doctors is Professor Trevor Jenkins, head of the Department of Human Genetics at Witwatersrand University and chairman of the Professional and Ethical Standards Committee.

The other four are Professor Frances Ames, head of the Department of Neurology at Groote Schuur; Professor Phillip Tobias, Dean of the Wits



Lamberts queried on R30m kitty

By ALEX PETERSEN

CAPE TOWN. — Lamberts Bay's cash in the kitty — more than R36-million in February — provoked some tough comments and questions for the chairman, Mr Rudi Frankel, at the group's annual meeting in Cape Town yesterday.

The Shareholders' Association spokesman, Mr Issy Goldberg, questioned whether the interest of R4 800 000 earned on the last years' retained earnings of more than R30-million reflected an adequate rate.

He suggested that given the cash needs of the group, R20-million of the of the retained earnings could be paid out to shareholders, which could be done through a special dividend of R2,50 to each shareholder.

Stressing that Lamberts Bay, the holding company for the Oceana group, had a current assets to liabilities ratio of 2,4 to 1, Mr Goldberg said this placed it in a unique situation.

The share was trading at 280c, and the net asset value was R5,35, of which nearly R4 was represented the cash holding.

"It seems ludicrous," said Mr Goldberg.

The group could be "milked to perpetuate other dynasties," whereas a special dividend would enhance the group's image, and need not "dispossess Tiger" which itself would through its holdings acquire 70% of the disbursement.

Minority shareholders would then be free to invest their money as they saw best.

Mr Frankel, who conceded that most of the cash was lent to Tiger Oats, said the "the time is not propitious" to make such a payment to shareholders, and he would not deem it prudent. Tiger Oats policy was not to build up companies to disperse their assets.

"If I had followed that advice a decade ago, this company would not be in the position it is in today."

The interest rate at which the cash was lent was determined by consultation with three banks, and as such was at market-related rates.

Oceana's chairman, Mr Abe Shapiro, said the loans were for never longer than a year.

In reply to an institutional shareholder, who said the rate was roughly 10½% and thus well below current rates, Mr Frankel said some of the money had been lent before the current high interest rates.

More recently R10-million had been placed at 17%, and the current year would show improved interest earnings.

Dividends also received flak when a shareholder pointed out that the dividends had not risen in the past four years. The current apparent increment only reflected the 14-month year.

Shareholders had at least a right to expect some compensation for inflation, and a special dividend should be declared in the current year to remedy the neglect. This could easily be supported with the current 2,3 dividend cover.

Mr Frankel said the board would consider the matter.

Overfishing threatens the jackass penguin

ARGUS 2/7/82 (3 Fishing) (44)

Environment Reporter

BESIDES causing major socio-economic problems and, as one scientist said, "depriving millions of people for generations to come of cheap protein," the rape of the seas by overfishing has serious effects for those birds and animals dependent on fish for food.

And worse hit than most is the jackass penguin.

Because it is a flightless bird, its range is much reduced compared to other fish-seeking species such as the Cape gannet. This means that serious depletion of stocks of fish, especially during the breeding season, has reduced the penguins' breeding success.



LIKE its food supply, pilchards, the jackass penguin is facing extinction.

EXTINCTION

And this, according to ornithologists interviewed this week, is one of the major factors which has brought the penguin populations down from their millions several decades ago to the few hundred thousand now living and breeding.

And the numbers are dropping constantly. In fact if the present trend is not reversed the jackass penguin will follow its once favourite food supply, the pilchard, towards extinction.

Although in absolute terms the pilchard is a long way from extinct, compared to its former numbers it is so reduced that in most parts of the world it is "commercially extinct" — no longer worth fishing for.

According to many marine scientists, the greed, bad administration and questionable dealings which destroyed the once fabulously rich fishing grounds of SWA/Namibia, are now threatening the Cape stocks.

That almost all the Cape's pilchards are long gone to fishmeal factories is evident from statistics on the feeding habits of the penguins.

In 1956, pilchards comprised between 32 and 27 percent by weight of all the fish taken by penguins. In 1978 just one out of every hundred fish caught by penguins in Saldanha Bay was a pilchard.

ANCHOVY

Now anchovy has become the chief food source of many sea birds, as it has become the backbone of the pelagic fishing industry in the Cape.

The writing is on the wall say marine scientists. When the shoals fail, the warnings may be remembered, but it will be too late, for the jackass penguins.

SA's chance to cast vote against whaling

6/7/87

3 Fisheries

Environment Reporter

WHEN South Africa sits round the voting table at the International Whaling Commission's annual meeting in Brighton, England, later this month, it may be the last opportunity to register a vote against whaling.

So many new non-whaling nations have been recruited to the IWC during the past few years that many observers believe the odds have now been irrevocably stacked against the pro-whaling nations, and that at last the long awaited moratorium will be pushed through.

The question which many in South Africa, including people such as Dr Anton Rupert, are asking is whether it is worth having history record that South Africa never joined the worldwide swing against the practice of harpooning live whales for commercial gain.

HAVE RESPECT

For the past decade South Africa has not whaled itself, but Sea Fisheries scientists connected with whaling have continued to enjoy the respect of most of the world's marine biologists in spite of their refusal to add their weight to the growing call for a moratorium on all whaling.

Sea Fisheries whaling experts believe that some whale populations, especially the southern minke whale stocks, are still large enough to support commercial exploitation.

ON INCREASE

There is some evidence that the minke whale population is actually increasing, though there are also many scientists who gainsay this.

One of the arguments put forward by those scientists who support the continued exploitation of minke whales is that as the minke whale actually fills nearly the same biological niche as the almost extinct blue whale, it is actually "taking up the blue whale's running" to use a horse racing term.

The reduction of blue whales has allowed an increase in the minke whale's population because of an increased food supply.

Many find this view rather simplistic, though, and point out that before the beginning of intensive commercial whaling there must have been a much higher biomass of blue and minke whales combined than now exists.

It is unlikely that there is insufficient food supply or territory for the recovery of the almost extinct blue whales. What is far more likely is that commercial hunting has depleted the blue whale stocks beyond the point of no return.

But the scientific reasons are only one of the arguments against continuing the commercial slaughter of whales. The strongest argument against whaling is an ethical one. It has been pointed out that if the harpooning took place on land for everyone to see commercial whaling would never be allowed to continue.

NO DOUBT

Harpooning a whale has been equated with harpooning an elephant and tying the rope to a tree and watching the great beast die choking on its own blood.

There is no doubt that if whaling had not taken place before and someone wanted to start now it would never be condoned.

These and many questions will again be thrashed out in Brighton on July 19. Most believe that a moratorium is at last on the cards. Conservationists in South Africa say the only question to be resolved is how history will judge our decision to condone or condemn the slaughter.

'Dangerous' fish being sold in shops

(3) Fishing Mercury 6/7/82

Mercury Reporter

FISH declared unfit for human consumption in Japan is being widely stocked — and successfully sold — by butcheries and supermarkets in Durban and other parts of the country.

And it is being marketed as 'butter fish', although its common name is 'oil fish'.

In steak form it closely resembles barracuda.

Prof Margaret Smith, world-renowned marine life authority of Rhodes University, yesterday said she was upset to hear that *ruvettus pretiosus* was being distributed in South Africa 'because suppliers know damned well what consumption does to a person'.

The excessive oil content of the fish's flesh was indigestible and passed right through the body, often causing upset stomachs, Prof Smith said.

'I'm not at all keen about oil fish being sold locally. In fact, I'd say it is dangerous. It's certainly the quickest way to dirty one's underpants.

'When consumption causes problems people blame fish in general, but it is often specifically the oil fish which are the cause.'

Prof Smith said oil fish had been given a name in Hawaii which, translated, meant 'don't go far from a lavatory'.

Go easy

She said the species had recently been the subject of a paper prepared by the Fishing Industries Research Institute, entitled 'Keriarrhea'.

A local spokesman for a large seafood distributing company, Mr Nigel van Someren, yesterday said he was aware of the exceptionally high oil content of the fish, but not that it was more commonly known as oil fish.

'We call it butter fish,' he said.

'It's very nice-tasting although I'd recommend not eating too much of it.'

Local retail outlets, however, have not been instructed to advise customers to go easy on consumption.

The regional perishables manager of Checkers, Mr Harry Schneeman, said the 'butter fish' tasted better grilled than fried. It was exceptionally rich and sold consistently. He had not heard of the species being referred to by another name.

The acting regional manager for Pick 'n Pay, Mr Bob Bezuidenhout, said he had been led to believe by suppliers that the fish were caught by trawlers operating off Tristan da Cunha.

41.422 63

Company trawlers clean up the snoek shoals

3 Fishing

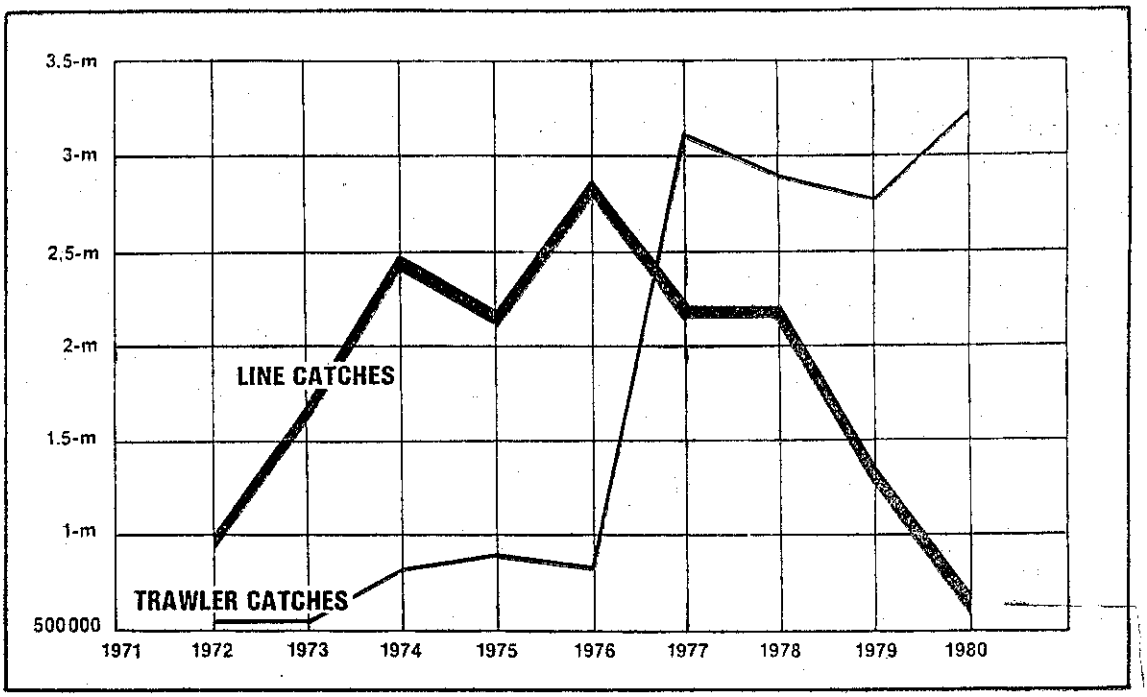
ARGUS 6/7/82

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

TRAWLERS owned by large fishing companies are wiping out the shoals of snoek, resulting in poorer and poorer catches for line fishermen, who depend on the snoek run for their income.

The closed season has been abolished at the insistence of the Fisheries Advisory Council heavily loaded with representatives and sympathisers with the large fishing concerns.

In the season before the all-year-round opening trawlers caught 3 050 000 snoek as opposed to the 697 000 taken by all line fishermen. Nearly three-quarters of the snoek taken by trawlers were caught in the closed season.



ANONYMOUS

These figures are from a Sea Fisheries documents sent to The Argus by an anonymous source and clearly indicate that the decision to open the season all year round was not in the interests of the line fishermen, as claimed by Sea Fisheries officials at the time.

It is obvious from the figures that the bad catches of the past few years have a parallel in the spectacular increase in the numbers of snoek being trawled.

In 1972, 905 000 were caught by line and 519 000 were trawled.

The numbers of snoek trawled rose steadily to 702 000 in 1976, but suddenly the number of trawled snoek leapt to 3 225 000 in 1977, the year when catches of other species usually taken by the large fishing companies began to wane.

What is also significant about the figures is that the number of snoek being trawled in the closed season steadily grew from 37 percent in 1972 to 71 percent in 1980, the last year before the closed season was abolished.

In the report by a Sea Fisheries employee it was noted that "an unhealthy structural change in the pattern of snoek utilisation developed since 1977."

Although the writer was not specific, it is obvious that he believed that the improved catches of snoek were not just by accident.

"It is definitely possible that the trawling industry have intensified their interest in snoek catches. The percentage of snoek being trawled in th closed season is upsetting," said the writer.

FOREIGNERS

It was also noted that although the depleted catches by handliners coincided with the increased catches of trawlers, there were also reports of rich catches being made by foreign interests along the South West African coast.

"The institute is nevertheless worried about the success of the implementation of the closed season, a problem which is aggravated by the seasonal appearance of the snoek on the trawling grounds as well as the potentially bad marketing effects, the competition between handliners and trawlers and the quality of the fish."

The problem was referred to the Fisheries Advisory Council and the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. Mr P T C du Plessis, announced that following poor catches the traditional closed season between August and November would be done away with.

It was put forward that line fishermen would now be allowed to catch all year round, as the trawlers had been allowed to do.

One of the reasons advanced was that it was impossible to trawl selectively with bottom nets.

But the figures in the Sea Fisheries document show an entirely different picture.

The percentage of snoek in the total trawl catch grew steadily from less than one percent in 1973 to 6,8 percent in 1977.

Apparently no attempt has been made to prevent the trawling industry taking snoek in the closed season.

rough work, but no credit will be given for such work.

2. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
3. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
4. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.

candidates are so instructed.

2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

EDSON

Nothing oily about EL's butter fish

(3) Fishing D. Dispatch 7/7/82

EAST LONDON — There is nothing oily about locally sold "butterfish" — but there is something fishy about the rather pleasant-sounding name.

The label, "butter fish" is nothing more than an alias for a number of types of fish whose less palatable names would scare off prospective buyers. It serves as a disguise for oil fish, which is declared unfit for human consumption in Japan, and for blue fish and sea barbel.

Oil fish is widely stocked and sold in butcheries and supermarkets throughout South Africa in the guise of "butter fish".

The excessive oil content of the fish's flesh is indigestible and often causes upset stomachs, according to Professor Margaret Smith, world renowned marine life authority at Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

However, according to East London's only trawler operator, Mr W. Brandstetter, eaters of



MR BRANDSTETTER

local "butter fish" don't have to worry before tucking in here.

"Our "butter fish" is sea barbel — a tasty wholesome fish — despite its repulsive appearance with beard and spike," Mr Brandstetter said.

"But who would buy sea barbel at a fish shop. On hearing the fearsome sounding name people might shy away without taking the opportunity to savour the filleted fish," he added.

"Once you've tasted sea barbel, then you're hooked. I sometimes prefer it to sole."

Mr Brandstetter said oil fish was usually caught off Cape Town and up the west coast. It was not sold at fish outlets here.

Explaining how one could distinguish between oil fish and sea barbel when both were sold as "butter fish", Mr Brandstetter said the oil fish resembled a candle in texture.

"It's white and waxy, whereas the sea barbel is meaty in colour and texture and the blue fish is as the name implies, blue in colour."

There was a big demand for "butter fish" cum sea barbel here and some fish shops sold over 200 kg a month. About three tons per week were netted on averge during the summer. Catches in winter were not as big but were substantial, he added. — DDR.

Shark in fishy clothing

(3) Fishing Mercury 8/7/82

Mercury Reporter

FILLET samples of 'silver flake fish' purchased at Durban butcheries yesterday were taken to the Natal Anti-Shark Measures Board and identified as shark meat.

The flesh is marketed by seafood distributors and, say experts, could cause ill-effects if eaten in excessive quantities.

A senior official of the Consumer Council in Pretoria, Mr Wander Hoon, expressed concern when notified of the practice and undertook to investigate whether it might mean the buying public was being misled.

It appeared to him that this was a marketing strategy because sales would presumably be affected to the detriment of suppliers 'if shark meat is called shark meat'.

This was the first he had heard of the matter.

'We could never allow bully beef to be sold as mutton,' he added.

Mercuric

Prof Margaret Smith, a world-renowned marine life expert, said sharks, though delicious to eat, were more likely to have imbibed a mercuric content than the fish they lived on because the predators formed the end of the oceanic food cycle.

In extreme cases, and after a prolonged and excessive diet of shark meat, the central nervous system could be affected and lead to 'all sorts of problems', she said.

The general manager of the fish division of the country's largest seafood distributors, Mr Pat McKenna, admitted that 'silver flake fish' was, in fact, shark flesh.

Speaking from Cape Town last night he denied that consumers were being misled.

Now that the point had been raised he would 'mention it' to his company's marketing division.

'Shark meat is generally called flake fish internationally — or at least in several countries,' Mr McKenna said.

Regarding possible side-effects of eating meat possibly contaminated with mercuric trace elements, Mr McKenna said this wasn't likely to be a problem in South Africa although he knew of certain Pacific Ocean waters where sharks had proved to contain a relatively

Varsity has a fishy plan for a new farm

(3) Fishing RDM 9/7/82

Mail Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — Bigger quantities of cheaper protein food could result from a three-pronged fish culture project which has been started at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, under the aegis of the JLB Smith Institute of Ichthyology.

The project, which will cost more than R100 000, will comprise 80 intensive water recirculating growing tanks for the propagation of fresh water and estuarine fish.

Professor Mike Bruton, director of the institute, said the project would be partly commercial but would also serve for teaching and experimental purposes.

The JLB Smith Institute's fish farm, which will be sited immediately to the north of the building, should yield, commercially, about five tons of fish in the first year of full production, said Prof Bruton.

The fish will probably be made available to the local community at prices keener that that of medium-priced marine fish. Prof Bruton emphasised that the institute would not compete with vendors of marine fish.

He said: "But we will be able to offer a greater variety of fish."

The project is also designed to offer expertise to farmers throughout South Africa who may choose to utilise their dams and agricultural waste to produce nutritious fish protein for their workers.

Prof Bruton said although agricultural waste was a cheap and important source of fish food, it would not be used as such at the Rhodes fish farm.

He said: "We will pelletise the waste and feed in previously determined rations."

He said most farm dams could be used for aquaculture (fish farming). Those nearer the coast had the advantage of a warmer climate and growth rate was faster.

The saline content of the water was also a determining factor. While the institute would concentrate on tilapia, with mullet, sea bream and catfish, even Free State farmers with their severe winters were able to propagate mudfish successfully.

The scheme is being funded by the Fisheries Development Corporation, the Anglo American Chairman's Fund, a large chemical company and Rhodes University.

Phase two, a plan for establishing a second fish farm at the Grahamstown sewerage works using treated effluent, was already being considered, said Prof Bruton.

His team includes Mr Martin Davies, who has been seconded from the Fisheries Development Corporation to supervise the construction of the farm. He is working under the direction of two committees.

He is also aided by Dr Tom Hecht, newly appointed senior ichthyology lecturer in the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science, who has had extensive experience in establishing a large fish farm at the University of the North.

The team also includes Mr Anton Bok, professional officer (ichthyology) for the Department of Nature Conservation, and Mr Peter Jackson, senior professional officer (freshwater fishes) at the institute, who has studied aquaculture widely in East and southern Africa.

The first phase, the fish farm at Rhodes, is due for completion by the end of 1983 but should be operational by January.

(3) Fishing D-Dispatch 9/7/82

Aversion to shark meat in mind—trawlerman

EAST LONDOON — If shark meat is called shark meat people think more than twice before sinking their teeth into it.

According to Mr W. Brandstetter, who operates East London's only trawler, the aversion people have to shark flesh "is all in the mind".

When the veritable monster of the deep (and not so deep) is given an exotic-sounding name people have no qualms about eating the "rather delicious flesh".

And who could resist Angel's Delight, Sweet William, Saint Joseph, Silver Flake, Mock Crayfish and Seafood Cocktail sold over the counter at fish shops and supermarkets and served as lip-smacking dishes at hotels and restaurants.

Reacting to a report in the Daily Dispatch about the sale of shark flesh in the guise of "silver flake fish", Mr Brandstetter said this was an internationally recognised alternative name for shark meat and was sold around the globe.

Only flesh from the top section of the shark was sold as silver flake. The rest of the flesh, including the underbelly, was discarded as it did not "taste too good" although it was edible if "washed" in a solution of vinegar and water.

Not all sharks were converted to silver flakes, Mr Brandstetter said. Some, such as the ragged tooth and blue pointer, were not considered fit for human consumption. "These sharks are man-eaters. It would not seem right to eat them."

Mr Brandstetter said people might be forced in the future to overcome their aversion to shark flesh as it was high in protein. "It's definitely a food source for the future, if not now." — DDR

Warning on raw shellfish

Mercury Reporter

DURBAN'S Medical Officer of Health, Dr Colin Mackenzie, has warned the public not to eat raw shellfish collected between the Umgeni River mouth and Umlaas Canal, even though the cholera epidemic has abated.

Dr Mackenzie, who called for a ban on the collecting of shellfish in the Durban area in March, said yesterday his department had been powerless to impose the ban itself.

'Had I had the power to impose the ban I would have done so long ago and would not lift it until the Umgeni and Umlaas rivers became reasonably clean,' he said.

Dr Mackenzie advised people not to eat raw shellfish from the Durban area until the level of pollution dropped.

'Mussels and oysters are not particularly harmful from a cholera point of view anymore, but there is still the risk of getting typhoid from eating them raw,' he said.

Oysters and mussels are filter-feeders which filter up to about 10 ℓ of water an hour. They retain all the bacteria and thus become 'bagfuls' of concentrated bacteria. This could include harmful organisms like cholera and typhoid, Dr Mackenzie explained.

Director

(3) Fishing

FISHY FARMING

FM 16/7/82

Fish farming will achieve a new respectability when the the National Aquaculture Committee becomes part of the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) in the near future.

Although aquaculture embraces activities as diverse as growing waterblommetjies and raising crocodiles, most is devoted to fish farming.

At present, trout accounts for the bulk of production, with an output of about 330 t/ year. However, the Corporation for Economic Development (CED) has recently started marketing its first harvest of Giant Malaysian fresh water prawns, cultivated on a farm at Lisbon in the Eastern Transvaal. Investment in schemes to raise shellfish, carp and tilapia is also growing.

Fish farmers complain that legislation on fish egg imports, product transportation and use of certain water tracts, is putting the brake on the free development of the industry.

These factors and the lack of a central agency have led three provincial Aquaculture Committees (Aquacoms) to form a National Committee, which will soon fall under the SAAU.

Says Transvaal Aquacom chairman Gerrie van der Merwe: "The National Aquacom's first task will be to remove the limitations on aquaculture development."

Although he concedes that fish farms could never produce the annual 100 000 t of sea-caught fish needed for local consumption, they could be an important supplement to the decreasing supply of pelagic fish.

Some exponents of fish farming have even estimated that after about 25 years, farmed fish could provide up to 50% of present local requirements.

But before this happens, fish farmers will have to aggressively market their products which are sometimes perceived as being overpriced.

Says the largest trout marketer, Wimcas Cilliers: "Lots of people have started up farming because it seems like a profitable idea. But overheads keep rising and, although there is a demand, farmers do not get very good prices. When you sell fish at the same price as high quality beef, you just cannot neglect marketing and hope to come out tops. What is needed is an organisation that can afford to publicise farmed products and create a demand."

The Aquacom hopes to achieve just this.

No pay, we stay, say rebel seamen

CAPE TOWN. — Nine "foreign" members of the crew of 23 of the Greek freighter Marika are prepared to face arrest as illegal immigrants rather than sail for East London today.

Some claim they have received as little as R60 in wages since joining the ship in Piraeus 13 months ago. Contracts show most should have been paid about R7 000 since they signed on.

The Marika has been discharging a shipment of Brazilian soya beans in Cape Town, which it took on last month.

Since leaving Piraeus, the Marika has called at Marseilles and Lisbon and was delayed for over nine months in Angolan ports before heading for Brazil.

During all this time, the nine seamen say, requests for their salaries to be paid in American dollars, accepted anywhere in the world, were refused.

The nine and the master, Captain Georcios Sapoundelis, met the Greek Consul yesterday. Captain Sapoundelis said on Saturday he had wired the owners to have the men's back pay today.

The men are adamant they will not sail without their outstanding wages. Immigration authorities say that if they jump ship they will be arrested as illegal immigrants and held for repatriation. — Sapa.

the snoek gone?

Fishermen idle on rotting boats

By Clive Sawyer

No snoek means no food for the families of Hout Bay line fishermen — many of whom have been sitting idle on rotting boats since November.

One day last week eight boats went out — and came back with ONE snoek.

Mr Charlie Booysen said he had last been out for snoek six weeks ago.

"We got almost nothing — it's all being taken by the big trawlers just outside the harbour mouth."

"It's like that. There's no snoek, so you catch crayfish for maybe three or four weeks. Then you fill your quota, and for 11 months there's no work for you."

"There's nothing for unemployed fishermen. From the crayfish we earn about R600, and that's not enough to live on."

Mr Sam Blom said the boat he was on had not caught anything since November.

FAMILY

"We catch Hottentot fish instead, but there is little money in that."

"I have to send money to my family in Fort Beaufort, but we have caught no snoek and little crayfish — I have no money left to send."

All complained of exploitation.

"We do the dirty work, and get nothing" said a fisherman, who has been on the boats for 10 years.

"If we catch less, the price of snoek goes up, so it pays the owners because they earn more."

DESPERATE

A Hout Bay resident said he had been on snoek boats all his life, but as snoek becomes scarcer he grows more desperate.

"I'm paid R8 a day, and I go out to sea at night as well. I can't complain if I'm sick or have business ashore,' he said.

Another fisherman said: "We are scared because we have no regular work now, and no basic wage."

"If we had a union, we could be fixed up."

Some fishermen said they would sell their houses to go where the fishing is better.

ELDERLY

"But a lot can't read or write, and so couldn't get skilled jobs — and they are elderly men," said a boatman whose family, like many others, have been relying on snoek for a living for generations.

"If we can't get the snoek before the big trawlers do, I'll be out of a house, and I'll have to start all over again," he said.

One man, sitting on the rusting boat he has been waiting on for months, said: "We used to buy a box of bait for R5, and it would be wasted — we'd waste R5 for no return."

A harbour official said: "These people need to repair their boats, but there is no money to do that. And the bigger boats can't go out anymore, because there is no money for fuel."

"In summer the surface fish— anchovies and pilchards — run, and this keeps everybody busy and happy.

"When that run is over, people catch crayfish but once quotas are filled and the season is over, they depend on snoek — there are no other big fish around here.

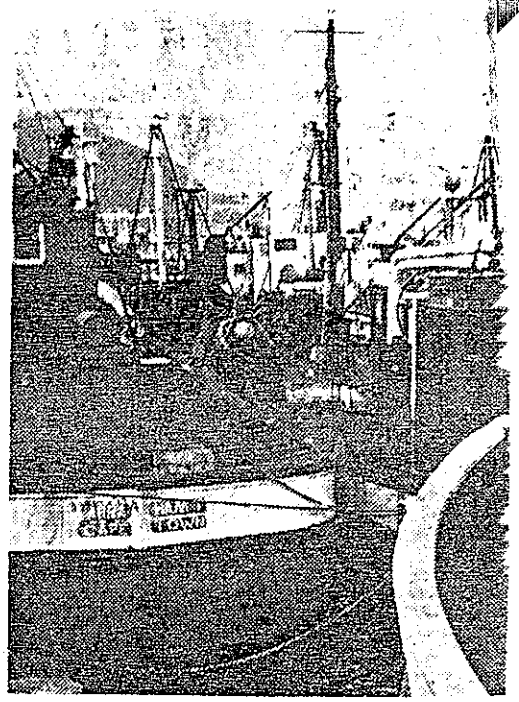
"There was a good tunny run last year, but tunny always appear sporadically and this year it's been no good."

SOVIETS

A spokesman for the Sea Fisheries Division of the Department of the Environment and Fisheries blamed Soviet trawlers off the coast of Namibia for the scarcity of snoek.

"The snoek is a deep-sea fish and seldom comes close to shore," he said.

"The Russians catch them just outside our territorial waters, and the small boat fishermen get only three percent of the total catch."



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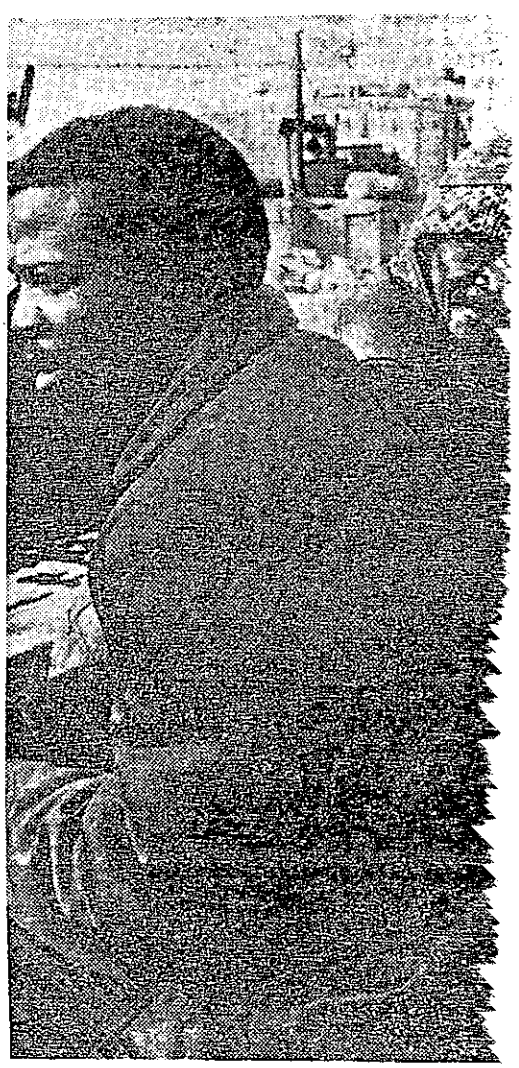

● MR CHARLIE BOOYSEN and Mr J Mazieuko — "no snoek, no work.

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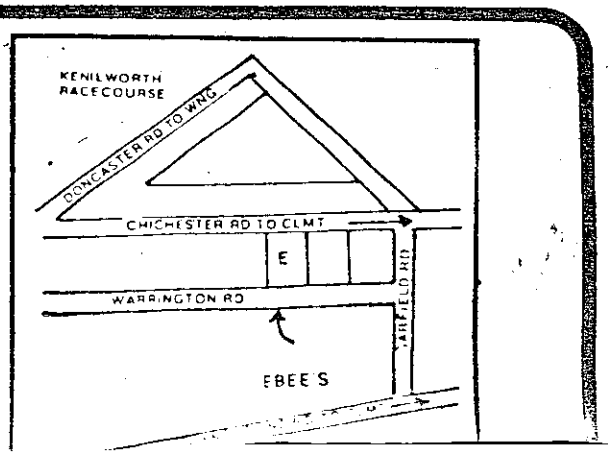


'My son raced to catch death ship'

A RETREAT mother told this week how her son went out of his way to join the ill-fated Taiwanese tunny ship King Chun which sank to a watery grave in the South Atlantic last week.

"Clive ran to catch the ship because he told me that he could not afford to miss it," said a distraught Mrs Maude Arendse.

"As he rushed out of the house he told me that he would be back in four months' time," she said.

Her son, Mr Clive Arendse, 29, was one of 20 seamen on board the stricken tunny ship.

They are believed to have died in a liferaft after abandoning their sinking vessel in shark-infested waters last Wednesday.

Faint signals were picked up over the weekend but the search was called off at 1 pm on Sunday.

After tracking a faint distress call for almost 36 hours, the liferaft emitting the signal was eventually sighted by the freighter, Victoria I. It was found that the liferaft was unactivated. The carbon dioxide canisters used to inflate the raft were rusted solid.

Mrs Arendse said the police had been to see her and told her there was little hope of her son being alive.

"But we still hold out hope," said Mrs Arendse.

She said that her son was married and had a nine-year-old son.

Another Cape Town seaman who died in the tragedy was a Mr David Cupido.

Two other Cape Town fishermen, Mr Vernon Bentley and Mr Samuel Dunn are lucky to be alive.

They changed their minds about joining the King Chun at the last minute after signing on as temporary staff.

A relieved Mrs Irene Bentley of Bellville said she was extremely happy that her husband had changed his mind about going to sea in the King Chun.

She said that he had worked in the Transvaal for the past three years and returned to Cape Town in April.

"He asked me if he should go to sea last week but I was against it," said Mrs Bentley.

"Just before the ship sailed he telephoned me and again I told him not to go."

Mr Bentley has started work for a spinning company.

Swartkops oyster farm 'an overnight sensation'

(3) Fishing 2/8/82

By SIMON BLOCH

ON the sandy bed of the Swartkops River estuary lies South Africa's second-biggest oyster farm — and it has been in existence for only nine months.

From small beginnings of 12 000 "seeds" imported as an experiment, the so-called Blue Hole is expected to have more than a million oysters in it by next July to rival the country's biggest oyster farm at Knysna.

The area's potential was first highlighted in 1946 by a Hollander, Dr W Karringa, who stated that the Blue Hole could be one of the prime oyster-growing areas in the world.

It is farmed by Mr Cyril de Kaizer, an engineer who approached Mr Edgar Crews of Hougham Park farm two years ago to discuss the project. Mr Crews has had experience of oyster cultivation.

Last year, Mr De Kaizer attended a conference in Belgium which finally convinced him the Blue Hole was ideal.

"I immediately bought 12 000 seeds there and had them flown out here. The first batch proved a fantastic success, because in nine months they had fully matured.

"Compared with most overseas countries, where oysters take from three to five years to reach their prime, the Blue Hole oysters were an overnight sensation," he said.

Mr De Kaizer gave as reasons for the location's growth rate the high salinity of the water, warm temperatures and the fact that the oysters received a change of water twice a day because of the tides.

"Oysters don't grow in water temperatures below 15C," he said.

"We had a survival rate of about 50% which was excellent for a first attempt. Oyster farmers accept a 60% rate as a reasonable figure."

Grassotra Giga is the biological name of the particular oyster farmed in the Blue Hole, a strain thought by many to be the world's tastiest.

Man is known to have farmed oysters as long ago as 85 BC at Lake Lucrinis in Italy. Since then oysters have been considered a delicacy.

Oyster meat has more protein than lean beef, without the fats and cholesterol levels of beef. It has been described as the ideal food for dieters.

Mr De Kaizer said the late winter months were the best time to submerge the seeds because they thrived as the temperatures warmed.

An indication of the success of the Blue Hole venture is that 2 000 oysters are being bought each week by a buyer in Johannesburg who re-sells them to hotels and restuarants.

"This leaves nothing for the local market, which I would dearly love to supply," Mr De Kaizer said.

There are five hectares of potential oyster farming area at the Blue Hole, but only a quarter of a hectare is presently used.

Mr De Kaizer said he would rather expand gradually than rush into things and "burn out".

His biggest enemy is the octopus, a creature which can destroy more than 5 000 seeds overnight.

"They manage to find the weakest part of the shell and start nibbling at it. I have to check my nets and trays regularly, otherwise the oysters could all be ruined," he said.

Like a true farmer, he records all the relevant data he can assemble relating to tides, temperatures, trays, nets and weather.

"It is all very necessary in this business," he said.

Blue Hole oysters will be exported next year to Belgium, West Germany and France.

OYSTER MARKET SLUMPS

By Robin Parker

KNYSNA. — South Africa's R4-million-a-year oyster industry is experiencing the first slump in its history.

But, say the country's major suppliers, a Knysna company, it may help them to produce a bigger and better oyster.

Although the decline in the market is not significant, it is the first setback for producers who shell out millions of oysters on to restaurant plates annually.

"It is too early to tell whether the market has reached saturation point or whether the economy is having an effect on consumption," says company manager Jack Etherington, "but this is the first time we have met the demand."

A significant factor is trimmed expenses accounts. Many hotels, he says, have reported a drop in consumption of oysters and the industry had its first surplus in more than 40 years of operation.

The Knysna company supplies mainly cultivated oysters to the consumer market, although it also collects coastal oysters. If the market trend continues, the oysters of the future may be bigger and better.

"Normally, we harvest our lagoon-cultivated oysters after two years. But, if they are allowed to continue growing for another year or so, they will be bigger and better," says Mr Etherington.

The company has seven million oysters under cultivation in trays in the Belvedere area of the Knysna Lagoon. Most have been grown from seed imported from the United Kingdom, but the Fisheries Development Corporation is making significant advances in local seed cultivation and has supplied some to the oyster company.

The cultivated market is by far the most important in South Africa. They ensure uniform size and supply, and cultivated oysters are far easier to open than the conventional coastal oyster which has a far larger protective shell.

Crew's liferaft 'came apart'

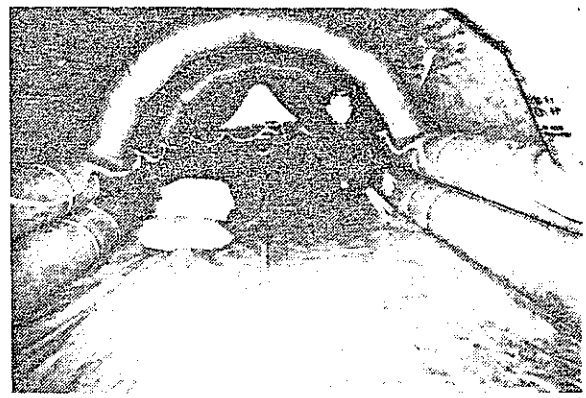
CAME TO US 12/8/82

Chief Reporter

"SHOCKING deterioration" of adhesive used in its construction 16 years ago caused the inflatable liferaft of the Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun to come apart at the seams — probably with the crew in it — after the vessel sank in stormy weather nearly 1 000 nautical miles from Cape Town last month.

Investigation of the liferaft, recovered in a deflated state from the disaster area, has shown that the bottom of the raft was torn from the air-bag.

It appeared that the carbon-dioxide canisters, although badly rusted externally, had been activated and that the raft's emergency rations had been partly used. Leakage at the seams would have caused the air-bag to deflate.



Mr L F Potgieter, manager of the liferaft station at a Paarden Island firm, inside a 25-man inflatable liferaft similar to that of the ill-fated Taiwanese tunny catcher King Chun.

No survivors

The distress signal sent out from the vessel before it sank said the crew had taken to an inflatable liferaft. But in the intensive air-sea search that followed only bodies, no survivors, were found. Nineteen crewmen were known to have been on board when the tunny-catcher left Cape Town, although a figure of 20 was given in the distress call.

The Institute of Polymer Science at the University of Stellenbosch was asked by the SA Search and Rescue Organization (Sasar) to conduct a scientific survey on the recovered raft — in the interest of correcting any possible structural or other defects in lifesaving equipment used on the South African coast.

Dr Ron Sanderson, director of the institute, said yesterday it had been established in the survey that the raft was 16 years old and that the adhesive used in its assembly had deteriorated "shockingly".

The adhesive technology of 16 years ago, he said, was inadequate for the purpose. Considerable advances had been made in this field since then.

In modern assembly techniques, vulcanizing and stitching as well as special adhesives were used and he had recommended a maximum lifespan of 10 years for a liferaft in which only adhesives had been employed.

Cape Town survey

The ship's agent for the King Chun said the records showed that the vessel was last surveyed in the Republic of China in June last year, and that when the vessel underwent a survey in Cape Town in 1977, everything including the liferaft was found to be fully in order.

A marine surveyor said that when liferafts were periodically inspected, they had to be fully inflated and inspected minutely for leakage and for any signs of perishing of the materials used.

A spokesman for the firm that inspected the King Chun's liferaft five years ago said he had noticed in television pictures of the raft recovered from the scene of the disaster last month that this was not the same one his firm had inspected.

Second-hand

"The raft we looked at from the King Chun was a Mitsubishi, without canopy, and the one that was recovered was a Sumitomo, with canopy."

He had noted that Taiwanese fishing vessels operating in Cape waters usually acquired second-hand, not new liferafts, the spokesman added.

● Mr David Hong, Consul-General of the Republic of China in Cape Town, said: "We are grateful to the South African authorities for producing an investigation report, which we regard as important and which will be sent to the authorities in the Republic of China for further study.

"If these authorities find there is any way in which our inspection systems can be improved, they will in my opinion take the necessary action."

FISHING (3) Fishing

Chile waters

FM 20/8/82

The transfer, from the bulge of Africa to Chile, of the Ovenstone group's offshore-controlled factory ship *L'Interpeche* has increased the book value of SA investment in the Chilean fishing industry to more than R40m.

Ovenstone started the trek to Chile in 1979, when it seemed that inshore fish stocks off the Namibia coast had reached commercial extinction. Pilchard canning was halted and conservation measures instituted. Recovery prospects were vague and there was political uncertainty about the territory's future.

Ovenstone was joined by Kaap-Kunene, Fedfood and Metal Box, which transferred a large part of its Walvis tincan manufacturing plant. Oceana and Silverman interests transferred later.

The bulk of SA investment is made up of hardware and human skills rather than capital. But the move, which was prompted by a lack of fish, was badly timed. Chile has enough fish, a maximum sustainable yield of more than 3m tons/year, but international prices have fallen. And, more ironically, there are indications that the Namibia pilchard fishery is on the mend.

There has been more bad luck. After the Polish crisis the East European fishmeal market fell away. A combination of high German interest rates and the D-mark slide against the US dollar (the currency in which international fishmeal sales are denominated) compelled traders to destock heavily, while animal feed compounders began to look around for cheaper protein substitutes, such as soya meal.

Peruvian production was running at 500 000 t-600 000 t of meal and its fob price of fish meal slumped from a high of $450/t to less than $300/t.

At the same time, it was selling fish body oil at $260/t, compared with a "world" price of $330/t.

Chilean producers were more adversely affected. The slump in Germany came during an anti-inflationary campaign by the junta of General Augusto Pinochet which pegged the Chilean peso to the US dollar at the rate of 39 to one. Interest rates began to rise and short-term rates are now something like 60%/year.

The subsequent dearth of demand has contracted the rate of inflation to near zero levels compared with about 1 000%/year at the overthrow of the Allende government.

Since the end of June, the Chilean peso has been unhooked from the US dollar and has moved down from 39 to 67 pesos to the dollar a week ago. This should help fishmeal producers reduce stocks.

The canned fish market has also been hit. Assisted by a 27% government subsidy, Peruvians are dumping canned sardinella. But Nigeria's heavy clampdown on imports has taken an important buyer out of the market. And there has been a strong resurgence of fish canning in Japan which has harmed exports to the Far East.

SA canners in Chile say the Peruvians can ship canned fish to Cape Town at prices below Chilean production costs. For this reason, the Chilean pack this year will probably not exceed 700 000 cartons, compared with a Namibia pack of 1,6m cartons off a mere 30 000 t of pilchards.

Metal Box shipped tinplate to Chile in anticipation of canning for millions of cartons. It must now nurse stocks at astronomical interest rates. Nevertheless, it is confident it will do well from its R5m investment when the market recovers.

So, too, are the owners of *L'Interpeche*, the converted Norwegian whaling ship that can process 300 000 t of raw fish a year.

In the face of strong protest from local fishermen, the Pinochet junta agreed to *L'Interpeche's* deployment in Chile's central fishery zone, provided it moors offshore with its screws removed and its engines immobilised. With fish so plentiful this is no hardship and will save on bunkers.

L'Interpeche will produce fishmeal, oil and frozen mackerel. Even at current depressed prices, it looks viable. Due to the wonders of inflation, its replacement value is now about $25m, a threefold increase on its establishment costs about 16 years ago.

FISHING (3) fishing

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FM 24/8/82

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3 Fishing

Times are bad — so a boy steals food...

A SMALL boy broke into a shop in Lambert's Bay recently and stole some food. His parents were not surprised at his actions.

Daily, farmers in neighbouring Sandveld drive into town to load up dozens of gnarled men for a day's labour on the farms.

Every week another young man packs his bags to seek his fortune in "the city".

"It doesn't surprise us," say the old-timers as they stand on the quayside watching the "bakkies" filter back from a day's fishing. "Things are bad here."



THE day's catch — the proceeds may have to feed a family of nine.



NO fish today.

LUCKY

Some of the men who rely entirely on the small West Coast village's crayfish harvest have been lucky enough to be employed by "die fabriek."

They are slightly better off than the crayfishermen who wait impatiently for the season to open, earning nothing on days when the weather is bad or fish don't bite.

With much of the coloured community dependent on "die fabriek" for an income, it was towards Lambert's Bay Canning Company that the men directed their acrimony.

Said one old man who was forced to stop work because he became "pap" (weak): "I started work for them when they were still housed in a wood and iron building. Look at them now."

He pointed to a dominating facebrick building casting its shadow across the green waters of the bay.

"They never made any provision for my old age and I am not yet 65 so I am told I don't qualify for an old age pension."

BITTER

The active fishermen (there are about 400 of them) are equally bitter.

For several months of the year they crew on the boats which belong to the fish processing company. During the crayfishing season they earn up to R800. Once the quota has been filled some switch to limited vacancies in pelagic fishing to see them through to mid-year.

Then, they say, their problems start. Debt erodes money made at the height of the season.

And life is generally expensive in Lambert's Bay.

"Look in the bay," one resentful fishermen told me. "Once the quotas have been filled 'die fabriek' ties up the boats and we are left to fend for ourselves.

"They made R6,5-million from our labours last year. And they won't even allow us the use of their boats to go fishing. We are forced to beg, steal and borrow from others."

EVICTIONS

The men also accuse the factory management of high-handedness. A week ago several families were evicted from their houses because they were behind with rents.

"We were given notice on the one day and the next factory workers came to evict us. They have no option if they want to keep their jobs. Some people may even have to help move furniture out of relatives' homes."

The factory, which owns the houses in the "skema", recently increased rents by up to 85 percent.

"We just don't have the money to pay. But they show no mercy."

But most of the families evicted last week were re-installed in their homes the same day.

During the closed season the men attempt to scrape together a few cents by rowing out in tiny boats to fish. Some row constantly for an hour or two to reach a fishing spot. Their catch may be sufficient for a loaf of bread and a bottle of milk.

The manager of Lambert's Bay Canning Company, Mr M G Potgieter, told The Argus:"I do not want to enter into dispute with the fishermen. Times are hard, but I think that those with complaints are the fishermen attached either to private enterprise or the Coloured Development Corporation (which also has a quota).

"This company has a proud record. It was started in 1918 and lived through a hard period. The outbreak of World War 2 suddenly created a demand for canned food. Almost simultaneously a market developed for frozen lobster tails. This led to a fantastic growth period."

With growth came housing problems for both fishermen and factory workers. "Lambert's Bay had the first squatters."

A housing scheme was started by three companies, African Inshore Fishing Company, the Coloured Development Corporation and Lambert's Bay Canning Company. LBCC eventually took over the entire housing scheme of 330 units.

"Traditionally our tenants have always paid a rental subsidised by the company and for many years we never increased rents annually. And we subsidise the entire community. Last year we ran the housing scheme at a loss of R45 000."

Mr Potgieter said many of those evicted had been up to seven months in arrears.

Jobs in the closed season were limited. Many fishermen made sufficient money to tide them over during the off season. However, the company had tried to help all those fishermen at its disposal during the crayfish and pelagic season.

Mr Potgieter said all monthly paid workers were part of a pension scheme. It was available to weekly-paid workers — the fishermen and others — but there had been little interest from their side.

Mr Potgieter said LBCC had created other job opportunities to offset the decline in the industry. "We do not want the community to decline. It must stand on its own feet."

The community's housing committee, elected by the comunity, said it felt the accusations against the LBCC were unfair.

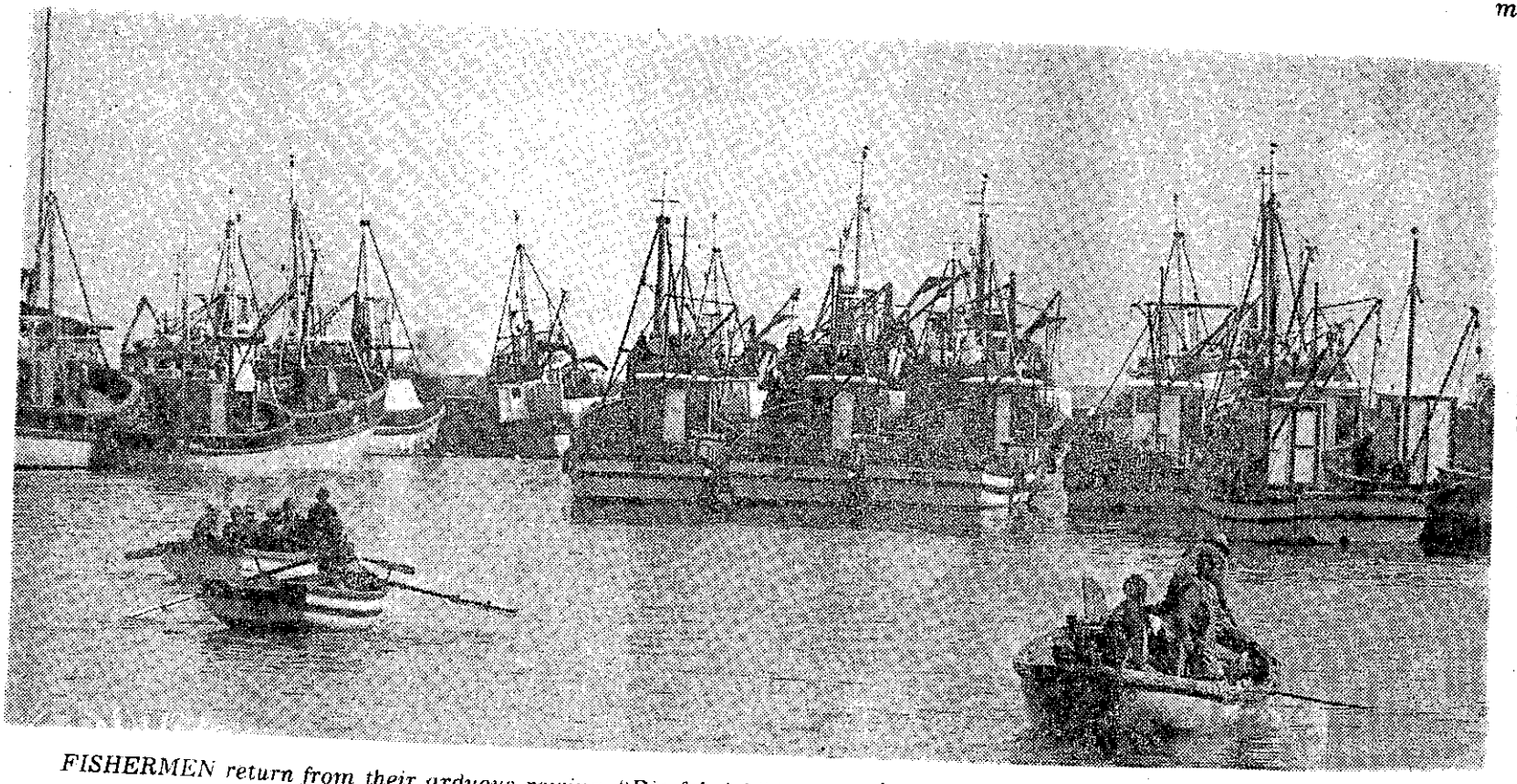


SOME men make money by scraping and repainting crayfish "bakkies".

PICTURES BY WILLIE DE KLERK



A SOLITARY snoek, but this fisherman was luckier than the rest. He may make as much as R8.



FISHERMEN return from their arduous rowing. "Die fabriek" boats tied up in the background are not for their use.

Call for ban on pilchard fishing

CAPE Times 27/8/82

3 Fishing

Staff Reporter

THERE was cause for alarm at the state of the local fishing industry and a total ban should be imposed on pilchard fishing till resources returned to normal, an American fisheries expert said in Cape Town yesterday.

But the South African fishing industry was better off than those in other parts of the world, such as California, Peru and the north-west coast of Africa where similar conditions prevailed, and the worsening situation could be saved by stricter control measures and appropiate management efforts.

Mr Alec MacCall of La Jolla, California, an expert on fish population analysis for the purposes of management, has spent the past month in South Africa at the invitation of the Division of Sea Fisheries.

Accompanied by Dr Richard Parrish, a world expert on fisheries oceanography and a member of the United States National Marine Fisheries Service Institute, the main purpose of their visit was to consult with Sea Fisheries personnel on matters relating to pilchards.

'Bitter medicine'

"The situation here is not as critical as it has become in other parts of the world and with appropriate management efforts it could become a lot better. But to get it to this stage there has to be some bitter medicine.

"If we could stop pilchard fishing altogether this would be one of the best ways of restoring these resources," said Mr MacCall.

He said the idea of stopping fishing might seem like a very severe action but if "you don't stop it, it will stop itself".

"What the local industry requires is both a study of the fisherman's ability to distinguish species and an awful lot of co-operation between the government, the fisheries and the fishermen themselves," said Mr MacCall.

He criticised the way the local industry had been managed in that fishermen were given a general fishing quota which gave them much leeway to decide what they could catch. They therefore concentrated on particular species which were the most profitable.

Strict controls

In other countries fishermen decided what they wanted to catch and were then able to put individual quotas on the species.

"Fisheries throughout the world fish the resource until it is well below the optimum level and then it generally takes fairly strict controls to get the resource back again.

"The question in South Africa's case is what are the fishermen going to do about it and how are they going to go about it. If they don't do something they are going to lose the opportunity to do anything," he said.

He said it was commendable that South Africa, as a developed nation with a long history in the fishing industry, had avoided a complete collapse of any one species.

Too late

This had happened with the pilchards off California and the anchovy in Peru. Stocks had become so depleted that they had had to enforce a ban on fishing for these species, but it had been too late. They had not returned.

Mr MacCall said that with good management the South African system was probably one of the best for trying to restore pilchard stocks. This was because young fish were produced on a fairly constant basis unlike other countries where reproduction was highly variable.

FISHING (3) Fishing

Going swimmingly

FM 27/8/82

This year's pelagic fishing catch has given new hope to an industry which feared total collapse in Namibian waters three years ago.

The season's quota for anchovy fishing in Namibian waters is 220 000 t. The catch so far is about 150 000 t, although this includes a "significant quantity" of non-quota maasbanker fish, according to Abe Shapiro, chairman of SWA Fishing Industries (Swafish).

The season was due to end on August 30 but the authorities have granted an extension until September 15, and may extend it again to the end of September.

"If this happens, I am optimistic the SWA quota will be filled this year," he says.

The Namibian pilchard quota of 30 000 t was completed in May, and Shapiro says large shoals of pilchards have been sighted since. This seems to indicate that the pilchards are returning to these waters.

The quota of 380 000 t for fish caught off South African waters is "as good as filled" in a season which ends on August 30.

GONE!

By Marion Whitehead



The rich harvest of the sea seemed endless . . . until greed stepped in

Now only a 15-year break can save the west coast fishing industry

THE west coast fishing industry needs a 15-year rest if it is to regain its place as one of the world's richest fishing grounds.

The warning came this week from Professor Alec Brown, a marine biologist and head of the Zoology Department at the University of Cape Town.

He said the industry was dying as each year more and more fishermen face ruin. They cannot even fill their drastically-reduced quotas from an apparently empty sea — this year they didn't even bother to trawl for pilchards, the backbone of a sturdy industry on the Namibian coast a decade ago.

The sad thing is the good years need never have ended.

The collapse of the west coast fishing industry was a frightening example of what happened when science's warnings were ignored Professor Brown said.

He was interviewed after addressing a meeting at Wits University on the need for scientists to tell the truth, however unpopular they may become.

He said the situation on the west coast was now so bad that the fish would take about 15 years to recover — provided all trawling was stopped tomorrow.

His grim prediction comes shortly after allegations of dishonesty and corruption in the industry by a former Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries in charge of South West Africa, Dr David Cram.

Dr Cram, who now works in West Germany, released what he called "the hidden facts" of the west coast fishing industry in Namibia.

He debunked the Government's "Russian alibi" of foreign poachers and said the industry had collapsed because of gross mismanagement and greed. Rather than taking scientists' advice, the fisheries had bent to vested interests and destroyed one of the richest protein sources in the world.

He also accused the Government and National Party members of awarding exorbitant quotas to companies in which they had financial interests.

For 12 years the Government was consistently warned of the imminent collapse of the fishing industry.

The warnings by Dr Jan Lochner, former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth, were ignored.

John Wiley brought up the matter in Parliament, in 1974 but that didn't help.

Even in 1980, after fishermen failed to fill vastly reduced quotas, Dr Lochner's proposed forumla for recovery was rejected.

Now Professor Brown says it's too late to even implement quota cutting measures or to reduce the fishing season.

The fishing must stop. At stake are thousands of jobs and science has no miracle

Professor Brown said it was now time for the Government to take a serious look at marine fish farming.

This was already being practised by Japan. Nets are erected in the open sea, fish trapped and fed, bred and later eaten.

Professor Brown said South African waters are too rough for this type of open sea farming but similar schemes could be set up in high tide pools.

The type of scheme Professor Brown would like to see operating is similar to one he recommended to Escom for their new Koeberg nuclear plant in the western Cape.

Sea water is used to cool the giant plant.

This water is discharged from the plant at a temperature ten degrees higher than before, endangering the marine life in the area.

Professor Brown said this danger could be profitably avoided by discharging the water into a series of vleis. Algae which thrive in warmer temperatures could be grown in the upper pools and used to feed fish bred in the lower, cooler pools.

Professor Brown said Escom turned the scheme down as they were not keen on diversifying their interests.

Chilean R250 000 loss provision hits Barendsz profits

By PAUL DOLD
Financial Editor

A R250 000 provision for a loss in the Chilean fishing venture marred a much improved first half from Willem Barendsz with pilchard canning resumed and earnings per share dived from 4c to 2c.

At trading profit level Barendsz profits were well ahead at R767 239 as against R650 648 but outside shareholders' interest (up from R99 762 to R149 838) and the higher tax rate pared profits to R409 606 (R412 886).

The R250 000 Chilean provision depressed profits to R159 606 (R412 886).

The interim dividend has been cut to 3c (4c).

The chairman, Mr Robert Silverman, says that subject to the anticipated movement of stocks and pool realizations taxed profit for the year ending December should be around R730 000 as against last year's R978 024.

As with most South African companies operating in Chile, Barendsz was hit by the low price for fish meal on international markets.

"Hopefully, there will be an improvement in the near future", he adds.

The feature of the report is the resumption of pilchard canning. United Fishing Enterprises, in which the company has a 20,9 percent stake, packed 701 850 cartons against nil last year.

Total fish landings at Walvis bay were down at 58 000 tons (77 014), fish meal production was 12 200 tons (18 920 tons) and fish oil 2 600 (7 359 tons).

The results confirm that the pilchard stock is recovering and fishing shares could be well worth watching, particularly when the pioneering Chilean ventures improve.

Swafish profit

No permits — now fishermen fear for their jobs

Staff Reporter

OUTRAGED West Coast trek-net fishermen in Stompneus Bay, who depend on the sea for their livelihood, claim that repeated applications for individual permits are being refused on the grounds that no more permits are being issued.

And rumours of a ban on purseine-net fishing in Walker Bay on the South Coast of the Cape is causing mounting concern among fishermen in the Gans Bay area who also fear that fishing permits might not be renewed and even withdrawn.

When asked to comment on these claims a spokesman for the Division of Sea Fisheries said the overall plan was to reduce the number of net fishing licences issued. It was a complex problem because it involved two entirely different areas and fisheries.

Speaking for about 100 fishermen in the Stompneus Bay area, Mr Len ver Burgh, said: "Promises of permits are just not materializing. The fishermen are so desperate they are being forced to steal fish to feed their families."

Mr Ver Burgh said he himself had been to Cape Town six times in the last two years to try and obtain a permit. He had been well received but his requests had always been refused.

He said people who fished mainly for harders and hottentot were being forced to fish illegally, which meant possible arrest, confiscation of their nets and threats that their boats and outboard motors would be confiscated as well.

"The situation is so bad that people are begining to sell their boats at ridiculous losses, just so that they can live. They are hungry, they need the money," Mr Ver Burgh said.

"Coloured people are not allowed to trawl. These fishermen are basically fishing for their daily meals and a little extra. Why can't something be done about it?"

The problem appears to be of a different nature in Walker Bay where the fishing industry is still relatively prosperous. Fishermen in Gans Bay, however, claim that if a ban were imposed on purseine-net fishing in Walker Bay, "it would mean an end to the industry".

"Something 'fishy' is going on here. It seems to me that there is some problem about the re-issuing of permits and also that they are trying to withdraw permits," said one source.

Hermanus line and rock fishermen might also support a ban on net-fishing as there have been claims that it affected catches, the source said.

The deputy director, administration, of the Marine Development Branch of the Division of Sea Fisheries, Mr A le Roux, said fishermen should be assured that all aspects of the fishing industry were being investigated.

Conservation

While the division had to try and help the fisherman they also had to consider the conservation of the fisheries.

He said it was a complex problem because the situations differed enormously on the west and south west coasts. Fishermen in Stompneus Bay were obviously "yearning for more licences" because they depended on them for their livelihood whereas people in Hermanus, many of them retired pleasure fishermen would probably call for an end to net fishing in Walker Bay on conservationist grounds.

"The overall ojective is to reduce the number of net fishing licences issued," Mr Le Roux said.

ERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in
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NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
2. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
3. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
4. Do not write in the left hand margin.

WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

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Cape Times 24/9/82

SA marine resources 'appear exhausted'

3 Fish, ...

Staff Reporter

IN AN attack on the government yesterday, the former head of the Oceanographic Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor Jan Lochner, said the country's marine resources were in a state of collapse because his repeated warnings were ignored.

Professor Lochner was giving evidence before the planning committee of the President's Council on matters relating to South Africa's marine resources.

"All our marine resources appear to be in an exhausted position. These resources can only be restored and developed to the optimum if the government is prepared to accept my work," he said.

"But this step has been fought tooth and nail by the Institute of Sea Fisheries, the government's official advisers on the control of our marine resources — while they are not qualified to do the work."

Professor Lochner was referring to research work he undertook as early as 1967 which forecast the collapse of the pilchard industry.

His work was so accurate that he was able to predict fish catches to within one percent.

Professor Lochner said there was a possibility that his research might now be accepted following the appointment of Mr John Wiley as Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries.

Cape Times 24/9/82

New order in fishing industry

Industrial Reporter

RECOMMENDATIONS of the controversial Treurnicht Commission of Inquiry into South Africa's living marine resources that could change the face of the fishing industry are soon to be put into practice.

Implications of the changes on the price of crayfish from the start of the new season in November should also soon be apparent.

The chief director of the marine development branch at the Department of Environmental Affairs, Dr Jozua Serfontein, said in a statement yesterday that lengthy investigations into most of the accepted recommendations had been completed and were ready to be handed over to the department for release.

Among the most important outcomes of the exercise, he said, would be the protection of the rights of private boatowners and a plan to bring order to the perlemoen industry. Most sections of the industry were already gearing up for the changes.

Dr Serfontein and the director of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute, Dr George Stander, would discuss the recommendations with the head of department in Pretoria next week and details would soon be disclosed following approval by the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr Sarel Hayward.

In the meantime, the Sea Fisheries Advisory Council had already made recommendations to the minister over next year's crayfish and perlemoen quotas and it would meet again in November to reach a decision on pelagic and whitefish quotas.

Govt gets sea life SOS

CAPE TOWN. — The collapse of southern Africa's pelagic fish resource was a national catastrophe which had to occur before people came to their senses, the President's Council planning committee heard yesterday.

This claim was made by the controversial marine expert from the Department of Oceanographic Research at the University of Port Elizabeth, Dr J P A Lochner, whose theories on marine conservation have been the subject of debate in public, Government and industry circles for some years.

In a memorandum to the committee, Dr Lochner said the collapse of the resource in South West Africa alone was costing in the region of R200-million a year. The sardine catch in 1980 was 1% of what it had been in 1968.

All SA's marine resources were on the way to being exhausted.

"These resources can be rebuilt and exploited optimally if the Government is prepared to accept my work."

He said with the appointment of Mr John Wiley as the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries there was a possibility his work would be accepted.

He appealed to the committee to recommend the changing of the fishing season from winter to summer.

At present fish were exploited when large schools appeared in the winter months and 95% were immature.

By changing the season to start on October 1, 75% of fish caught would already have reproduced, he said.

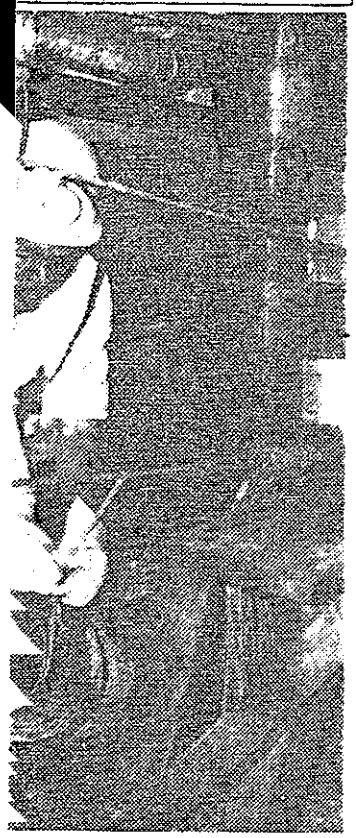
He said by using this method the anchovy population could be built up by 300% a year and pilchards by 12%.

Pilchards used to be a cheap source of protein and SA was once a major producer of fish meal. Both were now imported.

He said his work no longer consisted of theories, but was proven fact. The reasons for the Sea Fisheries branch of the department's opposition to him "simply don't make sense".

The rebuilding of the living marine resources was the greatest conservation challenge facing SA. — Sapa.

rts mines



Summit Associated Industries has entered a licencing agreement with HL and H Mining Timber to manufacture and market the patented Volante elongated yieldable mine timber support. They save transport costs because timber cars can carry more props, save storage and also reduce labour and installation costs.

Overfishing sinks fleets

(3) Fishing Industrial Week

5/10/82

By Priscilla Whyte

STORMY weather is the forecast for the R272-million a year fishing industry. Overfishing is the problem.

"Biologists have been unable to define a safe limit at which the resources can be exploited," said industrial analyst Geoff Mymin.

He said the problem has been "exacerbated by the tremendous pressure exerted on the authorities by those with vested interests to maintain a high level of exploitation.

"When catches have declined the fishing industry's answer has been to cover its losses by putting up prices instead of attacking the core of the problem through limiting catches."

In SWA far too many fish were landed in the mid seventies and the pilchard quota for 1981 was zero.

Since then there has been an encouraging reappearance of the species but a national rise in the quota is unlikely in the short term.

Mymin said the major factor affecting the long term prospects of the R125-million a year demersal fishing is a dispute over the maximum sustainable hake yield.

"This is currently the subject of sharp conflict in SWA and SA."

After quota cuts of 34% and 23% in 1981 and 1980 the Namibian zone of the 17 nation International Convention for the South East Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), has raised the 1982 permissable hake catch off Namibia by 66% — 215 000t to 352 000t.

In contrast the South African Ministry of Fisheries has reduced the permissible hake catch in the South African zone from 153 700t to 136 000t.

Mymin pointed out that if the resources warranted major cuts in 1980 and 1981, it seems unlikely that the stocks would have sufficiently recovered in so short a time to justify such a massive increase.

Fisheries launch top research ship

THE Sea Fisheries Institute, an arm of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, recently took delivery from the Durban builders of one of the world's most sophisticated fishery research vessels.

Equipped for rapid acquisition of scientific marine data from a variety of sources, the R750 000 R S "Africana" is expected to assist the essential recuperation of fishery resources off the South African coast as well as developing new resources in higher latitudes.

A variety of sensors provide automatic correlated datalogging of the ship's position, weather, sea salinity, sea temperature, and the marine biomass.

The latter being obtained from calibrated sonars as well as from sample catch analyses.

The supply, supervision of installation and commissioning of electronic navigational and hydro-acoustic systems was undertaken by Dowson and Dobson.

The ship employs 15 scientists and has an endurance of 45 days at sea.

Hold up at Bantry Bay ends as Sapco comes to the rescue

THE Cape Town branch of Sapco recently came to the rescue of a builder involved in construction on the steep slopes of Bantry Bay.

The builder has been transporting materials by a lift running on rails but this proved time consuming and involved labour and substantial idle time while loading and unloading took place.

Sapco recommended that the material be raised to the site by means of a conveyor system.

The builder then hired five conveyors from Sapco and these were positioned to run in tandem up the steep slopes which sometimes exceed 25°.

Each conveyor was 10m long and consisted of a rigid frame with a slider bed trough on which a 350mm rubber belt travelled.

Within a short period of time all bricks, sand and stone were moved into position and building was able to commence, says the company.

Boksburg Frigate sails past record

BOKSBURG-based Frigate Plant Hire has achieved a record monthly turnover.

According to Frigate MD Bill Howe: "Over the last year we have built up a team of probably the most experienced and talented people in the heavy earthmoving field, and we have invested heavily in new equipment."

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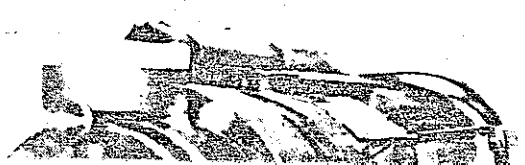

Boost for research at sea

Sker 13/10/82 S Fishing

By Stan Kennedy

The Sea Fisheries Institute, an arm of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, has taken delivery of one of the world's most sophisticated research vessels.

Built in Durban, it is equipped for rapid collection of scientific marine data from a variety of sources simultaneously.

The vessel, R S Africana, is expected to assist significantly in the urgent programme for the recuperation of existing fishery resources off the South African coasts and the development of others in higher latitudes.

A variety of sensors provides automatic correlated data-logging of the ship's position, weather, sea salinity, sea temperature, and the marine biomass, which will be obtained from calibrated sonars and sample-catch analysis.

The supply, supervision of installation and commissioning of electronic navigational and hydro-acoustic systems was done by Dowson and Dobson's marine division.

Stricter controls for crayfishing

Cape Times 16/10/82

By GORDON KLING

INITIAL measures in a campaign aimed at conserving South Africa's crayfish resources have been announced by the government.

The new regulations for the 1982/83 season beginning next month, released yesterday by the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, have also postponed the start of the season in Peninsula fishing grounds by 15 days to November 15. Commercial and private quotas remain unchanged.

Commercial fishermen have been prohibited from using traps, as opposed to ring nets, in the area most used by the public — from Chapmans Peak to Scarborough.

Mr Wiley said he did not expect to receive substantiated complaints of traps ruining the fishing for others in the Elands Bay area also.

It is believed that the measures are to be followed up with a requirement that 20 percent of the commercial catch must be sold on the domestic market — more than double the amount now sold locally.

The ban on trapping in certain areas marks a complete reversal of government policy, which in 1979 banned private fishermen from employing ring nets. Private fishermen were allowed to fish in competition with the commercial traps from early in the 1980 season.

In a letter to the chairman of the Sea Management Association, Mr Wiley also announced the creation of four new zones made up of the existing eight grounds.

CAPE Times 19/10/82 (3 Fishing)

Crayfishing: New rules to be discussed

Industrial Reporter

THE Sea Management Association, charged with overseeing many of the regulations applicable to the new crayfish season opening next month, does not expect many problems in the task, but there could be difficulties for the industry in general.

The secretary of the association, Mr G A Edmonds, yesterday said a meeting would be called "soon" about measures announced on Friday by the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley.

The mesures included the establishment of new fishing zones and a delay in the start of the season in one area.

Mr Wiley emphasized yesterday that boats registered in one zone would not be permitted to switch to another in the first two months of the season and any moves after this would have to be approved by Sea Management.

He also emphasized that commercial fishing with traps would not be allowed in the Elands Bay area, where enforcement would be undertaken by Sea Management, and from Chapman's Peak to Scarborough, where control would be exercised by the department and other state authorities.

A major aim of the new measures was to prolong the fishing effort for as long as possible to maximize job opportunities.

But yesterday spokesmen for the fishing industry said this could pose problems because it was important to ship a sizeable amount of fish to the United States market before Christmas.

It was now difficult to decide how much effort should be made at the beginning of the season. Further study of the regulations and their workability was needed, the spokesmen said.

CANNER

says crayfish control a disaster

CONTROLS announced by the Department of Environment and Fisheries last week are "a catastrophe for the crayfish industry of the West Coast", the general manager of Lamberts Bay Canning Company says.

Mr M G Potgieter said the Government had neither succeeded in eliminating problem areas in the industry nor protected the crayfish resources in the long term.

"For years the crayfish industry has been beset with problems because of the personal and often divergent interests of private boat-owners, the public and the quota holders.

Pressure groups

"By partial demarcation and zoning of the West Coast, the Government has now succeeded in increasing the number and intensity of the pressure groups within the industry."

The demarcation policy would drastically increase the risk factor in each zone.

In the past, the availability of crayfish — "which varies from time to time with the availability of food, water temperature, water oxygen content and a number of other factors" — could be discussed at short notice by independent bodies such as the Sea Management Association, and the fleets could be transferred to catch crayfish elsewhere on an agreed basis.

Confined to zone

Now, the department was forcing the catcher to stay in a certain zone whether crayfish were available or not.

"The results can be far-reaching when one considers that in the B zone (the Elands Bay, Lamberts Bay and Dorings Bay area) there are 5 700 white and coloured people who are directly or indirectly dependent on the catching of fish or crayfish.

"It is precisely this large coloured population — which the Government says it wants to protect — which will be at greatest risk and will suffer most if boats are withdrawn from an area when the catches become uneconomical."

Private boat owners and quota holders would be forced to approach the authorities for assistance, and the coloured community would become another pressure group in a renewed process of negotiation.

'Single entity'

Mr Potgieter said the West Coast crayfish resources should be seen as a single entity, and should be protected and used as such.

"A living crayfish resource cannot be segmented compartmentally or utilised without considering it as a whole.

"It is a pity the department did not utilise the voluntary and successful organisation of the Sea Management Association to protect and utilise the West Coast crayfish resource.

"The catchers of the three bays go into this new season with fear and anxiety."

on Press freedom'

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Speakers at the National Press Union congress in Grahamstown yesterday agreed there were likely to be more restraints on Press freedom.

The editor of Die Vaderland, Mr Harold Pakendorf, said that in any community under pressure, the shortest route was to "kill the bringer of the message", but not being able to do that, the authorities would restrict news coverage.

The duty of the Press was to assure the authorities that a free Press led to stability and not the other way around.

There was a tendency among Government officials, and not necessarily Government itself, to restrict the Press, for example, by putting more restraints on court reporting.

The editor of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Rex Gibson, said: "We have had increasing restraints under pressure — now this pressure will grow . . ."

'SPECTRUM"

Mr Gibson also said the South African Press was coming closer together. "We should have a more vociferous Press covering a wider spectrum."

The increased pressures on the Press to conform "turns newspapers grey and formless"



THIS is an architect which have a strong False Bay fror

Municipal Reporter

LOOKING like a small piece of a Greek Mediterranean island, one of the most exciting and spectacular building developments in Cape Town, Porto Cervo, a multi-million rand luxury apartment complex overlooking Kalk Bay, has been submitted to the City Council for approval.

It is being examined by the council's Environmental Advisory Board and will be considered by the full council next week.

The been agains and t proper

Fro ments of sm

The pretat ning s flats i



THIS cross section of the Pont apartments shows that althou would be seven storeys high if t on top of the other, built in steps lowing the contour of the mou planned, they will not be higher . floors as seen from the back b which is Godfrey Road. Clairva is the front boundary.

Allergy woman's troubles not ove

Argus Bureau

LONDON — "Total allergy" ex-singer Sheila Rossall's troubles just keep growing.

First it was claimed yesterday that the specially adapted council flat provided for her in Bristol was not suitable.

Then one of the American nurses, who paid their own fares to accompany Miss Rossall to England earlier this week, flew home saying: "I've been stung."

Miss Rossall, 33, was flown back to England from California in an air ambulance which cost the British Government R42 000.

24 HOURS

But after she had spent less than 24 hours in her special flat, her friend and fellow allergy sufferer, Mrs Dawn Aldridge, said: "I doubt whether she can survive another couple of nights here.

"This flat has a mouldy smell leave window cigarette smo fume came upstairs and t the cars cam

"Sheila is a ghost. She is a and she can that she wan water.

"I doubt if vive in these

Ban on False Bay netting

Cape Times 23/10/82

3 Fishing

By GORDON KLING and MICHAEL ACOTT

FALSE BAY is to be closed to commercial net fishing and a study of pollution in the bay has been ordered by the government.

Announcing tough new measures to protect natural sea resources at a meeting in Knysna last night, the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, said False Bay would be closed to purse-seine netters from January 1.

The prohibition included fishing with bait-nets, which are smaller versions of purse-seine nets — both of which have been bitterly criticized by conservationists and private fishermen as being a major cause of the decline of the bay's fish resources.

Mr Wiley said the intention of the new measures was to re-establish False Bay to what it was, an angling and recreation paradise.

50 boats in action

Residents living on the edge of the bay say they have seen more than 50 purse-seine boats in action at a time, with an estimated catch of about eight tonnes in one night. They maintain the operation has become highly efficient, with the boats quickly finding the shoals and encircling them.

Worst affected would be the Hout Bay fishing industry which is believed to bring in about a quarter of its catch in False Bay.

Bait-net boats, originally used to catch bait supplies for handline fishing, were putting out ever bigger nets through the years and were now netting shoals of steenbras, elf and other varieties, always at night.

Permanent

"We are not talking about waiting till the resource recovers. The closure will be permanent," Mr Wiley said.

The regulations are to be promulgated in terms of the Sea Fisheries Act at the end of the month.

In Walker Bay, no purse-seine netting is to be permitted within a line drawn from the New Harbour at Hermanus to a point known as Voorsteklip, some 3km north of De Kelders, by agreement among Gansbaai fishing interests, Walker Bay angling and conservation societies and the Hermanus Municipal Council.

An intensive research programme into the pilchard and anchovy stocks of Walker Bay would be undertaken as soon as possible.

To page 2 A

From page 1 A

Mr Wiley also announced that the crayfish industry would be banned from placing traps, as opposed to ring nets, in False Bay. Earlier this month the minister banned the traps from Elands Bay and from Chapmans Peak to Scarborough in the Peninsula.

"There will also be a real crackdown on abuse of the five kreef per person per day limit," he said.

It is understood, however, that there is no truth in suggestions that the authorities are considering reducing the private catch limit to three crayfish a day, and Mr Wiley has indicated that he would be against this.

The 60-odd trek net licences in False Bay were to be reduced "severely", he said, and the practice would not be permitted at night.

"I am firmly of the opinion that the fish come into shallow waters at night for a particular purpose — to rest, to spawn, to clean their scales or to feed."

Regulations for the licensing of ski boats would begin from January 1 and the authorities were looking at bag limits for ski-boat and angl'ers, and those for skin divers were being reviewed.

In addition, the possibility was being considered of new closed seasons for certain fish species.

The effects of pollution by sewerage outlets, industrial effluent and other discharges into the bay are also to be thoroughly investigated," he said.

A notice in the Government Gazette "shortly" would give effect to an extension of the Betty's Bay sea nature reserve for a distance of two nautical miles, and eastwards to include Jock se Baai.

The seaward limit of Tsitsikama Park would also be extended and an announcement on the new boundaries was imminent

Crayfish clash: Cartels v boat owners

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

A MAJOR row is brewing between the big cartels which control the multimillion-rand crayfish industry on the West Coast and private boat owners who scored a victory with the introduction of zone fishing, announced by the Government recently.

The zoning was the first firm stand against monopolies which have gradually taken over more and more of the fishing industry. Now the cartels complain they are being discriminated against.

Zone fishing means that if quota holders cannot fill their quotas, they are not allowed to move into another zone.

Private boat owners have for years asked the Government to implement zoning, and the Treurnicht Commission recommended this. But the former Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, Mr P T C du Plessis, turned the idea down.

Mr du Plessis was replaced by Mr Sarel Hayward shortly after, and Mr John Wiley, a member of the commission, was appointed a Deputy Minister.

Informed sources say Mr Wiley was appointed by the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, to "sort out the mess in the fishing industry".

BOTHA ADAMANT

Following a lot of lobbying it appeared Mr Wiley might not handle the portfolio. But Mr Botha was adamant, and soon after his appointment Mr Wiley announced sweeping measures which the cartels say are disastrous.

They claim that by introducing zoning the Government has "succeeded in increasing the number and intensity of pressure groups in the industry".

The general manager of Lamberts Bay Canning Company, Mr M G Potgieter, said West Coast crayfish should be managed as an entity.

However, most people other than the cartels seem to believe zone management is the key to a long-lasting resource.

A spokesman for the private boat owners said the cartels had fished out the northern areas. The risks were that the south could be over-exploited and that the cartels would scotch any chance of expansion by small quota holders.

The cartels also claim that coloured fisherfolk in the north will be out of jobs because the cartels are not allowed to move south. But private boat owners say many are in fact from Transkei and Ciskei.

The scene is set for furious behind-scenes lobbying by the cartels in an attempt to restore the status quo.

Govt policy on fishing cartels not carried out

ARGUS 29/10/82

By Graham Ferreira
Environment Reporter

SENIOR Sea Fisheries officials appear reluctant or unable to carry out the Government's policy of restricting the growth of the big business cartels which have a strangle-hold on the fishing industry.

Recently the Oceana group of companies bought a privately owned fishing boat and a 16 600 kg crayfish quota, overbidding small business interests.

The Government has already refused to allow large fishing concerns to purchase a white-fish concession on the east coast saying that they would not let the monopolistic situation in the fishing industry to get worse.

But against stated Government policy, Oceana outbid the smaller L & S Fisheries, and now senior Sea Fisheries staff say they cannot enforce the Government policy of limiting the monopolies.

The small businessmen, with their life savings invested in the fishing industry, say it is just a matter of time before they are swallowed up by the cartels.

According to sources close to the Government, there is a serious difference of opinion between the new Deputy Minister of the Environment in charge of the fisheries portfolio, Mr John Wiley, who is committed to restricting the growing monopolies, and some of the top staff of Sea Fisheries.

The Sea Fisheries personnel are apparently reluctant to implement the policy of restricting the monopolies.

Since the strict new measures introduced recently by Mr Wiley, the fishing cartels have been unhappy, and sources in the industry believe they may be trying to force Mr Wiley into a law suit on the grounds he is restricting legitimate business.

But the smaller concerns in the industry argue that while the cartels are diversifying, and taking many out of the industry, the small men have the long-term survival of the industry at heart.

The latest quota sale illustrates the apparent lack of ability or desire of senior Sea Fisheries to apply their own department's policies.

Mr J Steenkamp, owner of the fishing boat Kinglet, offered his vessel and 16 600 kg crayfish quota for sale.

He was offered R170 000 by Oceana but was made a counter offer of R180 000 by Mr G Lumb representing L & S Fisheries.

Private boat owners believed that Oceana's interest was out of line with the Government policy of discouraging monopolies. The private boat owners appealed to the new chief of Sea Fisheries, Dr J Serfontein, for a ruling on the matter.

He undertook to seek a ruling from Pretoria. Later he informed the private boat owners by telephone that the department would not allow major concession holders in the crayfish industry to expand their interests further.

But Oceana increased their offer to R220 000 and according to Sea Fisheries sources, the deal has gone through.

According to sources in the Private Boat Owners Association, many feel that the senior departmental officials are flying in the face of ministerial direction.

AGRICULTURE - Fishing

1982

JAN. — DEC.

North zones open for crayfishing

ARGUS 1/11/82 3E-Fishing

Environment Reporter

FOR diving gourmets who keep their tables loaded with the Cape's chief delicacy, crayfish, it's a case of drive before you dive — at least for the next two weeks.

Although the crayfishing season opened as usual at midnight on October 31, this applies only to the zones north of Dassen Island. The southern zone will remain closed until November 15, and that of course includes the Peninsula.

The deferred date for the southern zone is part of new tough measures aimed at tightening up the fishing industry.

A spokesman for Sea Fisheries explained the new opening dates.

"From a beacon 11 km north of Yzerfontein, northwards, the season opened at midnight last night. But south of that beacon the season will open at midnight on November 14, and that applies to professional and amateur crayfishing."

The rest of the regulations remain unchanged.

- A bag limit of five crayfish a person a day.
- Not more than 20 crayfish are allowed in each vehicle irrespective of how many people there are in the vehicle.
- No crayfish in berry may be caught.
- No softshell crayfish may be caught.
- The minimum size limit is 8,89 cm.

SANCTUARIES

The crayfish sanctuaries lie between Melkbos Point and Chapman's Peak beacon, between the North and South head lighthouses at Saldanha Bay (effectively the entire bay and lagoon is closed.)

The marine reserve between Castle Rocks and Partridge Point in False Bay is also closed, as is the H F Verwoerd Reserve at Betty's Bay.

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Plan to ban shellfish hauls at Cape Point

Environment Reporter

THE waters round Cape Point nature reserve may become a marine sanctuary as a spinoff of the new conservation measures for False Bay announced by the Minister of the Environment Mr John Wiley.

The Co-Ordinating Council for Nature Conservation in the Cape, the most powerful non-government conservation body in the province, is to re-examine the question.

If a sanctuary is declared it could mean a Cape Point ban on bait collecting, spearfishing, and diving for crayfish, perlemoen, shells or coral.

Switch possible

Rock angling would be forbidden except at the famous ledges at Rooikranz where spinning for pelagic species such as yellowtail would be allowed.

About two years ago, many conservationists and scientists including the former Deputy Director of Sea Fisheries, Dr Garth Newman, called for a marine sanctuary along the shoreline of the Cape of Good Hope Nature Reserve.

They argued that the present marine reserve at Castle Rocks was too difficult to police. In the Cape Point reserve, policing already existed in the form of the Divisional Council rangers.

Another disadvantage of the Castle Rocks reserve was that it was too small to be representative of a complete ecosystem. Cape Point was unique in that it contained elements found in the cold water ecosystem of the west coast and the warmer regime of the east.

With the bag limits on rock angling and ski boats pending, it would appear to be even easier to police the reserve from a marine point of view.

The chairman of the Co-Ordinating Council, Professor Anthony Hall, said today: "It has been some time since we backed a call for a marine reserve at Cape Point and the situation has probably changed. But Mr Wiley's announcement brings the matter back into sharp focus and we will have another look at the possibility of a marine reserve."

At the time scientists were calling for a marine reserve at Cape Point, the Department of Sea Fisheries were against the idea, partly, according to departmental sources, because they were loathe to relinquish their control of the shoreline up to the highwater mark, and partly because they were not in favour of keeping commercial crayfishing interests out of the rich Cape Point waters.

The situation developed where the rangers at Cape Point were having to perform the tasks of Sea Fisheries inspectors, but were understaffed for the additional task.

Now it's easy to catch the pirate netters . . .

POLICING False Bay against pirate netting will be considerably easier now that the entire bay is closed, the chairman of the Co-Ordinating Council for Nature Council in the Cape, Professor Anthony Hall, said today.

"The old demarcation marks indicating the limits inside which purse seine netting was not allowed were very difficult to police. But now it's easy. Anyone can see whether or not a boat is inside a straight line drawn from Cape Point to Cape Hangklip, and the public will have a vital role to play in helping to police False Bay against pirate fishing vessels," he said.

In practice it was almost impossible to get a succesful prosecution against boats fishing inside the old demarcation lines, although it was common knowledge that many fishing boats fished illegally inside these limits.

Fish Hoek and Simon's Town residents have on numerous occasions telephoned The Argus to report fishing boats inside the old two sea mile limit. But in practice it was almost impossible to prove that they were in fact inside the limits.

In a recent interview the Deputy Minister of the Environment, Mr John Wiley, said he would ask the lighthouse keepers at Cape Point and Hangklip to keep a special lookout for illegal fishing inside the bay.

Quick move for Gary

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNEBURG. — Golfer Gary Player is selling his luxury Sandton smallholding less than a year after he bought it and may move to a townhouse until his youngest daughter finishes school.

In November last year Player sold his 14-year-old Honeydew estate Zonnehoeve for R725 000 cash and bought a thatched mini-mansion in Bryanston.

Recently the Player residence, with its swimming pool, tennis court, latest property acquisition — a 344 ha farm near Lanseria airport, north of Johannesburg.

Mrs Player said Gary was at the farm discussing renovations to it.

"The place needs a lot of work, but it is right on the (Jukskei) river and is really beautiful," she said.

Mrs Player said they had no intention of moving to their properties in Colesberg and Plettenberg Bay and may not move to their new farm immediately the Branston house is sold.

Four die in R5-m case

Argus Bureau

NEW YORK — A husband and wife have pleaded guilty in a R5-million fraud case in which four people have died.

Three CBS employees were shot as they tried to help Miss Margaret Barbera, who was being dragged into a van in a West Side parking garage after she had been killed.

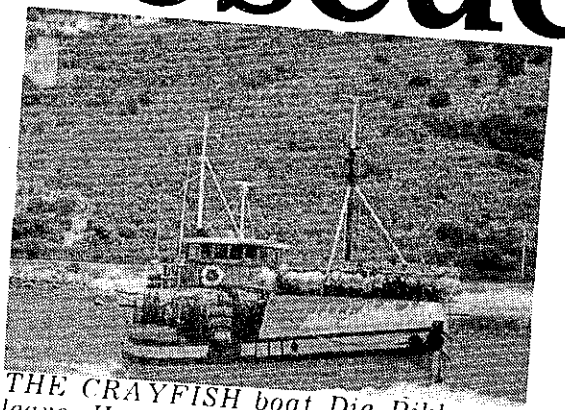
Irwin Margolies, owner of the now bankrupt Candor Diamond Corporation, pleaded guilty to pu-

Pianos

Hout Bay trawler rescued in wild seas

3 Fishing

ARGUS 8/11/82



THE CRAYFISH boat Die Pikkewyn leaves Hout Bay harbour last week after the fishermen on board had settled a wage dispute with their employers, S A Sea Products.

Staff Reporter

NATIONAL Sea Rescue Institute crews from Knysna and Plettenberg Bay were called out early on Saturday to rescue a Hout Bay crayfish boat, Die Pikkewyn.

A spokesman for NSRI Station 12 in Knysna said the 22-metre wooden vessel had holed and was taking water about eight miles off Plettenberg Bay.

The 12-man crew had contacted a shore superintendent in Hout Bay, who contacted the Mossel Bay harbourmaster, and he contacted the NSRI in Knysna and Plettenberg Bay just after midnight on Saturday morning.

Very bad

"It took us one and a half hours to get to Die Pikkewyn. The sea was very bad. We escorted her into the lee off Robberg.

"The Plettenberg Bay crew then pumped the water out. They also sent a diver down when it was light to help effect temporary repairs."

The spokesman said the Knysna crew had been out for about nine hours.

Sinking

Commander Alan Holman of the NSRI in Cape Town, who was in Knysna during the weekend, said the boat had taken water fast and was "certainly sinking."

Mr Derek Freelinghaus, the NSRI station commander at Plettenberg Bay, said today surf height was about 2 metres and the wind was Force 4.

"We established communication and learnt her pumps were not coping with the water running into the holds. Another trawler, the Constantiaberg, was standing by. At that stage (about 1.15 am) the crew were considering abandoning ship."

Mr Freelinghaus said his crew had taken out a water pump.

Another

"A second pump had to be brought out by an NSRI mini-ski in very heavy surf."

The pumps started to work about dawn, and the Plettenberg Bay crew effected temporary repairs to a hole round the anchor hold.

Mr Freelinghaus said the repairs had been successful and Die Pikkewyn had arrived in Algoa Bay about 2.45 am yesterday.

Captain Holman said the hole might have been caused by failure of bolts in the timber hull.

Dispute

Die Pikkewyn and the Constantiaberg, also a crayfish boat, left Cape Town on Thursday on a six-week trip after their departure had been delayed almost 24 hours by a wage dispute.

Their employer, SA Sea Products, agreed to an increase in commission on crayfish caught, but not in the daily wage of R6.

Fishermen said last week that they risked their lives "day and night" on the boats. They asked for a basic rate of R10 a day, but agreed to the increase in commission.

A. Monetary

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered); leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

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9 November 1982 A Thomson newspaper 80c (INCL GST) Registered at the Post Office as a newspaper

REDS RAID SA COAST

7 Fishing Industrial Week 9/11/82

By Priscilla Whyte

FOREIGN trawlers operating in strength off the SWA/Namibian coast are threatening to cripple the already ailing South African fishing industry.

Experts predict that by the end of 1982 Russia alone will have [illegible] the Namibian [illegible] over R800-million [illegible] fishing revenue.

Industrial analyst Geoff Mymin told Industrial Week that the excessive exploitation of fishing resources has been a constant thorn in the side of the domestic industry.

"It is most prevalent in the SWA fishing region because of lack of recognition from world political leaders of the Windhoek Administration.

"Pilchards and anchovies are being heavily exploited by some foreign trawlers although neither of these species are permitted to be caught under the International Convention for South East Authority Fisheries regulations", he said.

SA declared a 200 mile fishing zone in July 1978 and this has been recognised by foreign nations except where it applies to the Namibian coastline.

This, argue the foreign fishermen, is not South African territory with the exception of the 32km wide corridor of sea immediately off Walvis Bay.

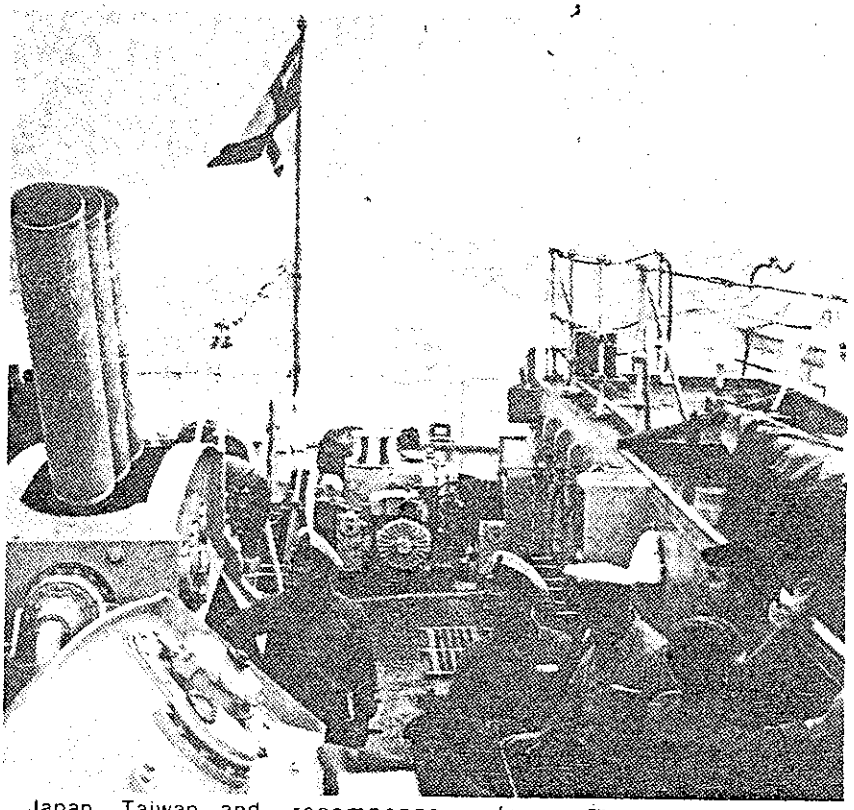
Patrol craft

This corridor (see map) is constantly monitored by the South African Navy with sightings of foreign craft operating there being reported directly to Navy HQ by local fishermen.

The area is also monitored from the air and by naval patrol craft.

As the future of SWA hangs in the balance SA has given permission for foreign fleets to move across this corridor but not to trawl in the area.

Local fishermen say that the huge fleets, especially the Russians, do not bother to lift their nets while crossing.



Japan, Taiwan and Israel have all been awarded limited fishing rights in this zone in the interests of political accord which has distressed South African companies, who claim they are being denied deep sea trawling rights.

Mymin said that at the begining of 1982 an attempt was made to gain recompense from foreigners by charging a levy of $10 a ton for hake and $5 a ton for all other species.

Indications are that at least some nations will comply with this obligation.

A South African Navy officer who recently

To Page 2

The ever vigilant South African Navy on patrol. The South African coastline has been declared a 200 mile fishing zone but foreign fishermen argue that this doesn't apply to SWA/Namibia, which they say is not South African territory.

Foreign fleets lurk off SWA

(3) fishing

Industrial Week 9/11/82

From Page 1

returned from a tour of duty in the area said that most foreign fishermen are interested only in larger fish and as a result it is not uncommon to see millions of pilchards and anchovies floating "belly up" having been ditched by alien trawlers who have no use for them.

Overboard

He cited an instance when the ship he was serving on steamed through a 5km long patch of dead pilchards which had been thrown overboard from a fleet of Russian trawlers, the crews of which were only keen to keep the sole and hake caught.

"Local fishermen often report sightings of foreign boats trawling in our waters and we immediately dispatch a fishery protection vessel to the spot only to find the interlopers have moved on.

"When we stop them and examine their catch they claim to have caught the fish outside territorial waters and as we have no way of proving the contravention and are forced to allow them to go on their way."

He said that the Navy is aware of what is going on but "while we have foreign trawlers fishing close inshore (12 miles) from Angola to the mouth of the Orange River, we are in an invidious position.

"As soon as SWA's future is resolved then perhaps the whole of the coastline can be declared to have a 200 mile limit which will make our task a whole lot easier".

In the meantime, local fishermen have to live with the fact that the ongoing assult by trawlers flying the hammer and sickle is threatening their livelihood.

They say that additional exploitation will prolong the period of recovery needed to sustain maximum levels of marine life dictated by SA's food needs for the future.

A spokesman for the Sea Fisheries Institute said that while purse seine fishing is the most important branch of local industry in terms of tonnage trawl fisheries for hake and sole remain the most profitable.

Decline

He said profitability had declined since 1980 due to lower international prices, high operating costs and lower catches blamed on overfishing.

"The introduction of allocated hake catch quotas within the extended fisheries zone could reverse the trend."

Trucker go

(332) (269)

ILLEGAL haulage operators are all set to have a hay-day if Government attitudes harden towards private transport companies.

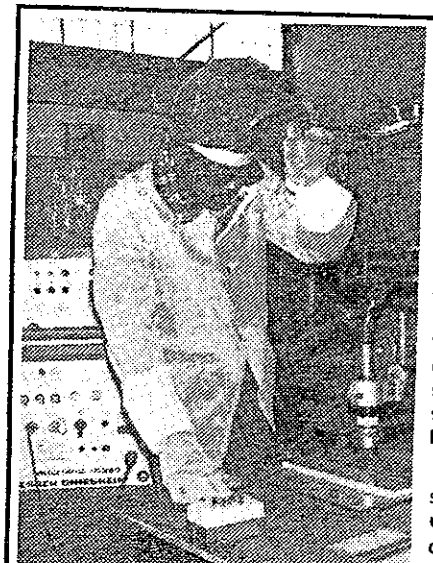
By

Mike Norris recently elected chairman of the Public Carriers Association (PCA) told Industrial Week the stranglehold that the Road Transportation Act has on some private operators is prompting them to participate in illegal transport activities.

According to Norris the current legislation not only prevents transport operators from achieving maximum efficiency but also in terferes with the freedom of the private sector generally to maximise it's transport options.

"A lot of people claim the Act is unfair and not in the interests of the national economy. Certainly there are elements in that don't make economic sense and don't serve the long term interests of industry," he said.

"What is most disturb



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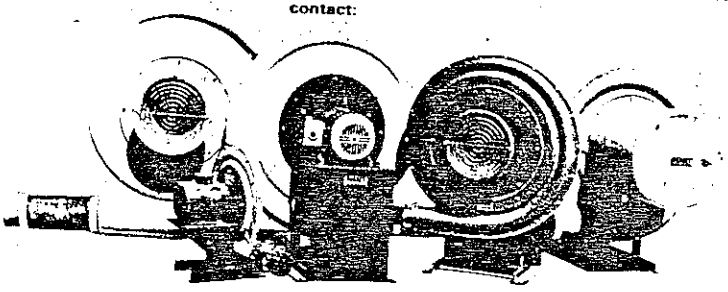

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Conservation

Cartels 'are gaining from fish quota'

Argus 9/11/82

3 Filing

Environment Reporter

STRICT conservation measures were necessary to save South Africa's fish stocks — but without fundamental changes in the quota system, the tough new measures announced recently could put the small operator out of business.

This is the opinion of the director of a small Cape Town-based fishing business who says that under the present system of quotas the large cartels are able to absorb quota cuts much better than the small operator.

"The small men have lived off the crumbs from the large companies' tables. It could be that there just aren't going to be many crumbs left after the application of the new strict measures."

COMPLAINING

The new measures were announced last month by the Deputy Minister of the Environment, Mr John Wiley.

But nobody except the large cartels were complaining about the new measures.

"They were absolutely necesary to save our fish stocks," he said.

He does not want to be identified "because I have to live with the people of the industry".

But he does have a suggestion which may provide a solution.

"The problem lies in the way in which quotas are awarded on an historic basis. If you happened to be in at the time when they were handed out you're OK. But to break into the fishing industry now is virtually impossible.

"Most of the people who hold quotas did not pay for them. Why not put a certain percentage of the quota on the open market each year.

"In this way the Government could announce that it was going to reduce existing quotas by, say, one fifth every year. Then the fifth comes on to the open market to be bid for by tender. If the operator who originally held the tender wants to keep the same size operation, he simply puts in a bid."

In this way the industry would become more flexible and more efficient.

"No uneconomical operation would be able to last."

Some believe the big fishing concerns have overcapitalised and consequently there is pressure for ever increasing quotas.

DIVERSIFYING

But one of the ironies is that overcapitalisation has led to diversification, with the big businesses sinking profits from fishing into other ventures.

Many operators of small fishing businesses to whom I have spoken recently believe that the way the big cartels have diversified is bad for the fishing industry.

"There is just no money coming back into the industry," said one.

But without exception the smaller operators were pleased with the way Mr Wiley had tackled the task of revitalising the industry.

"Now that he has taken the steps necessary to protect the resource, I hope he can see his way clear to protecting the small fishing business from becoming extinct," a private boat owner said.

Call for big cuts in fish quotas

ARGUS 17/11/82

3 Fishing

Environment Reporter

THE Fisheries Advisory Council is in session to decide on fish quotas for 1983, and, according to many scientists, unless there are substantial cuts in both whitefish and pelagic quotas, South Africa's tottering fishing industry could be pushed over the brink.

The Cape's pelagic industry is in danger of collapse because the Government has allowed catches of 55 000 tons over the scientifically recommended limit.

Since 1980 the decision-makers have had access to a Ph D thesis by Dr R J M Crawford which recommended that not more than 325 000 tons should be taken by the Cape's pelagic fishing fleet. But for three consecutive years since, the Government has stuck to a quota of 380 000.

"Ignored"

A former Sea Fisheries scientist said he had left the department because he questioned his role as a scientist when so much of his research was ignored because of pressure by large vested interests.

Since the appointment of Mr John Wiley as Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs in charge of fisheries, there have been drastic changes in policy, and conservationists are looking forward to scientists playing a more convincing role in the protection of fish resources.

The decisions of the Fisheries Advisory Committee for the new season are seen as an acid test for the new policies, and sources in the industry believe severe cuts are on the cards.

Another area where cuts are expected is the white fish quota.

Concern

The proliferation of so-called baby hake in fish shops and supermarkets has caused much concern among conservationists.

At present about 95 percent of the deep sea hake quota is divided between two fishing giants, Irvine and Johnson and Sea Harvest.

Another area where cuts are expected is in the sole quotas. But the Government is likely to run into strong opposition because of its policy of awarding substantial quotas to foreign interests, "for reasons which have nothing to do with fishing".

While the quotas for Israel, Japan and other countries remain unchanged, any further cuts in local quotas will stick in the crops of the fishing cartels.

Board's beef plan hits snags

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The Meat Board's new R5m beef-subsidy scheme has run into problems in some of the main controlled areas, the general manager of the board, Dr P H Coetzee, said here yesterday.

Dr Coetzee said that in spite of a deliberately engineered over-supply, prices had remained above the floor-price level in Pretoria, Cape Town and, for some carcasses, at the City Deep abattoirs in Johannesburg.

The scheme was based on the normally reliable economic law that if there was an over-supply of a commodity and a steady demand, prices should fall.

"We are flabbergasted that this is not happening. We are at a loss to explain it," Dr Coetzee said.

However, reports from Durban, Port Elizabeth, East London, Bloemfontein and Kimberley indicated that the scheme seemed to be working, and prices had fallen below the floor price.

Reacting to claims that the board had failed to inform butchers of the new scheme, Dr Coetzee said letters had been sent to all registered butchers on November 26 informing them of the scheme and its objectives.

"We also arranged meetings with butchers in all controlled areas on December 1 to tell them how we hoped the scheme would work," he said.

No butcher could claim he was unaware of the scheme.

To ensure more than adequate supplies the Meat Board had made available packed super-beef in boxes.

Abattoir workers had worked overtime at the City Deep and other abattoirs for the past four days to ensure that more than enough carcasses would be on offer.

In Pretoria on Monday 506 carcasses had been available but only 440 were bought by the trade at prices that were unnecessarily high.

The board spokesman said this was disturbing but the board had no control over auction prices.

'Level best'

"We are doing our level best to keep the markets supplied. In fact, some are over-supplied and under those conditions the price should fall below the floor price. There is nothing more we can do."

He emphasized that the success of the scheme depended on the fullest co-operation from wholesalers and retailers. Consumers also had to contribute by shopping around for the best prices.

Fishing season to change

CAPE Times 8/12/82
3 Fishing

Political Correspondent

THE season for the valuable West Coast pilchard and anchovy fishing industry is to be changed from next year in an effort to save the industry from disaster.

The Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, warned last night that the industry could collapse unless strong steps were taken.

Announcing a "completely new system" for the industry, he said pilchard stocks had already collapsed and indications were that the replacement anchovy catches were about to collapse.

"If the new system works, we can possibly expect vastly expanded anchovy and pilchard catches," he said.

From next year pilchard catches may be used for canning only, not for fishmeal.

Mr Wiley also announced reductions in coastal and deep-sea hake (stockfish) quotas. He threatened to impose severe cut-backs if the stockfish resource continued to decline or should "gross irregularities" by some catchers continue.

The main change for the catching of pelagic (surface-netted) fish is a switch of the catching season from winter to summer. This has long been advocated by Port Elizabeth scientist Dr Jan Lochner, who argues that the fishing collapse is caused when most young adult fish, which he says are the main breeders, are caught before they have spawned.

Dr Lochner called for the present January-August fishing season to be changed to an October-March season, but Mr Wiley opted for a split season, effectively November to March or April.

The 380 000-ton quota will be retained but from next year will apply only to pilchards and anchovy. Other pelagic fish such as maasbanker, mackerel, round herring (red-eye) and lantern fish can be freely caught in season.

The first season opens on January 1, and closes for all pelagic fish when half the quota, 190 000 tons of pilchards and anchovy, has been caught. The second half of the season extends from November 1 to the end of December.

Mr Wiley rejected recommendations by departmental scientists that the 380 000-ton quota be drastically reduced, saying this would hit private boat-owners hardest and would lead to a jump in the price of fish meal.

The quota for stockfish, caught by deeper trawl nets, is to be reduced from 136 000 tons to 120 000 tons next year. The coastal trawling industry's quota goes down from 9 000 tons to 7 940 tons, that for the deep-sea trawling industry from 119 150 tons to 105 135 tons and the foreign trawling quota drops from 7 850 tons to 6 925 tons.

Mr Wiley said the SA Navy would help patrol fisheries zones and offending foreign trawlermen would be prosecuted.

He appealed to the industry to help eliminate serious irregularities such as the dumping of immature catches and lining stockfish nets with smaller mesh. He said scientists believed next year's 120 000-ton quota was already too high and warned that the 1984 stockfish quota would be cut back "severely" if the resource continued to deteriorate.

Scientists hit out at Minister's decision

Fishing catch far too high

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Scientific evidence on the Cape's fish stocks and their breeding patterns show that the new measures to conserve the pelagic fishing industry announced yesterday by the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs might be a blunder with disastrous consequences for the fishing industry, fisheries scientists said.

Instead of following scientific advice and reducing the Cape pelagic quota from 380 000 to 325 000, Mr John Wiley had increased the anchovy quota by one tenth by not including species such as lantern fish, maasbanker and redeye in the global quota.

BREAK

This mean's another 30 000 tons of anchovies could be taken, stretching the already overworked fish resource to breaking point.

Scientists said Mr Wiley's move to change the pelagic season to November to March instead of the existing January to August was apparently based on incorrect information.

Mr Wiley said the reason for the change in season was that "all scientific evidence showed the fish spawned in October." Fisheries experts on the other hand said the only scientific evidence they could point to show that most of the anchovy spawning took place in the middle of the new catching season.



Mr Wiley . . . a bad blunder?

A graph published in a fisheries bulletin showed the monthly egg production of the Cape peaked sharply during late November and December.

The bulletin of the International Commission for the South East Atlantic Fishery showed that October, November, December, January and February were all months in which egg production was heavy.

EXPERT

Dr Doug Butterworth, a Department of Applied Mathematics man and acknowledged expert on fish stocks, said Mr Wiley did not seem to understand the concept of a maximum sustainable yield.

"The best possible estimate by scientists is just as likely to be too little as too much — that's what a best possible estimate means. It is essential these estimates are acted on," said Dr Butterworth.

Dr Butterworth said the ideal method to utilise a resource like fish could be compared with a wise investor who, having capital in the bank, lived off the interest.

The interest, in the case of a fishery, was the recruitment rate.

POINT

Ideally the fish should be caught to a point where the product of the stock or "capital" and the recruitment or "interest" was at a maximum. That was the maximum sustainable yield.

Mr Wiley said he could not cut back on the quota because the scientists could offer no growth prospect for the industry, that the price of fish meal would rise resulting in a chain reaction and that the small boat owner would be adversely affected.

"Mr Wiley is living on his capital. Where does he expect the growth potential to come from? The scientists have told him that 325 000 tons is the best estimate. Anything over that is eating into the capital of the fish reserves," said Dr Butterworth.

ANCHOVY

"The latest estimates show that the anchovy estimates are too high and a figure in the low 200 000's might be a lot closer to the safe limit.

"Mr Wiley admits there is a problem in the Cape pelagic industry and it seems a strange way to solve the problem by increasing the quota."

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered); leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

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The case for a free market in meat sales

Control boards, and particularly the Meat Board, are often subject to criticism. Refreshingly, there has been a generally positive response to the Meat Board's new subsidy scheme. Even the sceptics believe it is an attempt by the board to sell more meat at reduced prices. But in broad terms there is still dissatisfaction with this board's methods. One discontented group is Farmers for Free Enterprise (FFE), which is affiliated to the Free Market Foundation. The executive director of the FFE, Mr Roy van der Westhuizen, addressed farmers on this subject in East London this week. COLLEEN RYAN reports. . . .

A free market in the production and retailing of meat is essential if the future of the industry is to be assured, says Mr Roy van der Westhuizen.

That was essentially the message he left with Eastern Cape farmers at a conference on free enterprise this week.

Mr van der Westhuizen said farmers had been asked by the FFE what aspects of agriculture concern them. Many had voiced grievances against the situation in the meat industry.

"They complain about the permit system," he said. The Meat Board dictates to farmers how many cattle may be slaughtered through a quota system.

"The permit system encourages them to overstate their requirements because they know they will receive only a percentage of what they ask for," Mr van der Westhuizen said.

This practice meant that figures the board collects were often distorted.

"Why the permit system? The Meat Board explains that it exists to ensure an orderly supply of stocks to the markets," he said.

This implied that a free market without permits would be chaotic.

"What, they would say, if 20 000 head of cattle arrived at an abattoir which could handle only 3 000 head a day? This assumes that those involved in supplying and slaughtering livestock cannot identify their own self-interest and would oversupply, despite their knowledge of the slaughtering capacity and despite the knowledge that this would lead to a tremendous drop in prices."

He said people who wholeheartedly supported control believed that it was only by planning that order could be maintained.

"The question then arises — who plans the planners, or are they above that level?"

Mr van der Westhuizen also criticised the grading system and questioned whether it was necessary.

"The planning mentality cries out with a horrified, 'yes.' Imagine the chaos, they say, if there were no grades to advise the consumer on the quality of meat.

"This attitude implies the consumer, butcher and producer do not know their own self-interest."

He said consumer demand would force suppliers to provide meat of an acceptable quality.

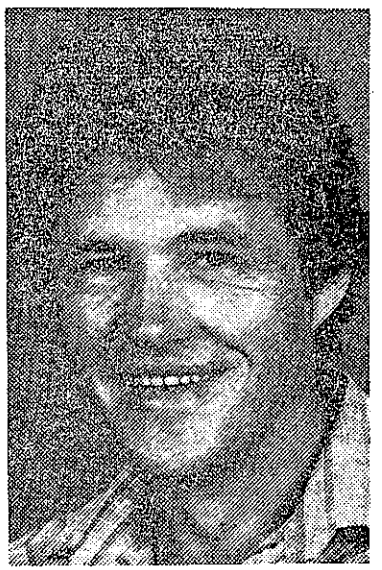
"The price mechanism in a free market is the means by which consumer preferences are signalled to producers. It establishes the consumer as the supreme arbitrator of quality and quantity."

He said other grievances expressed by farmers were:

- Abattoirs are chiefly in urban areas and despite transport subsidies, producers are hard hit by railage costs.
- Despite slack demand, the retail price of meat is very high.
- Farmers are forced to contribute to the Meat Board's stabilisation fund although some would prefer to accumulate the capital and take their chances.

Mr van der Westhuizen said the FFE recommended immediate steps to implement a free market.

He called for a withdrawal of the permit system, the abolition of meat grading, refunding to farmers of all levies paid into the stabilisation fund, and the withdrawal of restrictions and regulations in the market.



Mr Roy van der Westhuizen, a Ficksburg farmer and executive director of Farmers for Free Enterprise.

(3) Meat

Jo'burg meat price rockets

Star 15/12/82

Consumer Reporter

The price of meat has soared at the City Deep abattoir in Johannesburg.

Super lamb was selling at R3,70 a kg today — R1,30 more than the floor price.

Small super A beef carcasses cost 20c a kg more today than on Monday. Wholesalers were paying as much as R2,37 a kg.

The Meat Board, which earlier claimed it had managed to contain the seasonal increase in meat prices, said high consumer demand had caused prices to rocket.

Most retailers are expected to sell lamb at record high prices within the next few days when the higher market prices are passed on.

Pick 'n Pay butcheries are selling beef at highly competitive prices.

For example, super A rump costs R5,99 a kg, compared with the average retail price of R6,88.

Pick 'n Pay's meat manager, Mr Bernie Hefferman, said these prices would hold until December 24.

Meat prices defy board's subsidy move

By Colleen Ryan
Consumer Reporter

The second attempt by the Meat Board to subsidise prices looks set to fail as the market price of beef continued to soar at the City Deep abattoir.

The head of the Meat Board in Johannesburg, Mr F Moodie, said it was inexplicable that prices should increase when the board was supplying exceptionally large quantities of beef to the trade.

More than 2 600 beef carcasses were made available on Tuesday but, despite this, wholesalers paid as much as R2,51 a kg for Super A beef at the auction.

In terms of the Meat Board subsidy wholesalers are now committed to buy super beef for as little as R2,08 a kg. Some wholesalers claim the Meat Board has not been able to supply sufficient young stock to the trade, and this has pushed up prices.

This is the second time in two months that a Meat Board subsidy has failed to lower prices substantially. The first R6 million subsidy in October was abandoned after three days when high consumer demand caused beef and lamb prices to rocket.

Earlier this month a meat wholesaler, Mr Dennis Singer, predicted the subsidy would fail because it was badly timed. "Demand for red meat is always high over the Christmas period and so the subsidy will not work," he said.

The sudden decision to re-implement the subsidy two weeks ago came as a surprise to many retailers. Earlier the Meat Board's general manager, Dr P Coetzee had indicated the scheme would only be introduced during January 1983. The early implementation was at the insistence of the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel.

A Meat Board official said the surplus of cheap poultry was causing concern because consumers were increasingly substituting poultry for meat, particularly beef.

Figures showed that in 1972 South Africans consumed 425 000 tons of beef, compared with 160 000 tons of chicken. In 1982 beef consumption had dropped to 412 000 tons while chicken had risen to 355 000 tons.

Chicken cost down again

Consumer Reporter

Chickens — already a bargain buy this festive season — have been reduced in price still further at one supermarket chain.

Checkers is selling Delmas fresh grade A chickens at R1,39 a kg until Saturday in Transvaal and Free State stores. The previous best price for fresh chicken was about R1,60 a kg.

The price cut is the result of a country-wide surplus.

Last week wholesale prices of most fresh and frozen chickens were reducted by more than 20c a kg.

Despite the drop in Checkers prices, the other retail giants do not intend to enter the price war.

Prices vary from brand to brand and consumers should compare carefully for the best buy.

OK Bazaars is selling fresh chickens from R1,65 to R2,05 and frozen brands from R1,45 to R1,59.

Fresh chickens at Pick 'n Pay cost between R1,94 and R1,74, while frozen chickens are selling for R1,39.

Checkers' fresh chickens cost between R1,89 and R1,39 and frozen chickens are selling for R1,60 a kg. If demand for fresh Delmas chickens exceeds supply this week the chain store will sell frozen chickens at the same price.

Fight the meat merger!

Consumer body calls for action on 'get-together'

(3) Meat
S. Tribune
19/12/82

Tribune Reporter

THE Consumer Council this week urged the Competition Board to protect buyers of red meat by probing a "get-together" move by the two huge meat co-operatives, Vleissentraal and the Boeremakelaars Kooperative Beperk (BKB).

In a forthright statement, the council questioned the reasons for the controversial new working agreement, saying it would benefit producers but not consumers.

Mr Jaap Wilkens, president of the South African Agricultural Union, hailed the move as a "rationalisation" procedure which would benefit both producers and consumers.

But Mr Bill Heunis, the council's assistant director, told the Sunday Tribune yesterday: "We don't accept this at face value. It is a step which would cut down on free enterprise."

He likened the move to the attempted merger of the fertiliser giants Triomf and Fedmis, which was abandoned in February.

"They wanted to become more powerful in negotiating by joining hands, but that was prevented," Mr Heunis said. "The Consumer Council's view and that of agriculture was that it wouldn't be in the interests of the consumer generally.

"By the same token we express our concern about this closer collaboration, because we don't think it will be in the interests of the consumer."

The "closer collaboration" announced by Vleissentraal and BKB comes at a time of soaring red meat prices just before Christmas.

The chairmen of the organisations, Mr Flip du Toit of Vleissentraal and Commandant Piet Marais of BKB, claimed the move would increase the benefits of co-operative marketing.

Mr du Toit reportedly said it would enable Vleissentraal to "forge closer links" between producers and consumers. But the Consumer Council sees no such benefits.

Mr Heunis commented: "We are told that this is both a breakthrough for agriculture and is in the interests of the consumer. But we see repercussions for the consumer.

"The main effect of this agreement would be to increase the bargaining power of these organisations, but from the consumer's point of view it would cut down on free enterprise."

The Council urged the Competition Board — a statutory watchdog which monitors restrictive trade practices — to "participate more strongly in controlling the activity of these organisations in the interests of the consumer."

Senior officials of the BKB and Vleissentraal could not be contacted yesterday.

(3) Meat [illegible] Boards

Meat industry probe sought

S. Times 19/12/82

By BEVIS FAIRBROTHER

CONSUMER associations say the merger between the giant co-ops, Vleissentraal and BKB, this week is a step closer to a monopoly of the already tightly controlled meat industry.

They say the merger has now made Vleissentraal all powerful among the "Big three" with a majority share of several sections of the industry.

Karoo Meats and Imperial Cold Storage virtually control the rest.

Despite co-op bosses' assurances that consumers will not lose out by this move, consumer association spokesmen fear it can only lead eventually to higher prices for meat — "Already a luxury product in South Africa for many".

The festive season move caught the consumer watchdogs napping, however, and they admit they have not probed its full implications.

But they have promised to launch immediate investigations and one of them, the SA Consumer Council, has called for an official inquiry.

Mr Jan Cronje, director of the council, said he was "much concerned" about the closer collaboration between the two giants.

"Whereas the advantages for producers are plain, it is doubtful whether consumers will enjoy the same," he said.

He felt the consumers would be reassured if the Competition Board were assigned to investigate the move.

Concerned

"We are aware that the meat industry falls beyond the sphere of the Competition Board but I can't help feeling this should change," he said.

Mrs Yvonne Forshaw, of the Housewives' League, was also concerned.

"But I don't know if anyone can do anything at this stage.

"It seems to be a 'fait accompli' and co-ops seem to be exempt from any control. They run agriculture these days."

Mrs Joy Hurwitz, president of the league, said there was little action consumers could take.

"All I can say is that the future looks very dim for consumers."

The move by Vleissentraal and BKB has been backed by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, and the president of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr Jaap Wilkens.

They said the merger would benefit the consumer and the producer.

Shellfish warning ridiculous, says Crews

28/12/82

Post Reporter

A TOP Government health official's call to the people of the Eastern Cape to temporarily refrain from eating fresh shellfish was described as "ridiculous" by the owner of the only Eastern Cape cultivated oyster farm today.

Mr Edgar Crews, who holds an indigenous oyster harvesting licence in this area, was responding to the Department of Health and Welfare's suspicion that cholera-contaminated fresh oysters found in a Durban hotel had come from the Eastern Cape.

Mr Crews, who said most of Durban's fresh oysters came from Transkei, believed that the contaminated shellfish came from cholera-hit Natal.

"The Port Elizabeth health authorities closely monitor my cultivated oysters," said Mr Crews. "This is the only present off-season source of oysters in the Eastern Cape.

"In any event, nobody in this area supplies Durban.".

The acting Director-General of the Department of Health and Welfare, Dr J Gilliland, today repeated his earlier call to the Eastern Cape public to refrain from eating any fresh shellfish until the source and final clinical confirmation of the infection had been proved.

He said he expected conclusive findings by early next week.

FISHING

1983

JANUARY — DEC.

Perlemoen prices leave a nasty taste

(3) Fishing S. Times 16/1/83

PERLEMOEN, the highly prized Cape seafood delicacy, has been priced off South African menus — because virtually the entire catch is snapped up by buyers in the Far East.

And the commercial trade has become a monopoly for five Cape companies.

With ever-vigilant Sea Fisheries' officials ready to pounce on any restaurant which buys perlemoen from private divers (legally permitted to remove only five per person from the sea) the local public has been deprived of one of the country's tastiest treats.

At Hermanus — the mecca of perlemoen, or abalone — restaurateurs are too frightened to offer the dish following a raid at one of the town's top eateries.

Exorbitant

"We used to be able to charge about R9 for a perlemoen dish, but if we are forced to buy legally, the price shoots up to R26 for a main course.

"And the public certainly — and justifiably — won't pay such an exorbitant price," Mr Chester Mortonson, owner of a Hermanus restaurant said this week.

"South Africans can no longer enjoy an inheritance of the sea which is rightfully theirs," he said.

Mr Mortonson is due to appear in court at Hermanus on February 9 for allegedly possessing illegal perlemoen at his restaurant.

By MIKE HEWITT

A heavy fine awaits him if he is found guilty.

Mr Mortonson, like all Cape restaurateurs who specialise in seafood, is in an unenviable position.

He can either buy perlemoen through the back door from local divers, or purchase it legally at R26 a kg from a licensed dealer.

So the succulent seafood, avidly sought by visitors and locals alike, has been all but unobtainable over the holiday season.

Restaurant owners blame overpricing squarely at the door of five companies that hold the South African perlemoen quota.

But the companies in turn say they are already doing their bit by obeying regulations and selling 20 percent of the catch on the local market.

"Business is business, so local prices are pegged on what we can get on the overseas market, where the demand for perlemoen is phenomenal," said Mr Walter Lewis, managing director of Blue Continent Products, which exports frozen perlemoen to the Orient, where many regard it as an aphrodisiac.

"However, I do sympathise with those people wanting to eat perlemoen, but it is available . . . they just have to pay the price," he said.

Mr Lewis said that his company sold perlemoen wholesale at nearly R20 a kilogram.

Besides Blue Continent, which this year had a quota of 18 985kg, the Government has also allocated quotas to Walker Bay Canning Company, (37 505kg), Tuna Marine (44 960kg) and Sea Plant Products (50 610kg).

The four companies are compelled by law to buy their perlemoen from the Abalone Divers' Association (ADA), which has 51 members, most of them diving at and around Hermanus.

The ADA, however, now also have a foothold in the lucrative market, after the Government allocated a quota of 11 240kg to the divers last year.

This amount was taken from Tuna Marine on discovery of export irregularities.

Prized

The managing director of Tuna Marine is wealthy Cape Town businessman John Church.

Managing director of Sea Plant Products is Mr Julius Abrahams, who locals claim visits Hermanus in his Rolls-Royce, while Walker Bay Canning Company is owned by the giant fishing group, I & J.

Most of these companies have held their quotas for years and have them renewed yearly by the Government, which introduced control on perlemoen fishing in the mid-Sixties.

A source within the perlemoen industry said one of the reasons for the high perlemoen price was that divers were highly paid, receiving R2,05 a kg for the shellfish.

Once the perlemoen had been cleaned and taken out of its shell, it worked out that the divers got almost R10 a kg for the meat.

"Perlemoen is highly prized and priced in the Orient, but it is relatively unknown to most South Africans, so it is very difficult to market here," the source claimed.

He said that restaurateurs were "living in the past" thinking that they could still buy perlemoen at rock-bottom prices.

Disgruntled

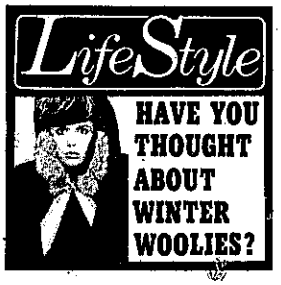
The source claimed, however, that many restaurant owners got around the law by buying a small amount of legal perlemoen and keeping the receipt to show Sea Fisheries inspectors, if they made an inspection of the restaurant.

However, when the supply ran out, the restaurant merely filled the empty "legal" boxes with black market perlemoen, the source said.

However, restaurant owners deny this.

"If you buy illegally, you get arrested and if you buy legally, the customer won't pay the high price.

"It's about time something constructive was done to make perlemoen more available at a more realitic price," said a disgruntled Cape Town restaurateur.



FISHING (3) fishing

Wiley's folly

FM 21/1/83

The five major pelagic fishing groups, fed up with the new rules laid down by deputy Environment Minister John Wiley (*Business* December 10), are threatening to take their complaints to Minister Sarel Hayward. And, if necessary, they will go to the PM. The value-added worth of annual output in this fishery is R70m.

The groups allege Wiley has acted against advice, including that of scientists at the Division of Sea Fisheries, in his radical re-arrangement of the catching season from autumn-winter to spring-summer.

After a meeting with the five major fishing companies in December, Wiley agreed to some minor modifications. For example, he allowed the Gansbaai-based affiliate of Marine Products to catch an additional 7 000 t in the first half of the current year. He also ruled that all pilchard hauls should be canned for human consumption.

But the deputy-Minister, who was not available for comment this week, refuses to change his mind about the new catching season.

The principal objection to his new scheme is that it could result in the commercial extinction of the country's anchovy and pilchard stocks by 1985. Fishing industry men and scientists say that by catching fish from mid-October to about April (instead of March-August), huge quantities of anchovy will be harvested before or while they spawn. This means there will be no recruitment in subsequent years. Stocks will be fished out in a few seasons, especially if the level of fishing effort is left unchanged at 380 000 t, which some scientists say is well above the maximum sustainable yield.

Non-quota

Another alarming aspect of the new regime is Wiley's decision to declare the species red-eye, lanternfish, mackerel and maasbanker non-quota fish. While catches of these varieties were included in the overall quota, the full allowance was not taken up with anchovies and pilchards. Now, however, fishing companies will be able to fill the total quota with these species which Government is ostensibly trying to protect.

According to *Fishing Industry Review*, mouthpiece of the fishing industry, landings of pilchard and anchovy could increase 35 000 t and more to take the place of non-quota species. Fish dumping at sea could result.

By splitting the 1983 season, the industry is set to lose 190 000 t of the current quota. This is roughly the equivalent of 45 000 t of fishmeal. Already, say feed compounders, a serious shortage of fishmeal is developing.

Anticipated imports of 100 000 t of meal may now have to be supplemented by 50% if Wiley pushes his plan through. There is an acute shortage of meal worldwide due to environmental problems in the Peruvian anchovy fishery.



SA trawler ... ready for new rules?

The world price has increased from $300/t in October last year to about $460/t this week.

At current prices imports of meal in the quantities implied by the loss of half the anchovy quota this year, will drive the price of chicken broilers and porkers through the roof.

Another serious flaw is that the pelagic fish catching season will now coincide with the rock lobster season. In the past they more or less followed each other and permitted the fishermen to benefit from both. Now the labour force will be split and earnings could well halve.

Three die in Walvis Bay trawler blaze

5/2/93 E. Post

(3) Fishing

WINDHOEK — Three dockworkers died and a Spanish seaman was admitted to hospital with serious burns sustained in a blaze on board a fishing trawler in Walvis Bay harbour, a spokesman for the vessel's agents said today.

The names of the dead were not released.

According to provisional estimates, damage running to several million rand was caused.

The fire on the trawler, the Betanzos, broke out late yesterday while repairs were being carried out in the hold, the spokesman said.

It was understood that a number of cartons caught alight and the flames quickly spread throughout the ship.

Firemen have been battling for nearly 30 hours to put out the fire and by late this afternoon the Betanzos was still smouldering.

The full extent of the damage to the trawler could not be assessed because of the intense heat, but reports said the inside structure of the vessel had been destroyed. — Sapa

3) Fishing Hansard Q.61.59-60

Pilchards/anchovies: spawning patterns

9/2/83

*31 Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether the Sea Fisheries Research Institute has scientific evidence to indicate the spawning patterns of the pilchard and anchovy species in South African waters; if so, (a) what is the nature of such scientific evidence and (b) what months are indicated to be the peak spawning months of the pilchard and the anchovy species according to such scientific evidence?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a) Pelagic fish egg abundance surveys based on more than 10 000 plankton net hauls and gonad development studies conducted since 1950.

(b) *Pilchard:*
1951—1967: Major spawning peak from December to February. Secondary peak between August and October.
1977—1978: Major spawning peak between October and

February. Secondary peak in August.

Anchovy:
1965—1968: Major spawning peak in October continuing to December.
1977—1978: Major spawning peak between October and February.

(3) Fisheries Hansard Q.61. 42 – 43

Crayfish quota 9/2/83

*5. Mr. R. W. HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) What is the commercial crayfish quota for the current catch year;

(2) (a) what is the estimated number of

crayfish caught to date and (b) in which areas were they caught?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) 3 700 metric tons whole mass
I may add that only 400 tons have still to be caught, with something like four months of the season still to go.

(2) (a) 7 300 000 rock lobster (3 319 metric tons).

(b) Area 1: Port Nolloth
Area 2: Hondeklip Bay
Area 3: Doring Bay/Lamberts Bay
Area 4: Elands Bay
Area 5/6: St. Helena Bay/Saldanha
Area 7: Dassen Island
Area 8: Cape Peninsula/Hout Bay

Perlemoen come-back

Political Staff

PERLEMOEN is to regain its traditional place on South African tables after years of shortages caused by massive exports to lucrative markets.

Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of the Environment and Fisheries, announced last night that 10 percent of the annual "quota" catch would have to be marketed at home in future.

Furthermore, the price would have to be kept to a minimum.

Mr Wiley said perlemoen was to be made available directly to the public as well as to hotels and restaurants.

"The ten percent of the annual total quota will amount to about 200 000 servings," said Mr Wiley.

At the end of the year the results of local marketing would be considered and the decision on how much perlemoen was to be marketed locally in 1984 would be reviewed.

Mr Wiley said he had had the co-operation of the fishing industry in the matter.

"The perlemoen black market has caused great concern for many years and it is hoped that making more perlemoen available to the public will also help to combat illegal marketing.

"The inspectorate of the department must also be congratulated on the recent successful actions against black marketeers whose activities greatly endanger the perlemoen resource."

Sources close to the industry said yesterday that Mr Wiley had not gone as far as the 'Treurnicht Commission on the fishing industry had recommended. The commission had said that 50 percent of the perlemoen catch and 25 percent of the crayfish catch should be sold locally.

● **Hulley slates Wiley's new fishing deal, page 4**

Special Report

By JOHANN POTGIETER / Pictures by WILLIE DE KLERK

DWINDLING QUOTAS MEAN HARD TIMES AHEAD

For the West Coast fishing communities, the crayfish and pelagic fishing industries are the only means of livelihood. Now, dwindling crayfish quotas and new fishing seasons which will mean an over- lap of crayfish and pelagic fishing could spell ruin for the people of coastal villages like Lambert's Bay.

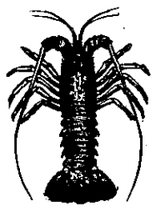
SOCIAL PROBLEMS arising from the steady decrease of the crayfishing quotas on the West Coast are taking their toll of the fishing communities and hard times are ahead.

In an interview the general manager of Lamberts Bay Canning Company (LBCC), Mr M G Potgieter, said quotas were now 45 percent smaller than in 1976.

The social order in these communities, he said, had developed around much bigger quotas, and every reduction has meant a further deterioration in the condition of these communities.

"It's been a slow process over the past six years, and it's only now that it has become visible," he said.

Crayfishing accounts for about 70 percent of economic activity in the area, and 11 pelagic trawlers — providing seasonal employment for about 100 whites and coloured — operate from Lambert's Bay. The people of Doringbaai and Elandsbaai depend almost entirely on crayfish for a living.



The fishermen of the three towns — Zone B in the new dispensation — can now catch only 950 tons of crayfish (in a season opening in November and running, theoretically, until June), divided among the fishing companies (with LBCC taking the lion's share), the small operators working under the flag of the Coloured Development Corporation, and the private boat owners.

The total crayfish fleet in the area is 18 bakkie boats — a mother vessel carrying 12 to 15 rowing dinghies (bakkies); 60 trap boats; and nearly 300 bakkies operating from the shore.

So far fishermen — at least those who could find work — have been able to work on both the crayfishing boats and, as soon as the pelagic season opens, as crew on the pelagic trawlers. The two seasons complemented one an-



MR Alfred Johnson, private boat owner and community leader.



MR M G Potgieter, general manager of Lambert's Bay Canning Company.

other 32 c a kg for the crayfish his crew land.

A crowd gathers around the few young men who are prepared to speak their minds, and the bantering soon turns against the company — "They drive in shining cars," said one 26-year-old, "but we do the work and get nothing.

"We must stay alive all year long so we can be available to them when they want us. We sit in their houses, and they can do with us just what they want.

Criticism of the company also comes from other quarters. Seventy-five percent of those who want to work cannot find work with the company, according to Mr Alfred Johnson, 58, one of the leading coloured fishing entrepreneurs and member of the management committee.

Mr Potgieter, he alleged, was bringing an unnecessary climate of competition into the uneasy relationship between the private owners and his giant company.

Some, Mr Johnson prominent among them, have taken to blaming the African contract labourers for allegedly keeping coloureds out of work, and "in these hard times," for a host of other problems.

One of these men, Mr Alfred Gxothiwe, 35, stood watching forlornly on the quay last week as the fishing fleet prepared to put to sea. He had been unable to get a "site" on any of the departing vessels.

produkte, and the largest of the four, Cape Sea Industries (CSI).

The biggest crayfish quota is allocated to CSI and the company launches a number of bakkies and — the single most important economic factor in the bay — nine tjakkies, each carrying a skipper with three crewmen and a large numbers of traps.

Compared to a bakkie — just two men rowing out with a few ring nets — a tjakkie is an awesomely efficient vessel, something which is reflected for example in the fact that one tjakkie licence equals twelve bakkie licences. One tjakkie, carrying three or four

All the coloured houses are company houses. Elandsbaai folk live in four "camps" belonging to each of the four companies. The houses in each of the camps are marked with a distinctive colour — yellow, green, blue, and grey — and at two of the entrances on the dirt road leading past the "camps" are signs prohibiting entry.

Here, even more than at Lambert's Bay, few are prepared to talk about the community and its problems.

But there are regular knifings and a lot of drinking — "parents drink; children drink; Friday and Saturday nights here are like hell."

Economically the community has deteriorated steadily, according to one source: "When the crayfishing season opens in November they are over their heads in debt from a year of not working.

"The man is on the sea; his wife and their children are in the factory, but almost invariably they can't wipe out their backlog of debt. So they go back to their company house, and begin the new year sliding deeper and deeper into debt.

"Since they're in debt they stay with the same company year after year.

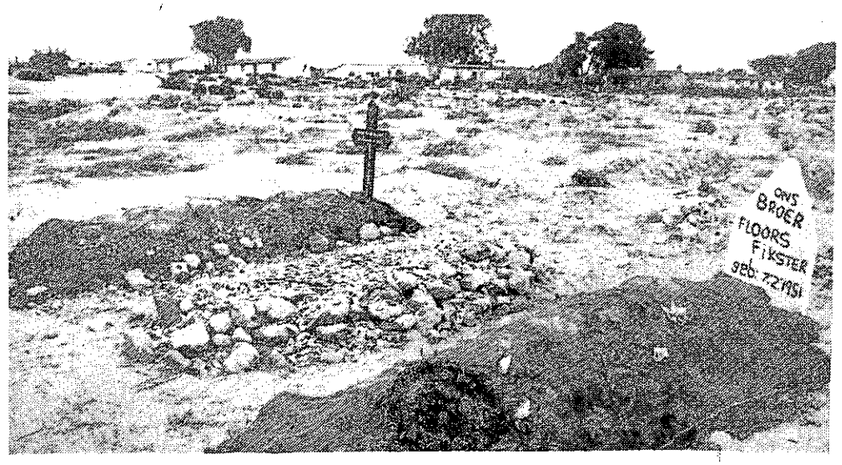
"How do they survive? Well, the law allows each man to take five crayfish out of the sea every day for his own consumption. Do you think it's wrong if some of them break the law by selling these crayfish for 50 c or a rand?"



MR Joseph Vaughan, 39, with two of the last crayfish he will land this season. When this picture was taken Mr Vaughan had 16 kg more to catch — one easy morning's work. Then it would be back to the uncertain life of line fishing from a dinghy.



YOUNG men without "sites" on crayfish boats at Lambert's Bay.



THE sea and fishermen's tools dominate life at Lambert's Bay. Even in death fish nets have a function.

The fishermen of the three towns — Zone B in the new dispensation — can now catch only 950 tons of crayfish (in a season opening in November and running, theoretically, until June), divided among the fishing companies (with LBCC taking the lion's share), the small operators working under the flag of the Coloured Development Corporation, and the private boat owners.

The total crayfish fleet in the area is 18 bakkie boats — a mother vessel carrying 12 to 15 rowing dinghies (bakkies); 60 trap boats; and nearly 300 bakkies operating from the shore.

So far fishermen — at least those who could find work — have been able to work on both the crayfishing boats and, as soon as the pelagic season opens, as crew on the pelagic trawlers. The two seasons complemented one another, and there were two distinct periods during which a Lambert's Bay fisherman could earn money.

The peak crayfishing time is November and December — favourable in terms of the life cycle and availability of the crayfish, the weather, and other factors — and in the past all catchers, particularly the private boat owners, worked at maximum tempo during these months.

As from the second half of this year, however, the fishermen will have to choose since the crayfish and pelagic seasons will now overlap.

On the Lambert's Bay quays that danger has not yet fully sunk in, and in a world dominated by the company almost all criticism is directed to Mr Potgieter's address. The company, for example, owns the vast majority of coloured people's houses (and loses R40 000 a year on the deal).

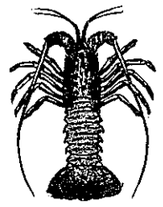
In the fine drizzle last week those who have been unable to find "sites" on the last few trap boats of the season, stood watching the company men load bakkies from the fishing boat Axel, to convert her to a trap boat needing only a handful of crew. A bakkie boat can give work to 30 or more.

On a good day, when the sea is calm, a crewman can bring 20 to 40 kg of crayfish on board, for which he is paid 32 c per kilogram. The skipper, commanding a company boat, is paid and work with the company, according to Mr Alfred Johnson, 58, one of the leading coloured fishing entrepreneurs and member of the management committee.

Mr Potgieter, he alleged, was bringing an unnecessary climate of competition into the uneasy relationship between the private owners and his giant company.

Some, Mr Johnson prominent among them, have taken to blaming the African contract labourers for allegedly keeping coloureds out of work, and "in these hard times," for a host of other problems.

One of these men, Mr Alfred Gxothiwe, 35, stood watching forlornly on the quay last week as the fishing fleet prepared to put to sea. He had been unable to get a "site" on any of the departing vessels.



When we saw Mr Gxothiwe again he was walking along the dirt road to Elands Bay, carrying his blankets and a sewn-up sack containing all his worldly possessions.

He had worked on the sea at "Lamberts" since the early 1970's, he said. His wife and two children were in "die land" — Transkei — and he had last visited them in October.

He had worked briefly on a bakkie boat, but had earned only a fraction of what he had in the old days. Then it was often as much as R250 a month. Now he was walking to Elands Bay . . . not to work, no, just to "live."

If the fisherfolk of Lambert's Bay view the new seasons with trepidation, those at Elandsbaai, a few kilometres south, at least the coloureds, are delighted.

Elandsbaai produces crayfish only and is worked by four companies — LBCC, Elandia Visserye, Deseeda Seemen, thus keeps 12 bakkies, 24 men, out of work.

The practice so far of CSI of employing white skippers and crew on its tjakkies has caused grave concern in the coloured community, and the present season was the worst.

The CSI quota was full within 2½ weeks after the season opened in November. The other factories and their vessels kept working until January before their quotas were full.

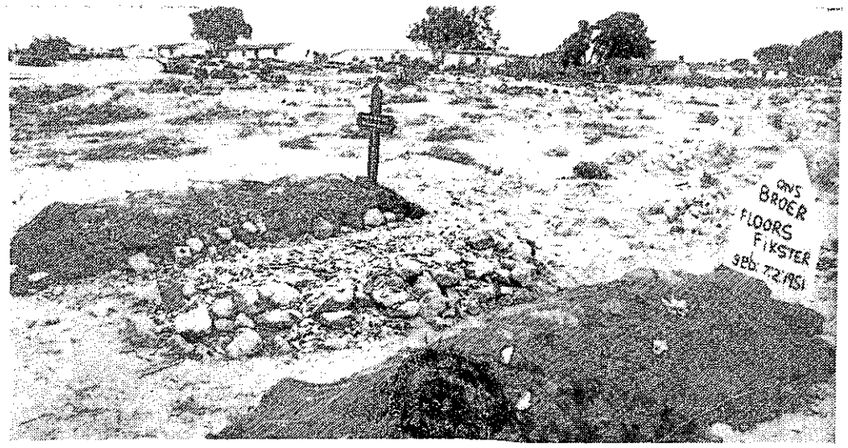
"For example, the factory workshops used to help the private owners with boat repairs and mechanical problems, but Potgieter says no, even when we offer to pay him. He cannot see his way open to help us."

The new coincidence of the crayfish and pelagic seasons means that the white trawler skippers and crew from Lambert's Bay can no longer come down here for the crayfishing season. They, like the coloured there, will have to choose between crayfish and pelagic fishing, and this means nine coloured men from Elandsbaai may become skippers next year, and several more will find work for the first time on the CSI tjakkies.

In the meantime, though, they must survive on the money they earned this past season (the season is still open but quotas are full).



YOUNG men without "sites" on crayfish boats at Lambert's Bay.



THE sea and fishermen's tools dominate life at Lambert's Bay. Even in death fish nets have a function.



White Silver Fish — among the few lucky enough to find work so late in the crayfishing season — waiting to leave Hondeklipbaai.

3 Januarie 10/2/83

CAPE Times 10/2/83 (3 Fishing)

Hulley slates Wiley's new fishing deal

Political Correspondent

AN opposition MP yesterday condemned the new fishing arrangements introduced by the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, and predicted they would lead to the collapse of the West Coast fishing industry within three years.

Mr Roger Hulley, opposition spokesman on environment and fisheries, called for Mr Wiley's experiment to be scrapped immediately.

The fishing season should be switched again to begin in February and the annual quota should be reduced by 20 percent.

"A R70-million industry supporting thousands of jobs, a vital component of the West Cape economy, is at stake," he said.

His statement follows recent controversy over new moves Mr Wiley believes are essential to save the threatened West Coast industry from the disaster which befell the Walvis Bay industry.

The previous January-August fishing season has been changed to one effectively from mid-October to May. Mr Wiley has also increased the total permissable quotas of anchovy and pilchards — the mainstays of the industry — by removing other pelagic fish from the total 380 000-ton annual catch.

Mr Wiley believes this combination will allow stocks to regenerate to allow resumption of year-round fishing.

Mr Hulley said his condemnation of Mr Wiley's decisions resulted from careful study of scientific evidence. Mr Wiley was clearly acting on the advice of Dr Jan Lochner, "the lone dissident in marine biological circles" who believed that both pilchards and anchovy had their peak spawning season in September and October.

Conclusive biological evidence was that the fish spawned throughout the summer months, with peaks from October to February.

"This means Mr Wiley's experiment will cause fishing throughout the heart of the spawning season," Mr Hulley said.

● Replying to a parliamentary question from Mr Hulley yesterday, Mr Wiley gave the pilchard and anchovy spawning patterns indicated by scientific evidence obtained by the Sea Fisheries Research Institute.

This showed that, from 1951 to 1967, the major pilchard spawning peak had been from December to February with a secondary peak between August and October.

In 1977 and 1978 the major spawning peak had been between October and February with a secondary peak in August.

The spawning peak for anchovy between 1965 and 1968 had been in October, continuing to December. In 1977 and 1978 the peak had been between October and February, Mr Wiley said.



Fishing jobs at stake.

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered); leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

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ARGUS 10/2/83
3 Fishing

Wiley's fish plan 'dangerous'

By Tos Wentzel
Political Correspondent

AN Opposition spokesman today called on the Government to review the new quota and season arrangements for pelagic fish, which, he said, were "a dangerous and even irresponsible experiment".

Mr Roger Hulley, MP for Constantia and the Progressive Federal Party's chief spokesman on environment and fisheries, said this conclusion was based on a great deal of scientific evidence and after consulting a number of well-informed people.

He referred to the recent decision by Mr John Wiley, Deputy-Minister of Environment and Fisheries, to switch the pelagic fishing season from winter to summer and to allow an increase in the the permissible catch of pilchard and anchovy.

DISSIDENT

Mr Wiley had clearly decided to act on the advice of "a lone dissident in marine biology circles", Dr J Lochner, whose theory conflicted with a crucial central fact — that the peak of the pilchard-spawning season was the same as that of the anchovy —

(Turn to Page 3, col 7)

ARGUS 10/2/83
3 Fishing

Fish quota controversy

(Contd from Page 1)

the end or the beginning of September.

Conclusive biological evidence, however, was that spawning proceeded throughout the summer with major peaks occurring from October to February.

'UNTHINKABLE'

To fish for pilchard and anchovy during the spawning season was akin to harvesting during the planting season — "unthinkable".

"I have seen a computer projection of the consequences and the result is frightening.

"It shows that if Mr Wiley's experiment proceeds the pelagic fishing industry will collapse within two to three years." said Mr Hulley.

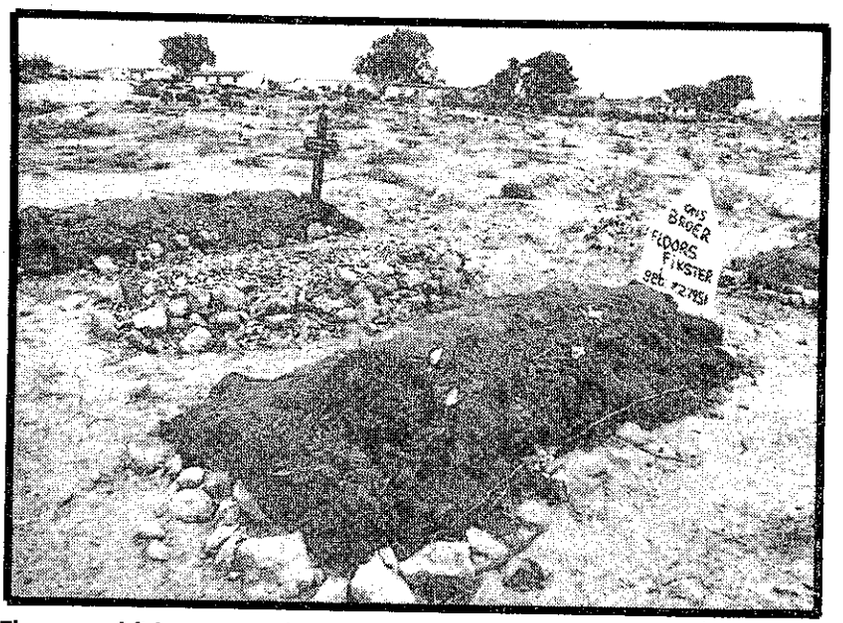
● See page 21

(3) Fishing

Fishermen count cost of crayfish cutback



Mr Joseph Vaughan (39) with two of the last crayfish he will land this season. When this picture was taken Mr Vaughan had 16 kg more to catch — one easy morning's work. Then it would be back to the uncertain life of line fishing from a dinghy.



The sea and fishermen's tools dominate life at Lambert's Bay. Even in death, fish nets have a function.



Crew of the Silver Fish — among the few lucky enough to find work so late in the crayfishing season — waiting to leave Hondeklipbaai.

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Social problems arising from the steady decrease of the crayfishing quotas on the West Coast are taking their toll of the fishing communities and hard times are ahead.

In an interview the general manager of Lamberts Bay Canning Company (LBCC) Mr M G Potgieter, said quotas were now 45 percent smaller than in 1976.

The social order in these communities, he said, had developed around much bigger quotas, and every reduction has meant a further deterioration in the condition of these communities.

Crayfishing accounts for about 70 percent of the economic activity in the area, and 11 pelagic trawlers — providing seasonal employment for about 100 whites and Coloureds—operate from Lambert's Bay. The people of Doringbaai and Elandsbaai depend almost entirely on crayfish for a living.

The fishermen of the three towns can now catch only 950 tons of crayfish (in a season opening in November and running, theoretically, until June), divided among the fishing companies (with LBCC taking the lion's share), the small operators working under the flag of the Coloured Development Corporation, and the private boat owners.

So far fishermen — at least those who could find work — have been able to work on both the crayfishing boats and, as soon as the pelagic season opens, as crew on the pelagic trawlers. The two seasons complemented one another, and there were two distinct periods during which a Lambert's Bay fisherman could earn money.

But, from the second half of this year, the fishermen will have to choose sonce the crayfish and pelagic seasons will now overlap.

On the Lambert's Bay quays that danger has not yet fully sunk in, and in a world dominated by the company almost all criticism is directed to Mr Potgieter's address. The company, for example, owns the vast majority of coloured people's houses (and loses R40 000 a year on the deal).

Criticism of the company also comes from other quarters. Seventy-five percent of those who want to work cannot find work with the company, according to Mr Alfred Johnson (58), one of the leading coloured fishing entrepreneurs and member of the management committee.

Some, Mr Johnson prominent among them, have also taken to blaming the African contract labourers for allegedly keeping coloureds out of work, and "in these hard times," for a host of other problems.

But the new coincidence of the crayfish and pelagic seasons means that the white trawler skippers and crew from Lambert's Bay can no longer come down here for the crayfishing season. They, like the coloured people there, will have to choose between crayfish and pelagic fishing, and this means nine coloured men from Elandsbaai may become skippers next year, and several more will find work for the first time with CSI.

(3) Fishing Hansard 16/2/83
Q. Col. 165 - 166

Crayfish quotas

58. Mr. R. W. HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any (a) persons and (b) companies were prosecuted for exceeding their crayfish quotas during the latest specified period of twelve months for which figures are availble.

if so, (i) how many, and (ii) in what areas, in each case.

(2) whether any convictions were obtained against such persons and companies; if so, (a) how many, and (b) what were the sentences imposed, in each case?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) No.

(b) No.

(i) and (ii) Fall away.

(2) Falls away.

Just some old fishers

(3) Fishing Harbours and 16/2/83
Q. C-I. 169-172

Pelagic fish quota

116. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) What recommendation in respect of the annual global quota for pelagic fish has been made by the Sea Fisheries Research Institute to the Fisheries Advisory Council for each year from 1972 to 1983;

(2) what was the actual global quota granted by him in each of these years?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1)				(2)	
1972	400 000	short tons		400 000	short tons
1973	400 000	,, ,,		435 000	,, ,,
1974	362 000	metric tons		400 000	metric tons
1975	365 000	,, ,,		406 000	,, ,,
1976	365 000	,, ,,		407 380	,, ,,
1977	380 000	,, ,,		380 000	,, ,,
1978	380 000	,, ,,		380 000	,, ,,
1979	345 000	,, ,,		380 000	,, ,,
1980	325 000	,, ,,		380 000	,, ,,
1981	325 000	,, ,,		380 000	,, ,,
1982	325 000	,, ,,	(excluding 75 000 metric tons lantern fish)		

(1)				(2)	
1983	325 000	metric tons	(excluding lantern fish)	190 000	metric tons

The figure of 190 000 metric tons only includes anchovies and pilchards for the period 1 January 1983 to 31 May 1983 and not the other pelagic fish species, viz. mackerel, maasbanker, red eye and lantern fish.

and (b) which categories of fish are such nations permitted to catch;

(2) whether the catches of such nations are subjected to quota controls;

(3) what was the total catch of (a) pelagic fish and (b) hake and sole in 1982 in respect of the vessels used by such foreign nations?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) No, not in our territorial waters, but

(a) Japan, the Republic of China, Spain and Israel are allowed to fish within the South African Fishing Zone, excluding the area within 20 nautical miles off the coast in the area east of Cape Agulhas.

(b) Japan: Hake, maasbanker, panga and squid.
Republic of China: Hake, maasbanker and squid.
Spain: Hake.
Israel: Hake.
Plus a by-catch of 10 per cent of other species in respect of each country.

(2) Yes, the catches are subject to quotas.

(3) (a) Pelagic fish: Nil.

(b) Hake: Japan: 1 244,7 metric tons whole mass.
Hake: Republic of China: 418,3 metric tons whole mass.
Hake: Spain: 807 metric tons whole mass.
Hake: Israel: 1 565,1 metric tons whole mass.
Sole: Nil.

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.61.135-136 16/2/83

Foreign nations: permits for fishing

*18. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any foreign nations have permits to fish in South African territorial waters; if so, (a) which nations

-7

(3) Fishing Hansard 18/2/83
Q. Col. 198 - 199

Anchovy/pilchard/pelagic fish

*29. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

How many tonnes of (a) anchovy and pilchard and (b) non-quota pelagic fish had been landed during the current fishing season as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) 28 475 metric tons for the period 1 January 1983 to 13 February 1983.

(b) 25 673 metric tons for the period 1 January 1983 to 13 February 1983.

Fish meal

*30. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Industries, Commerce and Tourism:

What was the (a) national consumption, and (b) level of imports, in tonnes, of fish meal in 1982?

The MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES, COMMERCE AND TOURISM:

(a) 133 600 metric ton.

(b) 81 000 metric ton.

The above-mentioned figures are estimates since figures for 1982 are not yet available.

For written reply:

Wiley calls meeting to probe fish 'slaughter'

ARGUS 22/2/83

3 Fishing

By BILL GODDARD
Shipping Editor

THE Deputy Minister of Environment and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, called an urgent meeting of senior sea fisheries officials today to see what can be done to stop the "wholesale slaughter" of elf by trek-netters on the False Bay coast.

Trek-net crews have caught thousands of elf in nightly raids on the waters of several False Bay beaches — particularly in the Strand area — in the past week.

Mr Wiley, who expects to be able to issue a statement on the meeting later this week, said: "I am very disturbed at the activities of certain False Bay trek-netters over the past week and feel that something has to be done immediately to curb this raping of False Bay."

"From the information I have at this stage, it seems as though it has simply been a case of wholesale slaughter . . . particularly of elf which is one of our most sought-after and prized angling catches."

2 000 fish

One trek-net permit holder pulled five tons of elf off the main beach at the Strand on last Tuesday night and followed it up with a haul of more than 2 000 fish the next night.

Another trek-net licencee at the Strand also had a fair haul of elf on Tuesday night and a big catch of white steenbras on Wednesday morning.

One trek-net crew did not, apparently, have enought transport to cart away their catch and the beach was littered with hundreds of dead fish the next morning.

Strand municipal cleansing department workers spent several hours clearing up the mess.

Mr Wiley said he also had reports of trek-net-

(Turn to Page 5, col 6)

Fish slaughter

3 Fishing

ARGUS 22/2/83

(Contd from Page 3)

ters catching under-sized fish at Muizenberg this week.

Senior sea fisheries inspector, Mr James van Langelaar, said that the owners of trek-nets should remember that permits to operate along the False Bay coast were not a right but a privilege.

"My men are investigating the matter and I just want to point out that leaving dead edible or marketable fish on a beach is an offence which carries a fine of R7 500 or five years imprisonment, or both," he said.

Anglers and marine nature conservationists at the Strand have been up in arms over what they describe as "disgusting incidents". So much so, that one angry angler cut the ropes of a net while it was being pulled ashore on Friday night.

CHARGE

It is understood that a charge has been laid against the man.

One of the trek-net permit holders at the Strand, Mr Joos Odendaal, discribed the wholesale trekking of elf as "disgusting".

He said that he trekked mainly for harders . . . "and then keep only enough for the needs of my crew and friends and myself."

"The rest of the catch is set free."

(3) Fishing Hansard
Pilchards/anchovies: catches
Q. Col. 280 23/2/83

194. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

What estimated percentage of the catch of (a) pilchards and (b) anchovies were immature juveniles in 1981 and 1982, respectively?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

	1981	1982
(a)	76%	84%
(b)	75%	84%

Land Acquisition Fund

197. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(a) What money has been collected in the Land Acquisition Fund for the National Parks Board in each specified year since its inception and (b) what land has been purchased by the Fund during this period?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) 1980—R 13 775,46.
1981—R110 451,54.
1982—R245 849,00.

(b) None.

CAPE Times 23/2/83

Wiley warning on trek-netting

3 Fish in

MICHAEL ACOTT
Political Correspondent

THE Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, warned yesterday that beach trek-netting in False Bay could be further reduced, and might be stopped altogether, if abuses continued.

His statement followed reports of tons of elf and other angling fish being caught by trek-netters this week. The fishermen are said to have caught more fish than they could transport and to have left dead fish on beaches at The Strand and elsewhere.

Mr Wiley said his department was investigating alleged irregularities and where existing regulations had been transgressed, prosecutions would be instituted.

He also announced a review of trek-netting in False Bay, Walker Bay and ultimately throughout the country. He pointed out that trek-net licences had been reduced in False Bay this year from more than 80 to about 35. Only five licences had been issued in Walker Bay.

FISHING (3) fishing FM 25/2/83

Free to spawn

Deputy Fisheries Minister John Wiley stands firm. He will not revoke his plan to split the 1983 catching season for pelagic fish, and describes it as the boldest conservation measure ever devised for fishing.

This means that the Big Five fishing groups working the Cape inshore waters will have 190 000 t of quota fish lopped off their total allowable catch (TAC) this year. With world prices of fishmeal heading for $500/t, the loss of 190 000 t of raw fish implies a 47 000 t cut-back in fishmeal production, or loss of earnings of nearly R23,5m.

Wiley says he has been "greatly heartened" by the response of fishing companies to concentrate more fishing effort on non-quota species. Since the opening of the 1983 season on January 1 to February 13, landings of quota fish amounted to 28 475 t, while the haul of non-quota fish was a surprisingly high 25 673 t. Non-quota fish comprise species like maasbanker, mackerel, red-eye and lanternfish, landings of which in past years have averaged about 35 000 t/year.

Extension

Because he is so "pleased" with the response, Wiley has decided to extend the first part of the season by a month to June 30. This will give the fishing industry four months to try to retrieve as much as possible of the 190 000 t of quota fish they are to lose.

Despite much theory and evidence to the contrary, Wiley insists that his new policy is based on incontrovertible scientific evidence. He declines to say who his sources are, but there is a strong suspicion in industry circles that the controversial Port Elizabeth marine biologist Jan Lochner has his ear.

By reducing the TAC of quota fish by 190 000 t, Wiley believes he is releasing a huge volume of young fish, possibly all of the same year-class, to go forth and multiply. Had the fish been caught this year the precarious balance of anchovy stocks would have faced commercial extinction. "By effectively halving the TAC on pilchard and anchovy, government is protecting the other half to give them a chance to recruit, grow and spawn," he says.

Wiley says he rejected representations to cut the quota by 55 000 t to 325 000 t because it was no more than a tinkering with the old dispensation which would not have moved his apprehension about "impending disaster".

His fears are based on evidence gathered ear which showed that 90% of the 1982 consisted of young fish that had not e to spawn. "This means that if you have a recruitment failure there just won't be any fish left the following year," he says.

According to Wiley, there is every indication that 1983 is going to be a freak season.



Deputy Minister Wiley ... controversial conservationist

The dearth of strong south-easterly winds since December suggests that the frequency of upwellings has been interrupted, with dire implications for the formation of food for pelagic fish. This could also result in the infusion of warm water into the Cape west coast pelagic fishing grounds.

He says he will not tolerate any abuse of the concession to allow the fishing industry to catch non-quota fish until the end of June this year. If there is evidence of cheating or dumping, "I will close the season summarily," he says.

Yet on the basis of scientific evidence furnished by Wiley in the House of Assembly this month, it seems that the new catching season will coincide with the peak spawning periods of pilchard and anchovy.

According to surveys based on more than 10 000 plankton net hauls since 1950, the Sea Fisheries Research Institute found that major pilchard spawning peaked in the months between October and February, sometimes with secondary peaks between August and October.

Wiley's critics say that, on the strength of such evidence, it is folly to catch fish before or while they spawn.

(2)

(b) Number of accused	Area	Sentence
One	Gordons Bay	R100 or 50 days imprisonment, R50 or 25 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Doring Bay	R300 or 10 months imprisonment.
One	Laaiplek	R500 or 200 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Kommetjie	R25 admission of guilt.
Two	Kommetjie	R500 or 6 months imprisonment, both accused, R250 or 3 months imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	Kommetjie	R500 or 6 months imprisonment, R250 or 3 months imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	Cape Town	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
One	Gordons Bay	R150 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R20 admission of guilt.
Two	Saldanha	R100 or 2 months imprisonment.
One	Gordons Bay	R75 admission of guilt.
One	Gordons Bay	R60 admission of guilt.
One	Kommetjie	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Kommetjie	R30 or 30 days imprisonment.
Two	Elands Bay	R60 or 60 days imprisonment each.
Two	Elands Bay	R50 or 45 days imprisonment each.
Three	Cape Town	R200 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt
One	Lutzville	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Hout Bay	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R200 or 3 months imprisonment, R100 or 45 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
Two	Kommetjie	R200 or 3 months imprisonment, R100 or 45 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years. each.
Two	Doring Bay	R200 or 2 months imprisonment each.
Two	Cape Town	Accused No. 1 ... R115. Accused No. 2 ... Not guilty.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
Two	Cape Town	R1 000 or 6 months imprisonment each.
Two	Cape Town	R100 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Saldanha	R120 or 30 days imprisonment.
One	Saldanha	R200 or 80 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Saldanha	R150 or 45 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R100 or 30 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R100 or 30 days imprisonment.
Three	Saldanha	R50 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Saldanha	R100 or 40 days imprisonment.

→

(2)

(b) Number of accused	Area	Sentence
One	Yzerfontein	R926 or 263 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R500 or 170 days imprisonment.
Three	Doring Bay	R200 or 4 months imprisonment each.
One	Kommetjie	R100 or 40 days imprisonment, R50 or 20 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	Kommetjie	R90 or 90 days imprisonment, suspended for 3 years.
One	Yzerfontein	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Yzerfontein	R200 or 100 days imprisonment, plus 150 days imprisonment, suspended for 4 years.
One	Yzerfontein	R895 or 385 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
Two	St. Helena Bay	R400 or 180 days imprisonment each.
One	Cape Town	R60 or 30 days imprisonment.
One	Saldanha	R60 admission of guilt.
One	Elands Bay	R80 or 40 days imprisonment.
Two	Yzerfontein	R300 or 300 days imprisonment, plus R67 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Port Nolloth	R150 or 6 months imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	Doring Bay	R100 or 3 months imprisonment, plus 4 months imprisonment, suspended for 3 years.
One	Cape Town	R2 200, R1 100, suspended for 5 years.
One	Doring Bay	R150 or 2 months imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
Two	Elands Bay	R120 or 80 days imprisonment each.
One	Cape Town	R100 or 30 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R20 admission of guilt.
One	Port Nolloth	R800 or 8 months imprisonment.
One	Port Nolloth	R30 admission of guilt.
Three	Port Nolloth	R180 admission of guilt in total for the three accused.
One	Saldanha	R300 or 100 days imprisonment.
Two	Saldanha	R300 or 90 days imprisonment.
One	Saldanha	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Saldanha	R300 or 100 days imprisonment.
One	Saldanha	R600 or 90 days imprisonment.
Two	Saldanha	R200 or 60 days imprisonment each.
One	Saldanha	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Port Elizabeth	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Kommetjie	R300 or 150 days imprisonment, R150 or 75 days imprisonment, suspended for 3 years.
One	Kleinmond	R100 or 50 days imprisonment.
Two	Lamberts Bay	R80 admission of guilt each.
Two	Lamberts Bay	R200 or 200 days imprisonment each.
Two	Lamberts Bay	R60 or 60 days imprisonment each.
One	Kalk Bay	R200 or 100 days imprisonment, R100 or 50 days imprisonment, suspended for 4 years.
Two	Hermanus	R40 admission of guilt each.

→

(2) (b)

Number of accused	Area	Sentence
Two	Hermanus	R20 admission of guilt each.
One	St. Helena Bay	R50 admission of guilt.
Two	Saldanha	R50 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Cape Town	R250 or 50 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R40 or 20 days imprisonment, plus R25 or 10 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R250 or 3 months imprisonment, R125 or 45 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	St. Helena Bay	R130 or 80 days imprisonment.
Two	St. Helena Bay	R110 admission of guilt each.
One	St. Helena Bay	R200 or 100 days imprisonment, R100 or 50 days imprisonment, suspended for 3 years.
One	St. Helena Bay	R100 admission of guilt.
One	St. Helena Bay	R80 or 40 days imprisonment.
One	St. Helena Bay	R500 or 6 months imprisonment.

(2)

(b) Number of accused	Area	Sentence
Two	Hermanus	R20 admission of guilt each.
One	St. Helena Bay	R50 admission of guilt.
Two	Saldanha	R50 or 50 days imprisonment each.
One	Cape Town	R250 or 50 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R40 or 20 days imprisonment, plus R25 or 10 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R250 or 3 months imprisonment, R125 or 45 days imprisonment, suspended for 5 years.
One	St. Helena Bay	R130 or 80 days imprisonment.
Two	St. Helena Bay	R110 admission of guilt each.
One	St. Helena Bay	R200 or 100 days imprisonment, R100 or 50 days imprisonment, suspended for 3 years.
One	St. Helena Bay	R100 admission of guilt.
One	St. Helena Bay	R80 or 40 days imprisonment.
One	St. Helena Bay	R500 or 6 months imprisonment.

For written reply:

(3 Fishing Hansard 25/2/83
Q. Col. 320 – 328

Crayfish: prosecutions

57. Mr R. W. HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any (a) persons and (b) companies were prosecuted for being in possession of undersized crayfish during the latest specified period of twelve months for which figures are available; if so, (i) how many, and (ii) what were the areas involved; in each case;

(2) whether any convictions were obtained against such persons and companies; if so, (a) how many, and (b) what were the sentences imposed, in each case?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(1) (a) (i) 145.

(1) (b) (i) Falls away.

(1) (a) (ii)

Area	Number of people prosecuted
Kommetjie	22
Kalk Bay	2
Lamberts Bay	7
Saldanha	24
Hermanus	4
Port Nolloth	6
Kleinmond	1
St. Helena Bay	10
Elands Bay	8
Lutzville	1
Hout Bay	3
Doring Bay	13
Yzerfontein	6
Gordons Bay	4
Cape Town	31
Laaiplek	1
Port Elizabeth	1
East London	1

(1)(b)(ii) Falls away.

(2) Yes.

(2) (a) 140.

(2) (b)

Number of accused	Area	Sentence
One	Kalk Bay	R100 or 60 days imprisonment.
Two	Kommetjie	R80 or 80 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R50 admission of guilt.
One	Cape Town	R100 or 40 days imprisonment.
One	Cape Town	R100 admission of guilt.
One	Kommetjie	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
One	Lamberts Bay	R100 or 100 days imprisonment.
One	Saldanha	R200 or 100 days imprisonment.
Two	Hout Bay	R500 or R250 days imprisonment, R250 or 150 days imprisonment, suspended for 3 years each.
One	Doring Bay	R120 or 60 days imprisonment.
Three	Doring Bay	R300 or 6 months imprisonment each.
One	Saldanha	R250 or 125 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R60 or 30 days imprisonment.
One	Kommetjie	R600 or 6 months imprisonment.

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) The Department of Environment Affairs is not in possession of the desired information except that there were no arrests by departmental inspectors.

(b) Yes.

(i) 1980: 199
1981: 273
1982: 226

(ii) 1980: 57
1981: 74
1982: 136

(c) Yes.

(i) 1980: 164
1981: 233
1982: 208

3) Fishing Hansard
C.Col. 371-373 28/2/83

Rock lobster/abalone: offences

192. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries

Whether any (a) arrests, (b) prosecutions and (c) convictions took place in respect of offences in connection with (i) rock lobster and (ii) abalone during each of the latest specified three years for which figures are available; if so, how many in each case?

(ii) 1980: 54
1981: 72
1982: 136

CT. 1/3/83

3 Fish 1-3

Swafish soars 59% on pilchards, lobster

By ALEX PETERSEN

FULL utilization of the Walvis Bay pilchard quota and a good rock lobster season at Luderitz pushed South West Africa Fishing Industries pre-tax profit up 59% to R6 944 389 for the year to 31 December 1982 compared to R4 363 357 in the 1981 year.

Earnings per share were up 40% from 77c to R1,08. A final dividend of 50c (40c) has been declared, making 70c (60c) for the year.

The Walvis Bay pilchard quota was used to produce 700 000 cartons, which, say the directors, "made a handsome contribution towards our profits".

This was in marked contrast to 1981, when canning had been forbidden in order to conserve stocks.

The lobster catch was well used. By concentrating on whole cooked lobster for the Japanese market as opposed to frozen tails for the USA, the factory at Luderitz achieved greatly improved yields.

This was attained with a catch size almost identical with that of the previous year.

Although the quota for pilchards has been increased by 5 000 tons to 35 000, the directors feel that this is "disappointing", in view of the reasonable quantities available last year.

The authorities, they say, "might well be over-cautious" in their efforts to conserve and strengthen the resource.

The rock lobster prospects look promising, with landings to date at Luderitz well ahead of last year.

"In fact landings have exceeded the total catch for the whole of the 1982 first season ending 30th April."

The full production has been pre-sold to Japan at improved prices.

"We confidently expect that Luderitz will show a surplus far higher than last year".

An improvement in the Chilean operation is also forecast. The 1982 loss was not as heavy as anticipated, there has been rise in the international price of fish meal, while the fishing fleet has been enlarged.

The report concludes, that if the pilchard canning programme can be attained, and the full entitlement of other fish landed, "we fully anticipate higher earnings per share during the current financial year".

Cholera found in Durban shellfish

Municipal Reporter

CHOLERA-infested mussels have been found off Brighton Beach and on the rocks near the Reunion Canal.

Durban's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Colin Mackenzie, has warned people not to eat raw mussels or oysters from the Natal coastline unless they have been treated.

This was a fairly complicated process and should not be attempted by householders. However, cooked mussels and oysters were safe.

Yesterday was the first time since April last year that cholera had been detected in shellfish off Brighton Beach rocks. Cholera-infested mussels were last found off the canal mouth in October.

Dr Mackenzie emphasised that this did not mean bathers would get cholera.

Meanwhile, a CSIR report has absolved the city's controversial sludge experiment of pollution blame, and backed the findings of a similar survey which monitored the effects of the experiment.

The survey of the sea and bathing beaches in the vicinity of Durban revealed that the water off the main beaches was purer now than before the start of the experiment in June 1981.

The 'most stringent microbiological testing system in the world' revealed no infective material from the two sludge outlets in the stretch of sea from the African Beach to Addington Beach.

Tests had proved, however, that the Umlaas and Reunion canals still carried sewage pollution into the sea and contaminated nearby beaches, and the Umgeni River had been responsible for periodic pollution.

Dr MacKenzie said there had been a dramatic change in the quality of the seawater along the main beaches since the city had stopped pumping sewage out of the harbour mouth.

The two sludge pipelines discharged sludge 3 km out to sea from the Bluff into an offshore current, but discharge from the canals was going out with one tide and coming straight back on the next.

For written reply:

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.61.508

Rock lobster quotas

4/3/83

193. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(a) Which (i) persons and (ii) firms hold rock lobster (aa) export and (bb) catch quotas at present and (b) what are the quotas in each case?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) None.

(b) Falls away.

FISHING (3) fishing

Prices and profits

FM 4/3/83

The imminent commercial collapse of the Peruvian anchovetta fishery, the largest in the world, will have mixed consequences for SA.

The bad news is that it will send the price of fishmeal to unprecedented heights. In anticipation of shortages ahead, the January highest fishmeal price (cif Bremerhaven and Hamburg) was $515/t, the lowest $475/t. February's figures are expected to go a good deal higher.

The good news is that the major SA fishing groups with Chilean operations could experience strong earnings growth this year from higher fishmeal prices — and from canning.

Last year SA and Namibian canners produced about 2m cartons of fish, while a further 2m cartons had to be imported from Peru, Chile and Japan. SA companies operating in Chile could therefore benefit from a higher offtake of Chilean canned fish in the absence of Peru as an exporter.

From being a substantial exporter of meal, SA has become a large net importer. Last year domestic consumption was 133 600 t, of which 81 000 t had to be imported. The 1983 outlook is not favourable. The halving of the total allowable catch in SA waters, to 190 000 t of pilchard and anchovy, implies that local production of meal, excluding Namibian production, will be 50 000 t shorter than last year.

The Namibian inshore fishing quota has been set at 35 000 t of pilchard for canning and 200 000 t of anchovy, but there is no clear prospect that the latter quota will be made, because of the continued absence of large shoals of the species. At best, therefore, SA balanced feed manufacturers may have to import more than 100 000 t of fishmeal at about $500/t.

The root of the problem, quite apart from Deputy Fisheries Minister John Wiley's conservation experiment, is the return, after 10 years, of the dreaded El Nino warmwater current to Peru and northern Chile where temperatures of 31°C to 33°C have driven the anchovetta to seek cooler water. Last year Peru produced 650 000 t of fishmeal and Chile 635 000 t. This year Peru may suffer a reduction of 70%-80% in production, while Chilean production could fall 10%-20%.

Environmental factors could affect the SA anchovy fishery too. According to industry sources, anchovy now being caught in southern Cape waters are in poor condition due to the reduced frequency of coldwater upwellings which brings zooplankton and phytoplankton to the surface. In "normal" times anchovy caught in these waters contain about 5% fish body oil. Current catches contain little more than 0,5% oil.

CAPE TIMES 9/3/83

Foreign trawler skipper charged

3 Fishing

Staff Reporter

IN the first charge of its kind involving a foreign fishing vessel, the skipper of a Taiwanese bottom-trawler appeared briefly in the Mossel Bay Magistrate's Court on Monday on charges of contravening fishing regulations.

Mr Hsien Tung Wu was released on bail of R15 000 and the case was transferred to Cape Town. No date has been set yet for the hearing.

Mr Wu's appearance is a sequel to an incident on Friday when the Pelagus, a Sea Fisheries patrol boat stationed in Mossel Bay, spotted a Taiwanese bottom-trawler in a prohibited area within South Africa's fishing zone.

The trawler was also allegedly contravening certain conditions laid down in the fishing permit issued to it by the Division of Sea Fisheries.

Officials of the division boarded the vessel and brought it into Mossel Bay the same day.

A spokesman for the Division of Sea Fisheries said yesterday that "in view of the complexity of the case and after consultation with the Attorney-General of the Cape, the case had been transferred to Cape Town".

(4) whether the further upgrading of Crossroads is being envisaged; if so, what is the next stage envisaged?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION:

(1) Yes.

(a) Towards the end of 1982.

(b) 6 078.

(2) Yes, all 6 078. Their cases can be dealt with by an appeal committee.

(3) A total of 2 699 cases have been granted temporary permits. The rest of the 6 078 did not turn up in order to obtain such permits.

(4) The presence and accommodation of members of Black communities are at present the subject of investigation and consideration by the Government.

Mr. K. M. ANDREW: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the reply given by the hon. the Deputy Minister, may I ask him whether the balance of people on the list of 6 000 will be granted temporary permits if they present themselves?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: I want to ask the hon. member to please Table the question.

Questions standing over from Friday, 4 March 1983:

Crossroads

*8. Mr. K. M. ANDREW asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

(1) Whether an appeal committee for Crossroads residents has been established; if so, (a) when was the committee established and (b) who are the members serving on it; if not, (i) when will it be established and (ii) who will be the members serving on it;

(2) whether the committee has been or will be established in accordance with the guidelines set out by him in April 1979; if not, (a) why not and (b) what are or will be the points of difference;

(3) whether there has been a delay in establishing such committee; if so, what is the cause of such delay?

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Yes.

(a) and (b) The institution of an appeal committee was decided on, on 5 April 1979. Two administrative committees, one in 1981 and one in 1982, on which members of Crossroads were represented, had preceded the appeal committee. However, disagreement between the members of the Crossroads committee delayed matters to such an extent that the appeal committee has come only now in a position to start functioning. On 24 October 1982 the Appeal Committee was re-established and is now comprising of the Chief Commissioner; Western Cape, a retired official of the Department of Co-operation and Development and a third legally qualified and independent person namely Mr. Francis, retired Chief Magistrate of Cape Town as members.

(2) Yes.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(3) See (1)(a) and (b).

Seaweed

*15. Mr. E. K. MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether concessions have been granted for the collecting of seaweed between the Fish and Bushmans Rivers in the Eastern Cape; if so, (a) when, (b) to whom and (c) for what period were such concessions granted;

(2) whether any restrictions on quantity or species have been imposed; if so, what restrictions?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes, a concession, subject to certain conditions, to collect and harvest seaweed in the area between the Kei River mouth and Cape Seal (excluding the area between the Chalumna and Great Fish Rivers) has been granted.

(a) Originally on 1 May 1977 and renewed with effect from 14 February 1983.

(b) Messrs. Taurus Chemicals (Pty) Ltd.

(c) Originally for five years and renewed for a further 5 years.

(2) No.

Depopulation of certain territories

*17. Mr. F. J. LE ROUX asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:†

(1) Whether the Government is considering having portions of the territory of the Republic adjoining a foreign state depopulated; if so, (a) which portions and (b) what will be the (i) width in kilometres and (ii) area of such portions;

(2) whether the portions concerned are populated at present; if so,

(3) whether the Government envisages expropriating such land; if so,

(4) whether the Government envisages rendering assistance to the present owners thereof; if so, what will be the nature of such assistance?

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

No.

(1) (a) and (b), (2), (3) and (4) fall away.

United Nations Environmental Programme

*27. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether South Africa is a signatory to any of the international conventions of the United Nations Environmental Programme; if not, why not; if so, to which conventions is South Africa a signatory?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

No. According to available information the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) has not yet established any international conventions.

There are, however, a few conventions the secretariats of which are partially funded by UNEP such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Fauna and Flora Species and the Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat. The secretariats of these conventions are provided by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).

South Africa is a signatory to both these conventions.

For written reply:

Posts and Telecommunications: military service

382. Mr. A. B. WIDMAN asked the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications:

How many employees in his Department were granted (a) exemptions from and (b) deferment of military service in 1980, 1981 and 1982, respectively?

The MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

The required information is, unfortunately, not readily available and its special

(3) Fishing Hansard
Southern Invader
Q. Col. 689-690 16/3/83

*12. Mr. E. K. MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether his Department has received any reports of a ship named the *Southern Invader*; if so, what was the nature of such report;

(2) whether he has been informed of the matter;

(3) whether any action has been taken in connection with these reports, if not, why not, if so, what action?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes. The *Southern Invader* was allegedly operating in water of less than the minimum depth stipulated in the permit.

(2) Yes.

(3) Yes. The boat-owner's Southcoast midwater-trawlnet permit in respect of the *Southern Invader* has been

withdrawn and a further investigation with a view to possible prosecution is being conducted.

Man dies after eating mussels

17/3/83

Staff Reporter

A 20-YEAR-OLD Atlantis man has died after eating white mussels on the West Coast, police disclosed yesterday, and it is believed the shellfish had been contaminated by a toxic red tide.

A police spokesman said the man, Mr Koos Julies, who lived on a farm near Atlantis, collected the mussels from Silwerstroomstrand on Tuesday.

A spokesman of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute has warned the public to avoid eating shellfish from the West Coast until further notice.

(3) Fishing Hansard
Q. 601, 713-714 18/3/83

Export of abalone

*2. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether any (a) prosecutions and (b) convictions took place in 1982 in respect of the illegal export or attempted export of abalone; if so, how many in each case?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) Yes, two.

(b) Yes, one. The second case has been remanded until 1983.

International Whaling Commission

*3. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether a representative of the Government will attend the 35th Annual General Meeting of the International Whaling Commission; if so, when is such meeting due to be held;

(2) whether the Government has taken a decision on how it intends to vote on the proposal to phase out commercial whaling by 1986; if not, why not; if so, what is the decision;

—>

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) No decision has as yet been taken in this regard, but the matter is receiving attention. The next meeting will take place from 18 to 23 July 1983.

(2) A vote on this matter took place in 1982 during which the South African delegation abstained from voting.

(3) No

Govt gave warnings on illegal fishing

Star April 1983
(3) fishing

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — South African fishing bosses have been warned several times not to send their boats into the 200 nautical mile economic zone off the Mozambique coast, the Department of Sea Fisheries research deputy-director said yesterday.

Dr Louis Botha said the warnings were made by the Department of Sea Fisheries, which acknowledged Mozambique's economic zone in which fishing without permission from the Frelimo Government was prohibited.

Dr Botha's comments come after the seizure of the Durban trawler, Morning Star, off Inhaca Island in the Mozambique channel earlier this week.

He said South Africa had a comparable 200 nautical mile zone in which fishing was restricted.

"No foreign ship is allowed to fish within the zone without a bilateral agreement between South Africa and the ship's country of origin.

"The fishing company must also have a permit to fish in the zone. Permits are issued subject to entry conditions, quotas, types of boats, equipment and numerous other conditions," Dr Botha said.

South Africa had no bilateral agreement to fish in Mozambique waters.

"South African boats always fished in the Mozambique Channel but that changed with Mozambique's independence. We have warned them (the fishing fleet owners) more than once not to go into the zone. They have been told that they go at their own risk.

"They are there illegally", he said.

Meanwhile the Department of Foreign Affairs is still investigating the Morning Star incident. There is some doubt as to whether the boat was outside the 12 nautical mile territorial waters zone when it was apprehended.

3 Fishing
Cape Times 12/4/83

Govt fishing quota plans are 'unwise'

Staff Reporter

CRUCIAL government decisions on new quotas for South Africa's seriously depleted fishing resources have been described as "disappointing and unwise" in a major scientific study.

The study by Dr D S Butterworth of UCT's Department of Applied Mathematics on the assessment and management of pelagic fishing stocks off the Cape and SWA/Namibia, says quota decisions for 1983 contrast sharply with scientific data and urges the establishment of a body capable of acting as a counterweight to business interests in the decision-making process.

Dr Butterworth, who is currently attending meetings of the International Whaling Commission in Cambridge, is highly critical of the "split" fishing season for pilchard and anchovy in terms of which fish are caught from January to June and then from October to March.

It was understood that the new approach was based on controversial theories developed by Dr J P A Lochner, but various authorities asserted that key conclusions of this research were at variance with observational evidence.

Dr Butterworth notes that losses by fishing companies in the Republic were initially offset by moving vessels and equipment to SWA/Namibia, but the industry there — squeezed between rising costs and a price control-induced fall in the price of fish meal — had incurred a loss on meal production last year and also a net negative energy yield after comparing fish oil production with fuel consumption.

"These circumstances must lead to unhealthy pressure for continued pilchard quotas to maintain canning from an increasingly fragile stock."

Referring to the decision-making process in the industry, Dr Butterworth noted that in the light of the heavy representation of the fishing industry on the Fishing Advisory Councils, it was not surprising that there was a delay in management reaction to scientific findings and that quotas granted were often in excess of those recommended by the Director of Sea Fisheries.

Circumstances in the industry had forced scientists to play a protectionist role, and, because of inadequate representation on advisory bodies, they had been able only to delay rather than prevent excessive exploitation of a number of resources.

(3) Fishing Hansard
Q. Col. 961–964 13/4/83

Rock-lobster quotas

627 Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries

(a) What are the names of the (i) persons and (ii) firms holding rock-lobster (aa) marketing and (bb) packing quotas at present and (b) what are the quotas in each case.

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

The West Coast rock lobster management system is regulated by means of receiving and marketing quotas and not by means of marketing and packing quotas. The required information is contained in the annexure.

ANNEXURE

ROCK LOBSTER QUOTAS: 1982/83 SEASON

Quota Holder/Packer	Receiving quota (kg whole mass)	Marketing quota (kg tail mass)
Boventrek Beleggings (Edms.) Bpk.	25 530	7 385
Bridger & Angelico Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	109 655	15 385
Buccaneer Fish Products (Pty.) Ltd.	18 930	5 700
Cape Coast Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	—	4 160
Chapman's Peak Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	120 660	14 675
Coast Trading Co. (Pty.) Ltd.	86 170	22 215
De Seeda Seeprodukte (Edms.) Bpk.	18 630	—
Dromedaris Visserye (Edms.) Bpk.	251 060	73 920
Elandia Visserye (Edms.) Bpk.	80 025	14 770
Engelbrecht, W.	114 470	24 885
Fish Drying Corporation (Pty.) Ltd.	76 155	15 385
Friedman & Rabinowitz (Pty.) Ltd.	97 690	29 515
Good Hope Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	53 340	11 835
Gourmet Fish Products (Pty.) Ltd.	34 285	—
Hicksons Canning Co. Ltd	51 755	33 135
John Ovenstone Ltd.	132 150	70 110

Quota Holder/Packer	Receiving quota (kg whole mass)	Marketing quota (kg tail mass)
John Quality (Pty.) Ltd.	—	14 280
KDB Holdings (Pty.) Ltd.	64 030	13 375
Konsortium Kreefbelange (Edms.) Bpk.	129 975	—
Lambert's Bay Canning Co. Ltd.	370 235	129 305
Langklip Seeprodukte (Edms.) Bpk.	18 930	5 700
Lighthouse Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	13 050	3 850
Lusitania Sea Products (Pty.) Ltd.	86 460	23 295
Marine Products Bpk.	51 195	62 295
Namaqua Canning Co. Ltd.	103 790	35 025
North Bay Canning Co. Ltd.	295 465	81 665
North Blinder (Pty.) Ltd.	13 815	4 160
Paternoster Visserye Bpk.	35 980	16 760
Port Nolloth Visserye (Edms.) Bpk.	29 805	2 465
Saldanha Bay Canning Co. (Pty.) Ltd.	59 740	23 505
S.A. Sea Products Ltd.	308 685	88 455
S. de Pinto Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	—	6 920
Slangkop Fishing Corp. (Pty.) Ltd.	—	15 140
Smit, M. A. S.	17 870	5 295
Snoekies Smokeries (Pty.) Ltd.	57 880	16 205
Southern Fish Packers	126 735	—
Southern Sea Fisheries Enterprises (Pty.) Ltd.	98 115	30 055
Sparkor (Pty.) Ltd.	48 820	15 385
Stephan Rock Lobster Packers (Pty.) Ltd.	216 830	64 160
Suid-Oranje Visserye Bpk.	26 000	23 780
Tafelberg Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	—	15 385
Africa Quota	—	—
Subtotal	3 442 910	1 039 535
Packers of live and whole frozen rock lobster		
Cape Reef Products (Pty.) Ltd.	35 985	10 420
Elandia Visserye (Edms.) Bpk.	22 390	6 485
Lighthouse Fisheries (Pty.) Ltd.	41 065	11 895
Live Rock Lobster Corp. (Pty.) Ltd.	30 250	8 765
Paternoster Visserye Bpk.	79 215	22 945
S.A. Lobster Exporters (Pty.) Ltd.	48 185	13 955
Subtotal	257 090	74 465
TOTAL	3 700 000	1 114 000

East Germans grab Durban ship

14/4/83

3 Fishing Mercury

Mercury Reporter

A DURBAN trawler, the 230-ton Morning Star, has been impounded in Mozambique after being forced by two East German vessels to leave fishing grounds off Inhaca Island and enter Maputo harbour.

Morning Star entered Maputo, under the East German escort, at 6 30 on Tuesday evening. Her owner, Mr A R Shooter of Durban, said his vessel had a crew of 14 — three coloureds and 11 blacks — and he valued her at R400 000.

In addition, the vessel was carrying diesel fuel valued at R30 000.

'They left Durban on Saturday and had intended to stay in the Inhaca area for about 30 days. They have rations for 40 days,' said Mr Shooter.

The drama began early on Tuesday afternoon when the skipper of Morning Star, Mr Peter Davids, called Durban Radio for advice, saying he was being harassed by two 800-ton East German trawlers.

He gave his position as 13,3 miles off the Mozambique coast, but said the East Germans claimed he was fishing within the 12-mile zone, and wanted to impound Morning Star.

The trawlers tried to force Morning Star to enter Maputo harbour and, by blocking her route, also prevented her from leaving the fishing area.

Harassing

'I told the skipper to make a run for it, just to keep going. He tried to do this but the two East German vessels, being much bigger, overtook Morning Star and blocked her path,' said Mr Shooter.

On arrival at the fishing grounds on Tuesday morning, Mr Davids had started fishing 15 miles offshore and had then slowly worked his way inshore. The East Germans then started harassing him.

'I could hear them arguing over the radio. The East Germans said they would ram him if he tried to leave. I can't understand it, they were well out of the 12-mile limit.'

Mr Shooter, who owns two other Durban-based trawlers, said Inhaca Island was a popular area for South African trawlers and his vessels often fished there.

'The matter is now in the hands of the Foreign Affairs Department in Durban, so I can only sit and wait. The Mozambique authorities might send the crew back and confiscate Morning Star, I just don't know,' he said.

(1) Yes.

(a) (i) "Morning Star."

(ii) Durban.

(b) (i) According to the captain, the vessel was near the Inhaca lighthouse, 15 miles from the Mozambican coast.

(ii) The vessel was fishing for prawns.

(c) No confirmation could as yet be obtained as to who exactly was responsible for the interception.

(d) In Maputo harbour.

(2) (a) P. Davids (captain)
B. Jacobs
D. McKay
N. Nyukile
S. Shangase
T. Ngwenya
O. Mthwane
G. Magoso
B. Luthuli
S. Gcaba
S. Hlatshwayo
J. Ndlovla
J. Cheliza
W. Cheliza
F. Shusha

(b) With the exception of Mr. N. Nyukile, who is a Transkei citizen, all are South African citizens.

(3) (a) A request for further information has been sent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information to the Mozambican authorities.

(b) The relevant authorities have indicated that the "Morning Star" was seized on 12 April 1983 in the vicinity of Inhaca on a charge of illegal fishing in waters under the jurisdiction of the Peoples Republic of Mozambique.

(3) fishing Hansard Q. 61. 1021

Intercepting of fishing vessel—1023

20/4/83

*15. Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Information:

(1) Whether a South African fishing vessel has been intercepted at sea; if so, (a)(i) what is the name of the vessel and (ii) where is it registered, (b)(i) what was the location of the vessel and (ii) in what activities was it engaged, (c) by whom was it intercepted and (d) where is the vessel at present;

(2) wat is the (a) name and (b) citizenship of the captain and each member of the crew of the vessel;

(3) whether he has taken any steps in respect of the vessel and its crew; if so, (a) what steps and (b) with what result?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

According to information received, the case will soon be brought to trial by a maritime court.

20/4/83
(3) Fishing *Long Dar 101*: permit
Hansard Q. 61. 1018 - 1019

*12. Mr. D. J. N. MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether the captain of the *Long Dar 101* has been issued with a permit to fish off the South East Coast; if so, for what period is the permit valid;

(2) whether he or his Department has been informed that the conditions of

the permit were contravened earlier this year; if so,

(3) whether he intends to take steps in regard to the permit; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHEREIES:

(1) Yes, 1 January 1983 to 31 March 1983.

(2) Yes.

(3) No, the matter was dealt with administratively.

***Long Dar 101*: captain**

*13. Mr. D. J. N. MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether the captain of the *Long Dar 101* was charged earlier this year with (a) contravening a condition of a permit and (b) other contraventions in terms of the Sea Fisheries Act, No. 58 of 1973; if so, (i) what is the name of the captain and (ii) what was the nature of the contraventions in each case;

(2) whether it has been decided to prosecute him; if not, why not; if so, what was the outcome of the prosecution?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(a) (i) Captain Wu Hsien Tung.

(ii) The accused allegedly—

(aa) used the vessel *Long Dar 101* unlawfully and in contravention of a condition of his permit as a fishing boat on Friday, 4 March 1983, by fishing within 20 nautical miles of the coast in the area east of Cape Agulhas;

(bb) on various occasions unlawfully and in contravention of a permit condition used a trawl net with a mesh size of less than 110 mm whilst the catches were directed at hake; and

(cc) used liners or chafers in- and outside a trawl net in contravention of a permit condition.

(1) (b)(i) and (ii) Fall away.

(2) No, the Attorney General of the Province of the Cape of Good Hope decided not to prosecute.

BUS ARGUS 23/4/83 (3 Fruit)

Cape export apples earn 30 pc less

GOLDEN Delicious apples from the Cape are being sold in Britain for twice the price of French Golden Delicious.

But, because of the glut of apples on the European market, and the fall in the value of the British pound, the price in rands is 30 percent below its level at this time last year.

Mr Louis Kriel, general manager of the Deciduous Fruit Board, said: "It is good news that our fruit has a 100 percent premium above the competition, and we are moving it in spite of the fact that the European market is overstocked.

"But prices are kept down because there was an all-time record apple crop in Europe which is still being sold, and the pound is worth 16 percent less in rands than it was at this time last year.

"The longer-term problem we face is that we have an inflation rate of 15 percent and we are exporting to a country where it is only four percent.

"We cannot in these circumstances expect to pass on our increased costs in the form of higher prices, as has been pointed out to exporters of other commodities.

"We are hoping that prices will improve towards the end of the growing season.

"We are not doing too badly compared with other agricultural industries which have been hit by the drought.

"But I believe there will not be much bottom-line profit for the fruit exporter this year."

Durban trawler crew tell of 'ordeal'

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG—The crew of a Durban trawler, imprisoned in Maputo Harbour for 21 days, arrived back here yesterday, and immediately caught a train home.

'We knew we were going to get out but we didn't know when,' said the vessel's captain, Mr Peter Davids.

The 14 men of the trawler had been fishing on April 12 about 12 miles off the Mozambique coast, inside the new 200-mile limit declared by President Samora Machel.

They were forced into Maputo harbour and surrounded by heavily armed guards day and night. Only Mr Davids and his chief were allowed off the boat for business purposes.

Mr Davids told last night how he had tried to make a run for it when two East German vessels approached him.

'But I couldn't get away. They were too big for me,' Mr Davids said.

Mr Davids and his chief, Mr Ben Ntuli, were taken ashore on a tug, and placed under arrest, guarded by about 30 soldiers.

Mr Ntuli was full of smiles yesterday but said that would be his last visit to Mozambique.

'We had nothing to do once all the books were read. We just had to sit and wait and of course we couldn't do any fishing,' he joked.

Mr Aubrey Shooter, the boat's owner, said the boat was insured for R300 000 but he did not know if he would be paid out.

To get back the boat he would have to pay a fine of R167 000.

'I still don't know if we will bring it back. I will first have to see what kind of shape it is in. At least the crew are back, and that is a big burden off my shoulders,' he said last night.

FISHING (3) Fishing

Winds of War

FM 6/5/83

The developing fish war between SA and Mozambique has placed the Natal trawler industry in jeopardy. All trawlers operating in the deep water grounds off Mozambique have been ordered home after the Frelimo authorities impounded the Durban-based trawler *Morning Star* for fishing inside the territory's 200 km economic limit.

Collin Taylor, chairman of the Natal Trawling Industry Association (NTIA), says the move is bad news for the industry. If trawlermen have to rely on catches in Natal waters, he says, some could be forced out of business.

The local trawler industry has been built around the profitable fishing grounds off Mozambique, Taylor explains. In turnover, it is the third largest fishing operation in SA. There are 20 licensed trawlers operating out of Durban but, says Taylor, local resources are only big enough to sustain a much smaller fleet.

Not everyone agrees. The principal research officer at Natal's Oceanographic Research Institute, Antonio de Freitas, says there is a major fish resource off Natal.

In his view, the problem is that inadequate investigatory fishing has been done to determine its size. "Natal waters could be high yielding. But conditions are different and the present trawlers may be unsuitable. What is needed is more research," De Freitas says.

Jozua Serfontein, chief director of the marine branch of the Department of Environment, says there's no doubt the problem is serious. "The rest of SA's fishing industry is strictly quota-based and there is little scope for the trawlermen to be absorbed elsewhere."

One possibility, says Serfontein, is for Natal trawlermen to help the Transkei and the Ciskei develop their fishing industries.

Taylor says the NTIA has met Serfontein and deputy Fisheries Minister John Wiley, who has promised to investigate. But time is pressing. "We can't wait six months for them to come up with suggestions. Our members could go under by then."

Gourmets will probably find Taylor's final comment still more disturbing. If the industry is forced to fish its own shores, he ventures, some of its harvest — pink prawns, langoustine, crab and rock lobster — may disappear from the dining tables.

Early end to kreef season

CAPE TIMES 13/5/83
3 Fishing

Political Correspondent

IF YOU are fond of fresh kreef, catch it this weekend: The Cape season is to be closed from Sunday night.

The closure, six weeks early, is blamed by the government on abuse by black-marketeers of the five-kreef daily limit for individuals.

The early ban was imposed by the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, and will be published in the Government Gazette today.

Mr Wiley said in a statement that the Cape rock lobster season would be closed on Sunday night instead of at the end of June as the rock lobster industry quotas had recently been filled.

In previous years, the public had been allowed to continue catching up to five kreef a person a day till the end of June, even though industry quotas had been filled.

"The early closure this year results from the abuse of this concession by selfish individuals who catch more than they are entitled to and sell it illegally.

"Repeated warnings have been given without success.

"The kreef black market is also hampering my efforts to supply restaurants and hotels through legal channels."

Mr Wiley said he was well aware that the prices at which the industry was prepared to supply perlemoen and kreef to the local market were too high.

"Urgent attention is being given to this problem which will be solved, I hope, before the next kreef and perlemoen seasons.

"As I have said before, South Africans are entitled to enjoy South African sea-foods at reasonable — and not export — prices.

"The early closure of the kreef season this year will also contribute to the noticeable improvement of the rock lobster resource during the past season by providing a longer 'off season'," he said.

The kreef season will reopen on November 1.

Wiley shortens lobster season

13 MAY 1997 (3) FISHING STATE

CAPE TOWN — The rock lobster season will end six weeks earlier this year because people have been catching more than they were entitled to and selling the catches illegally, the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, said today.

He said in a statement that the season would end on May 15, and that rock lobster industry quotas had been filled.

"In previous years the public were allowed to continue catching five kreef per person per day till the end of June, even though the quotas had been filled.

"The early closure this year results from the abuse of this concession by selfish individuals who catch more than they are entitled to and sell them illegally.

"The kreef black market is also hampering my efforts to supply restaurants and hotels through legal channels, although I am well aware that the prices at which the industry is willing to supply the local market are too high for both perlemoen and kreef."

He said urgent attention was being given to this problem, which be hoped would be solved before the next season.

"South Africans are entitled to enjoy South African sea products at reasonable, not export, prices."

He said the early closure would contribute to an improvement of rock lobster resources because of a longer off season. — Sapa.

Pelagic fish

*5 Mr R R Hulley asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether control measures have been instituted in respect of (a) dumping and (b) mis-identification of various species of pelagic fish during the current pelagic fishing season; if not, why not, if so, what is the nature of the measures instituted in each case;

(2) whether such measures have been successful; if not, why not;

(3) whether any proceedings have been instituted against any persons for the above malpractices during the current season, if so, (a) on what dates and (b) to what effect?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

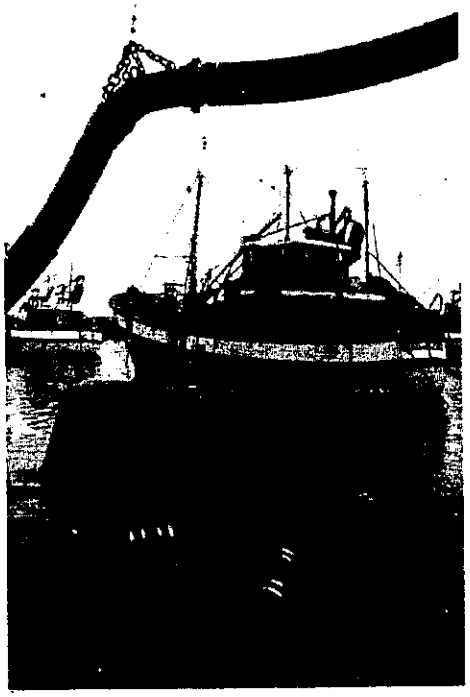
(1) (a) Yes. Surveillance of the fishing grounds by fisheries patrol vessels.

(b) Yes. Continuous identification by trained and experienced inspection personnel at all the fish factories of fish caught.

(2) Yes.

(3) No

(a) and (b) Fall away.



Fishing vessel ... more action this year

answer is invariably "*Nyet.*"

Windhoek authorities say there are frequent violations of the 13,5-mile "no go" inshore fishing grounds by foreign trawlers, but they can do no more than carry out on-board inspections and report transgressors to ICSEAF.

Indications are that Namibian inshore fishing operators will fill their 35 000 t pilchard quota within the next couple of weeks, thereby completing their canning pack of about 1,7m cartons. This will be worth about R25m.

The bad news, however, is that, although the anchovy season has been open since May 1, no notable landings have been recorded. Some fishing men say that this is due to the onset of unseasonally warm water from the north-west.

But the nagging fear is that Namibia will be hit by an *El Nino*, the warm current that has brought the once-mighty Peruvian pelagic fishery to the brink of commercial extinction.

FISHING (3) fishing

Rape of Namibia

FM 13/5/83

Preliminary catch information for 1982 from the International Commission for Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF) indicates a further increase on 1981's huge haul of 2,3 Mt.

Sources in Windhoek say it is due to heavy foreign landings of the various species of horse mackerel (maasbanker) — now close to 1 Mt. But there was a "substantial" fall in landings of hake from 353 000 t in 1981, 221 000 t of which was landed in the Namibian zone.

ICSEAF's "jurisdiction" reaches from the Cunene River mouth in the west to Ponto d'Oro in Mozambique in the east and includes the 200-mile exclusive economic zones of Namibia and SA.

Signatories to ICSEAF are SA, the USSR, Spain, Poland, Angola, Rumania, Bulgaria, Japan, Portugal, East Germany, Italy, Iraq, Cuba and Israel.

Because of its indeterminate international status and an exclusive zone which is unenforceable, Namibia has borne the brunt of heavy additional effort. In 1981, Namibian landings accounted for 1,5 Mt or 63,8% of the total ICSEAF catch (57,3% in 1980). This is likely to rise further to 65% in 1982.

At annual ICSEAF gatherings, fisheries representatives of Pretoria and Windhoek have tried for the past three or four years to persuade member nations to pay a nominal royalty of a few dollars a ton to "the people of Namibia." It has even been suggested that this money be held in trust until the territory gains internationally recognised independence.

Although ICSEAF consists of some of the most politically incompatible nations on earth, working relations are said to be cordial. But when it comes to money, East bloc members shrug their shoulders and pass the buck to their respective politburos. The

Kreef-season closure sparks amateurs' fear

Staff Reporter

AMATEUR fishermen and divers expressed fears yesterday that the premature closing of the 1982-83 rock lobster season might be the start of a campaign by the authorities in favour of big fishing companies.

Many said that if Sea Fisheries inspectors could not control poaching, they should not penalize the law-abiding public by closing the season six weeks early.

They also felt that the premature closing of the season could lead to other discriminatory measures against amateur operators such as reduced bag limits, control of skiboats and a ban on wetsuits.

The fears arise from the announcement on Thursday by the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, that the season for catching rock lobster will end at midnight tomorrow instead of on the usual closing date of June 30.

Mr Wiley gave as his reason the "abuse by black marketeers of the five-kreef-daily limit for individuals".

Mr Alex Papayanni, former chairman of both the False Bay Diving Club and the WP Underwater Association and a Springbok diver, said: "The authorities should stamp out the criminals who are poaching crayfish and should not penalize the law-abiding general public.

"Why are the authorities so worried about those five kreef taken by a diver when the poachers are taking thousands? There are only about nine diving days a month and they do not always fall on weekends so the amateur has little chance to ever catch his quota.

"They should leave the divers alone and go for the professional poachers who know no seasons."

Mr Gus Gobel, managing director of a wetsuit manufacturer and a member of the 30M Diving Club, said: "The authorities seem to have a paranoia about the small-time fisherman and diver.

"Surely it is up to the fisheries inspectors to catch the offenders and leave the law-abiding citizens alone.

"I feel this is a case where there is discrimination against the public in favour of the big fishing companies."

End to kreef season 'unfair'

Staff Reporter

THE KREEF, or rock lobster, season ended abruptly last night while divers and amateur fishermen continued to condemn the decision to cut it short — which they feel is unjust to law-abiding members of the public.

A spokesman for Kommetjie and Kalk Bay fishermen, dinghy owners and divers, Mr Ernest de Roche, said a bitter feeling prevailed. When anything bad happened to the fishing industry, "the man with the rod, dingy or ski-boat gets the blame", he said.

The Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, announced last Thursday that the season would close six weeks early because of the abuse of the five-kreef-daily limit by "selfish individuals who catch more than they are entitled to and sell it illegally".

Mr De Roche said the early closure of the season would not stop poachers and black-marketeers but encourage them, because they usually poached out of season.

The kreef season will reopen on November 1.

Big catches may push up pilchard quota

By STEVE ELLIS

THE GOVERNMENT has been urged to increase the 1983 pilchard quota following bumper catches in the first month of the season.

The chairman of South West Africa Fishing Industries, Mr Robert Silverman, says in his annual review that large quantities of pilchard in good canning condition were caught immediately after the season opened on March 15.

Swafish's six refrigerated vessels caught 7 000 tons of pilchard in less than a month — which represents 50% of the company's entitlement.

"Initially, the pilchards were being caught some 25 to 28 hours north of the factory but have now drifted much closer," according to Mr Silverman. "Regular landings are being made and normal canning yields are being attained."

The season runs for another 4½ months so there is more than enough time for Swafish to land the balance of its quota.

"In view of the constant and abundant availability of pilchards ... ever since the start of the season, we query whether the authorities are not being over-cautious in their determination of a 35 000 ton quota for the whole industry."

The chairman hopes that the favourable fishing results will soon induce the authorities to review the quota upwards.

Swafish's 14 000 ton pilchard entitlement should yield about 750 000 cartons of canned product.

Catches of other species of fish in the initial stages of the latest fiscal period have not been as spectacular, though.

"Fair quantities of quota-free maasbankers with a high oil content were caught during the second half of March, but have since disappeared. It remains to be seen whether they will make a reappearance later on."

The anchovy season starts on May 1 and scattered sightings have been reported. However, a realistic assessment of the catch potential cannot be made until fishing gets under way.

Swafish's lobster operation in Luderitz, which made a sharply improved contribution to group profits in the December year, began well but bad weather during March tarnished its results somewhat.

"Nevertheless, we are still well ahead in landings and production compared with last year."

Mr Silverman says there is no doubt that, if a normal catch is taken during the "small" season in November and December, "we will show an increased profit from our lobster sector".

The marketing arm of the group, Federal Marine, continues to import canned fish to meet domestic demand but profitability has been hampered by two factors:

- Severe competition from other importers;
- A relative shortage of supply from traditional sources.

Sales of salt this year are expected to yield a slightly higher profit but Swafish management is concerned about "the very real threat" cheap Australian supplies are likely to pose.

The problem has been caused by high rail charges between Walvis Bay and the Reef — the main market.

"Our customers on the Reef are able to import and land salt from Australia, despite the long haul, at a lower cost than we are able to deliver from Walvis Bay."

The company is having "urgent negotiations" with the authorities for relief from the "unduly high railage rate".

In conclusion, Mr Silverman says that pilchard canning and the lobster division will show improved results and that, "should we enjoy a reasonable anchovy fishing season, we project that earnings will be higher this year than for the 1982 period".

Willem Barendsz, which holds a 16% stake in Swafish, is also expected to have a good year this year.

Mr Silverman — this time wearing his Barendsz chairman hat, repeats his Swafish proviso saying: "Given a normal anchovy fishing season in Walvis Bay ... I fully expect increased earnings for the current year."

A better performance is also expected from the troublesome Chilean venture.

The Chilean fleet, which services the company's Coquimbo plant, has been augmented and there has been a marked improvement in the rate of landings.

Profitability has also been helped by firming international fish meal prices.

Mr Silverman says: "So far this year, we have sold 5 700 tons of fish meal at an average price far higher than the 1982 average. Should these trends continue, in respect of both fishing operations and profit realisations, I anticipate a profit from this operation in 1983."

arising out of our co-operation.

Racketeers responsible for closing, says Wiley

THE ROCK lobster (kreef) season ended a month-and-a-half earlier this year because of black marketeering, the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, has said.

The season ended on Sunday, May 15 at midnight instead of the end of June.

Rock lobster industry quotas had recently been filled, some as early of December.

Mr Wiley said in previous years the public was allowed to continue catching five kreef per person per day till the end of June, even though the quotas had been filled.

"The early closure this year results from the abuse of this concession by selfish individuals who catch more than they are entitled to and sell it illegally," he said.

"Repeated warnings have been given without success.

"The kreef black market is also hampering my efforts to supply restaurants and hotels through legal channels, although I am well aware of the fact that the prices at which the industry is willing to supply the local market are too high in respect of both perlemoen and kreef," Mr Wiley said.

He said urgent attention was being given to this problem which would be solved, he hoped, before the next crayfish and perlemoen season.

"As I have said before, South Africans are entitled to enjoy South African sea products at reasonable — and not export — prices."

Mr Wiley said the early closure of the kreef season this year would also contribute to the noticeable improvement of the rock lobster resources by providing a longer "off season."

Season closes early and leaves hundre[illegible] without food

CRAYFISH MOVE SPELLS HARDSHIP AND HUNGER

(3) Fishing
May 1983
Cape Herald





● Unemployment is rife [illegible] West Coast. Here a group of unemployed fisherme[illegible] play dominoes to pass the time.

KREEF FISHERMEN and divers have reacted angrily to the early closure of the crayfish season. For the fishermen, already living from hand to mouth, the move spells hardship and hunger.

On the West Coast there is very little work.

Crayfish quotas, held by big factories, are filled in about two months. (Previously it took much longer but that was in the days before sophisticated electronic scales.)

During the period when the quota is being filled there is work for most of the people but for the rest of the year there is nothing.

To ensure food for themselves and their families, many of the inhabitants of West Coast fishing villages, such as Paternoster, Laaiplek, Stompneusbaai, Lamberts Bay and Saldanha, have relied on the sea and its supply of crayfish.

THE Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, MP for Simonstown, announced the early closure last week of the crayfish season. Cape Herald reporter, ANEEZ SALIE, looks at the effects of this decision on fisherfolk on the West Coast.

Until the shock announcement of the premature closure of the season this was their only means of filling the pot. They were allowed to remove five per person.

For the very poor (most fall into this category) who do not own their own boats or equipment, the five crayfish is wittled down even further because they have to share most of the catch with the independant boat owners whose bakkies they are forced to use.

STARVATION

The fishermen have also turned to snoek — when it is running, that is. But for the past two seasons there has been no snoek. This year looks set to be as disastrous.

A spokesman for the Paternoster Community Committee, a non-statutory body representing the village's inhabitants, said starvation was staring many people in the face.

"I really do not know what we are going to do. There is no snoek and now there is no kreef. On top of that there is no work," said the spokesman, who asked not to be named because he feared victimisation by the big factory owners in the area, whose house his family occupies.

There have been widespread allegations that the factory bosses [illegible]

Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of Enviromental Affairs and Fisheries, said he had no choice but to close the season early.

"People were abusing the quota of five crayfish a day," Mr Wiley said.

"They would take their children with them or those who cannot fish and would go in twice, thrice, four times a day, each time returning with the five allowed for each occupant of the boat.

"We could not allow it to continue and unfortunately everybody now has to suffer."

Mr Wiley said he would be consulting hotel and restaurant owners as well as representatives of the crayfishing industry on ways to beat the



season.

Expert blames monopolies

A RESEARCH officer at the University of Cape Town, Ms Vanessa Watson, who has conducted extensive research into the crayfishing industry on the West Coast, particularly in Paternoster, has blamed monopolies for the rise in black marketeering.

Ms Watson, attached to the Urban Problems Research Unit at UCT, was reacting to the early closure of the rock lobster season by Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of Enviromental Affairs and Fisheries.

He said the season had to be closed early because a number of fishermen were abusing the system by indulging in black marketerring, Mr Wiley said.

STRUCTURE

She said: "Obviously there are major problems with the whole structure of the crayfishing industry.

"The monopoly held on crayfish by the large companies means that on the one hand small fishing communities are in danger of being wiped out.

"On the other hand, companies are channelling produce overseas and creating a shortage on the domestic market which obviously gives rise to a local black market situation and further endangers the resource."

Ms Watson has published a major work on Paternoster and its problems.

the factory bosses use their houses as bargaining points with their workers.

MAJORITY

The spokesman said the vast majority of fishermen do not involve themselves with the black market.

"When people remove the five crayfish they are allowed it is only for the family's pot, nothing else.

"But you find after a while that you cannot live on crayfish alone. The crayfish are then swopped for salt, flour, sugar, bread and other essentials. It is what people have to do to stay alive here. There is no work.

"All we want to do is live."

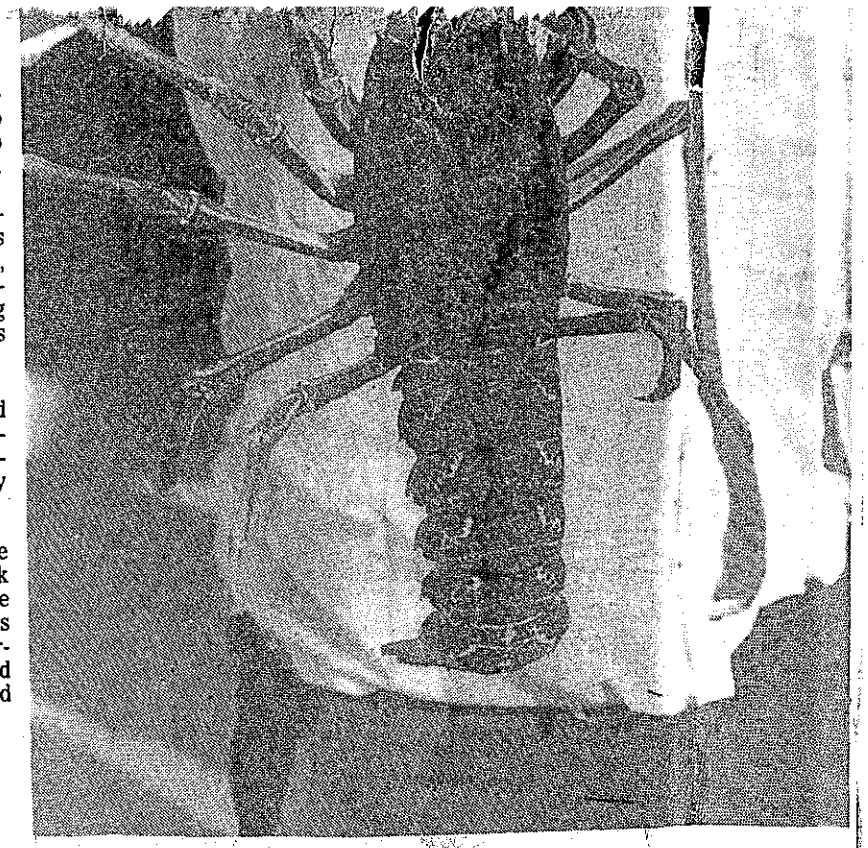
try on ways to beat the black market operators.

The industry representatives will be made up of factory bosses. No workers will be involved.

Divers, for whom crayfish diving at weekends is a form of recreation, have slammed Mr Wiley's reasons for closing the season six weeks early.

They reportedly said that they could not accept the reasons forwarded by the deputy minister.

Mr Wiley had said he wanted to prevent black marketeering but he should be told, the divers said, that the black marketeers are not restricted by open or closed seasons.



● Paternoster fisherman, Mr Stoffel Kuilers, with the source of the controversy, the rock lobster.

Inspectors harass fishermen - claim

ATTEMPTS by fishermen to survive the depressed conditions in the villages on the West Coast are being treated with contempt and many of them have been allegedly abused by officialdom or taken to court.

The inspectors with the Department of Sea Fisheries, are feared and often hated.

It is alleged that inspectors often swear at and generally abuse the fishermen when they return with their catches of crayfish in small bakkies (dinghies).

Cape Herald witnessed two fishermen being searched but could not hear what was being said.

A young fisherman, John Homes, 17, who had to leave school in Standard 2 and has a mother and two sisters to support, was one of those allegedly abused.

Mr Homes and another fisherman have been charged with possession of undersized crayfish, a charge they deny.

Fishermen complain that a pattern has been created.

Firstly, they say that the owners of huge crayfish processing factories are treated leniently by the inspectors.

The ordinary fisherfolk in turn are hounded. Inspectors check on their every catch and those caught with more than the alloted five crayfish are charged and have to pay stiff fines. The fines range from R40 to R80 which for poor, unemployed people, is a lot.

MAJORITY

The vast majority of villagers are out of work and remove crayfish to keep the family fed.

Arthur Jordan of Paternoster was recently fined R80.

"I had to use my last bit of money and had to borrow some more to pay," he said.

Mr Median Blanco was also fined R80 recently.

"I have no work, no money, I do not know how I am going to pay," he said.

The State requires him to pay by June 6.

Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of Enviromental Affairs and Fisheries, admitted receiving complaints about the inspectors.

HOSTILE

"These people are poorly paid, have to travel long distances, are understaffed and do not get the co-operation they deserve. Often they get a negative and hostile reaction from people who do not appreciate the need for conservation.

"It is no wonder some of them lose their temper," Mr Wiley said.

"But on the whole the inspectors are doing the best they can."

Mr Wiley said he had applied for better salaries for the inspectors and also for the creation of more posts.

"Hopefully the situation should be sorted out by the beginning of the new season in November."

(3) Fishing Q. 6/832

Anchovy/pilchard/non-quota pelagic fish

19/5/83

830. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

How many tonnes of (a) anchovy, (b) pilchard and (c) non-quota pelagic fish have been landed during the current fishing season since 13 February 1983, as referred to in his reply to Question No. 29 on 18 February 1983, to the latest specified date for which figures are available?

Die MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

For the period 14 February 1983 to 5 May 1983:

(a) Anchovy ..... 55 526 tonnes.

(b) Pilchard ..... 21 918 tonnes.

(c) Non quota pelagic fish 46 856 tonnes

Hulley calls for urgent survey of Natal prawns

Mercury Sunday 27/3/83

Shipping Reporter

AN urgent survey of the prawn resources off Natal was called for yesterday, as local and foreign fishing restrictions threatened the province's R10-million prawn trawling industry.

Mr Roger Hulley, PFP spokesman on fisheries, said from Cape Town yesterday that he would call for an all-out effort to survey Natal's prawn resources with the fisheries vessel Afrikaner.

'Meanwhile, the plight of the Natal prawn trawlermen should be seen in a sympathetic light,' said Mr Hulley.

Mr Hulley's call came six days after Natal trawlers were ordered out of the prawn-rich Mozambican waters, and two days after the arrest of three Durban trawlers for fishing illegally inside South Africa's 12-mile limit.

Skippers Bob Cumming, Niels Lassen and Jacob Nielsen of the three trawlers appeared briefly in the Stanger Magistrate's Court yesterday. No charges were put to them, and they are to appear again on July 22.

Meanwhile, owners of 16 Durban trawlers have found themselves between the devil and the deep blue sea.

The deep blue sea beyond the 12-mile limit offers only a remote chance of catching a livelihood, and almost certainly means operating their vessels at a loss.

'We can do nothing else; I'm sending out my vessels as soon as possible. We won't give up,' said company director Paul Chinneck of Brooks and McLeod, Natal.

The alternative is to tie up the trawlers and pay off labour.

'Trawling is no longer a viable proposition,' said Mr Raul Quintas of Quintas Sea Foods who has tied up his three trawlers and has had to pay off 105 men.

Mr Hulley feels the Government has too little information on Natal's prawn resources.

'But I can see that they are forced to control the situation to prevent the resources being destroyed. I intend to raise the matter in Parliament as soon as possible,' he said.

Scores of trawlermen paid off

Shipping Reporter

ONE quarter of Durban's 20 prawn trawlers are tied up, and at least 143 people have lost their jobs in the light of restrictions which threaten to cripple Natal's prawn industry.

Mr Colin Taylor, a director of Sterling Fisheries, said yesterday he had tied up the trawlers Sagitta and Scorpio and paid off 19 crewmen from each vessel.

On Wednesday Mr Raul Quintas of Quintas Sea Foods paid off 105 men when he wound up his three-trawler business.

All this follows the expulsion of all South African trawlers from Mozambican waters, and the arrest of three Durban trawlers fishing illegally within the South African 12-mile limit.

But another firm, Brooks and McLeod Natal, have sent their vessel Recovery out to fish.

Repeated messages over the past three days have brought no response from Mr John Wiley, the Minister of Fisheries, as to what the Government has in mind to alleviate the situation.

'We need answers now. There are thousands of rands at stake,' said Mr Taylor, who is also the chairman of the Natal Trawler Industry Association.

Prawn trawler industry mum on Govt proposals

2/6/83 (3) Fishing Mercury

Shipping Reporter

NATAL'S prawn trawler industry is tight-lipped about Government proposals to ease the turmoil in their industry.

The industry was dealt a double blow last week when Mozambique evicted trawlers from her rich prawn banks and the South African authorities reinforced existing restrictions that allow only four trawlers to fish inside the country's 12 mile limit.

Now there are doubts that there is enough of the tasty seafood off Natal to sustain the remaining 16 trawlers, and also that it could be hard to fit the vessels into another sector of the country's already over-burdened fishing industry.

The Mercury learned this week that the Government had telexed the Natal Trawler Industry Association proposals for a 'compromise' to relieve the situation.

'We have received these proposals, but we are not prepared to disclose them until after our association has met and discussed them,' Mr Colin Taylor, chairman of the association, said yesterday.

Spokesmen for most of the trawling companies approached yesterday said they had sent their vessels out 'as we have always trawled off the Natal coast'.

Mr George Stander, a spokesman for the marine development branch of the Department of Fisheries in Cape Town, said yesterday he was unable to disclose the proposals as they were now in the association's hands.

Mr Taylor said his association would meet soon to discuss the proposals.

INSHORE FISHING (3) fishing FM 3/6/83

Storm clouds gather

SA's big five fishing groups are not going to like the interim report of the Alant Committee. Extracts were released to the *FM* this week by Deputy Fisheries Minister John Wiley, who says disturbing evidence has been uncovered of the industry's "inability to control itself."

The suggestion is that radical changes in the management of the country's inshore fishery will follow.

For a start, Wiley says the committee finds that the Fisheries Development Advisory Council — on which the companies are strongly represented — no longer appears to be suited to evaluating the scientific assessment techniques which have come into use in the last decade.

The committee claims that the existing structure makes it possible for the council to water down scientific advice from the Sea Fisheries Research Institute before it is passed on to the Minister of Fisheries.

This allegation is bound to outrage the industry and, if the committee cannot substantiate it with empirical proof, there could be far-reaching political repercussions.

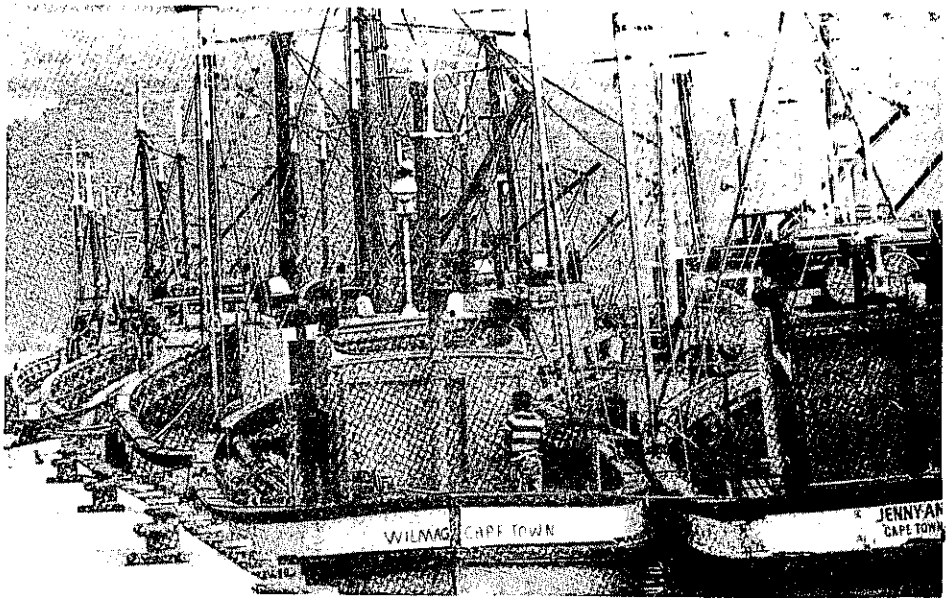
Wiley says the industry representatives on the council are invariably in conflict with conservation measures. He suspects this may explain the over-fishing of the past. Thus, if the council survives the committee's final recommendations, it will probably be heavily weighted with scientists in future.

Headed by Theo Alant, Nationalist MP for Pretoria East, it is a scientific working group which was appointed by Wiley this year to resolve his current dispute with fishing companies. The disagreement relates to changes he made to the catching season and catch quota in December.

In another preliminary finding, the committee concludes that the SA inshore fishery is excessively invested in boats and gear and suggests that capacity be brought in line with the maximum sustainable yield of the fishery.

It seems that despite "firm understanding" between government and industry that every effort will be made to achieve the highest possible canning pack from landings of pilchards, only 11,8% of pilchard landings of 55 500 t to date has found its way into the can. This compares poorly with Namibia's canning yield of nearly 50% last season.

There are strong indications that the lobster fishery is heading for radical "overhaul" as well. This industry has a structure of extraordinary complexity, whereby exploitation rights are made up of catching quotas, packing quotas and marketing quotas. It seems government may now be contemplating a new system in terms of which private boat-owners will be given some form of "equity" in the lobster resource.



Fishing boats ... out of control?

The current season, extending from November 1 1982 to June 30 1983, closed a month ahead of schedule to put an end to poaching, after quota-holders had filled their entitlement of 3 700 t whole weight and 1 100 t tailweight. Wiley suspects that poaching was stimulated because quota-holders failed to supply the home market in sufficient quantity at a "reasonable" price. He had hoped that at least 25% of the total allowable catch would be sold on the domestic market.

He now feels he can kill two birds with one stone: private boat-owners, whose historic entitlement is less than 10 t, could be brought into the quota system by awarding them, say, that portion of the total quota the authorities feel should be sold on the domestic market. This would obviate the annual squabble over prices and allow something of a "free" market to develop between private boat-owners and the general public.

Meanwhile, inshore fishing companies are pulling out all the stops to recoup the loss of 190 000 t of quota fish under the new management regime. Under the new system, the total allowable catch of pilchard and anchovy has been reduced to 190 000 t (380 000 t) in a split season running from January to June 30. However, an "open season" has been declared on non-quota species such as mackerel, maasbanker, redeye and lanternfish in an attempt to encourage diversification of the total fishing effort.

By May 22, total landings in Cape waters were 230 355 t, made up largely of 55 500 t of pilchard, 99 470 t of anchovy and 68 341 t of red-eye. With a month to go before the end of the new season, about 40 000 t of quota fish remain to be caught. It is not beyond the resourcefulness of the industry to push up landings of non-quota fish in excess of 100 000 t in the remaining 30 days. In this way losses could be cut by nearly 60%.

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South African territorial waters: foreign vessels 7/6/83

(3) Fishing - Q 61. 1477-1478 Hansard

944. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether any levies are collected from foreign vessels permitted to fish in South African territorial waters; if so, (a) how much money was collected in this manner in 1982 and (b) into which account was this money paid;

(2) whether any changes have occurred in 1983 in the quota granted to any foreign country or firm; if so, what are the particulars of these changes?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

(a) R568 492,55.

(b) State Revenue Fund.

(2) Yes.

—>

The quotas of Spain, Israel and the Republic of China were respectively reduced by 300, 300 and 200 metric tonnes while by-catches by Japan were reduced by 300 metric tonnes.

(3) Fishing Hansard 15/6/83
Q. 601. 1561 – 1562

Natal crustacean trawl industry

*24. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether he has taken any steps to regulate the activities of the Natal crustacean trawl industry on an equitable basis; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) why?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Yes.

(a) The Department of Environment Affairs has been in close contact with the Natal Trawling Industry Association and individual members of the Association in an effort to find a mutually acceptable solution. Finality has not yet been reached.

(b) To assist the said Association to find a solution to its problems

X (3) Fisheries Africana 10/6/83 X
Hansard Q. 61. 1528-1530

*11. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

What is the programme of research being undertaken by the research vessel *Africana* during 1983?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

The planned programme for the 1983/84 financial year is as follows:

Month	Nature of cruise	Days at sea
April/May 1983	Acoustics survey and anchovy recruitment	25
June/July 1983	West Coast hake recruitment survey	25
August 1983	Rock lobster phyllosoma survey	25
November/December 1983	Current studies; Conductivity, temperature and depth profiling	7
	Anchovy research and acoustics survey	30
January 1984	West Coast hake recruitment	25
February 1984	Current studies; Conductivity, temperature and depth profiling	10
March 1984	Plankton dynamics	10

Prawn resource

*12. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(a) What is the estimated annual sustainable yield of the prawn resource off the coast of Natal, (b) which persons or firms have been granted quotas to trawl for such prawns and (c) what was the catch of such prawns in 1982?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) The information is not available

(b) No quotas have been granted, but permits are issued to use bottom-trawlers.

(c) Prawns: 933 461 kg.
Langoustines: 200 401 kg.

Mr. R. R. HULLEY: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the reply of the hon. the Deputy Minister, may I ask him whether, since the Natal trawlers have been excluded from Mozambican waters, it is his opinion that there are now too many trawlers operating out of Durban for the sustainable yield of the prawn resourse off the coast of Natal; if so, what steps has he taken to control the situation in a fair and equitable way?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr. speaker, the hon. member's further question has nothing whatsoever to do with the substance of his original question. I suggest that he place it on the Question Paper as a new question.

International Whaling Commission

*13. Mr. R. R. HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No. 3 on 18 March 1983, a decision has as yet been taken on whether a representative of the Government will attend the 35th Annual General Meeting of the International Whaling Commission in July 1983; if so, what is the decision;

(2) whether the Government has as yet taken a decision on how it intends to vote on the proposal to phase out commercial whaling by 1986; if so, what is the decision?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes. A representative of the RSA will attend.

(2) No.

Argus 15/6/83 LETTERS 3 Fishing

Questions on crayfish quota

THE decision by the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, to close the crayfish season early and introduce further controls before the next season has caused considerable discussion.

Sharing Mr Wiley's concern for the future of the resource I would ask him to comment on:

- Confirmation that the quota set for the 1982/83 season, exclusive of any provision to cover the crayfish catching public, was made up as follows:

S A Frozen Rock Lobster Packers 3 442,9 m/t

Live Rock Lobster Corporation 257,1 m/t

3 700 m/t

- Comment on the hypothetical catch made by law abiding crayfish divers/dinghy fishermen based on an overstated number of 2 000 on the Western Cape, operating each weekend of the season in all weather conditions and thus accounting for the highly improbable catch estimate of 256 m/t of whole crayfish for the season. This figure based on information obtained from the Department of Sea Fisheries would convert to an extremely low 7 percent of the total quota.

- Assuming that the "few" referred to, successfully poach and market an equivalent tonnage, with all the attendant risks and logistical problems involved in moving 256 m/t from the beaches, the total would rise to the relatively low tonnage of 512 m/t or 14 percent of total quota. This relatively low figure compared to the commercial quota of 3 700 m/t could hardly be termed a major threat to the future of the resource.

There are however a number of very real areas of concern associated with the commercial operators. Two examples are:

- That during the course of the season many crayfish traps are lost as a result of vandalism and bad weather. As a result these traps, having no escape mechanism, continue to catch and kill until eventually the netting perishes or the trap gets washed ashore.

- That a high proportion of all crayfish winched to the surface are undersized and these are unceremoniously dumped over the side to make a supposedly mortality-free return to the deep.

A further point that relates to the marketing of quota-caught crayfish is that the price levels set appear to be based on export realisations and not on the cost plus mark up of catching crayfish commercially. In this way SAFROC/LRLC enjoy an ongoing state approved and protected right to a highly lucrative, scarce and valuable resource.

Or have I got it wrong?

Why is the quota, or at least a part of it, not up for tender as in the case of sealing, or does the free enterprise system fall away in this instance?

Faced with this information I am left with the uneasy feeling that the good name of conservation is being subtly exploited in a commercial move aimed at:

- Eliminating the marketing irritation of price cutting by "pirate operators".

- Annexing a major part of the meagre share taken by sport fishermen.

- Fixing local selling prices in the interests of even greater profitability for the "few" commercial operators involved in tapping this multi-million rand resource".

FAIR PLAY

Hout Bay

Mr J F Otto, Director-General, Department of Environment Affairs comments:

The quota for the 1982/83 season as set out in Fair Play's letter is correct.

The calculation of the hypothetical catch by law-abiding citizens is indeed hypothetical. There is presently no way to determine the yearly catch of rock lobster by the law-abiding public. The same applies to the catch taken by poachers. If the possible catch is 512 m/t or 14 percent of the total quota, then it is not relatively low but will have an appreciable impact on the resource, especially now that the Department of Environment Affairs annually calculates a maximum allowable catch for each of eight separate fishing grounds.

It is correct that traps are lost each year, but observations have confirmed that rock lobster can and do escape from lost traps as the entrances are not one-way routes. Once the bait is gone, rock lobster will not enter the trap.

All trap-fishing vessels are required by law to be fitted with deckgrid sorters on to which traps are emptied. These sorters allow undersized rock lobster to return to the sea by means of a chute. To reduce the large proportion of undersized rock lobster caught in traps, the fishing industry has agreed to increase the mesh size of the netting used on traps to 100 mm instead of the present 60 mm.

As the Treurnicht Commission of Inquiry into Certain Aspects of the Conservation and Utilisation of the Living Marine Resources was also concerned about the high price of rock lobster available on the local market, the Commission recommended that 25 percent of the quota should be sold on the local market. If the full 25 percent was not sold locally, the global quota should be reduced by the unsold percentage. This recommendation was aimed at an adequate supply on the local market which should force the price down. It now seems as if this was not sufficient as the industry last year sold 25 percent of the quota on the local market without the price being affected.

I have already undertaken to investigate ways and means to make rock lobster more readily available on the local market, at a reduced price and in smaller packs more acceptable to the public.

If a quota, or part of it, is offered on tender to the highest bidder, as is suggested by Fair Play, it will not necessarily result in cheaper rock lobster becoming available. The demand and supply position will still be maintained.

I do not think that it is fair to blame the rock lobster industry for wanting to eliminate price cutting by private operators. The State has a duty to control illegal operations, otherwise local and overseas markets will be harmed. This we cannot afford.

I cannot agree that a major part of the meagre share of rock lobster taken by sport fishermen is being annexed by the industry. The industry's quotas were reduced by 15 percent in 1978/79 and 1980/81 and by 19 percent in 1981/82. The quotas were reduced as a result of declining yields in the resource and certain areas are still in a depressed state, although recovery is beginning to take place in other areas.

The State does not determine local selling prices for rock lobster. Prices for this scarce commodity on the local market are determined by prices realised on overseas markets. Although I have undertaken to investigate the making of rock lobster more available at lower prices on the local market, the State is always hesitant to get involved in fixing prices of commodities.

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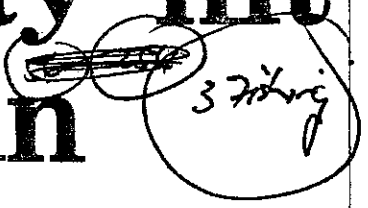
Armscor plan may hit Kaapkun

Argus 30/6/83



KAAP Kunene Beleggings will fight for adequate compensation if the proposed Armscor missile range on the south coast prevents it from developing a township near Skipskop, its chairman, Mr A P du Preez, told the annual meeting today.

The building of 250 seaside houses was due to start in the second half of this year, but has been suspended pending the report by the Hey committee on the establishment of the missile range.

Mr Issie Goldberg, representing the Shareholders Association, pointed out that even if the development were allowed in proximity to a missile range the value of the houses would be affected.

SUBMISSIONS

Mr du Preez said: "We have made extensive submissions to the Hey committee. We have a big investment there. We have already developed an infrastructure including a game farm second to none.

"We have put the whole picture to this committee and naturally we shall fight for our rights there."

The development would cost in the region of R50-million. "We have got very good water on this site, enough for 3 000 houses."

Discussing the group's fishing interests, Mr du Preez said he was optimistic.

"Anything can happen with fish but so far we have done pretty well there not only in the tonnage of fish caught but in its oil content.

"This is very good compared with last year and there are still two months to go."

He thought the government of Chile, where the group has a 50-50 partnership with Fedfood in a joint venture, Pesquera del Norte, the most stable in South America.

"They have already kicked out the communists there."

EXPORTED

Pilchards canned by Pesquera del Norte were being exported to this country.

The factory was managed by the former factory manager at Walvis Bay and had been inspected by the South African Bureau of Standards.

Congratulating the board on a record year in which earnings after tax exceeded R5-million for the first time, Mr Goldberg pointed out that the group had R33-million in cash virtually on call.

"I am not asking you to pay out now but it is a thought for the future.

"I think at R2 a share this is the most underpriced share on the market."

He suggested a capitalisation issue of one for two or one for three.

Mr du Preez replied: "There are other things that one can do, including increasing the dividend."

The dividend for the year to December was 20c, up from 16c the previous year.

Audrey d'Angelo

E Cape shore reaping probed

By KEITH ROSS

EAST LONDON — The possible harm to seaweed caused by harvesting along the Eastern Cape coast is being investigated by a University of Port Elizabeth lecturer, Dr Bruce Robertson.

Seaweed harvesting has been strongly opposed by the Divisional Council of Kaffraria, which believes the practice could pose a serious danger to the marine ecology.

The council's opposition has been based largely on the fact that no scientific research had been done into the effects of harvesting.

This could be rectified by Dr Robertson's research. He said this week his work had thus far been fairly limited.

"But we are hoping to expand it soon," he said.

"I have two Honours students doing projects on the harvesting of seaweed.

"I hope to have a Masters student working in that field next year."

Dr Robertson said his work involved the reproductive cycle of a colony of gelidiun — the type of weed being harvested.

"If we know how and when it reproduces, we will have a good idea of when it is inadvisable to harvest," he said.

"If they are propagating in spring, it would not be good to harvest then."

Dr Robertson said he had conducted experiments in which the weed-harvesting techniques were simulated as closely as possible.

"The aim of the experiment is to see how long it takes the colony to recover," he said.

"We hope to develop a mangement policy for harvesting based on an ecological footing.

"For this we need to know when the weed reproduces, the periods between propagation and how long a colony must be left between harvestings for it to recover.

"I don't believe an ecological system is designed to withstand the large-scale removal of one species," he said.

"Such removal must be based on scientific evidence."

The art is dying with



Bob Mariemuthoo as a younger man . . . 'The art will die out

the old

The last of the seine-netters

(3) Fishing 1/2/83 Mercury

Mercury Reporter

DURBAN, once the hub of a thriving seine-netting fleet, now has only one boat left. The law and changing attitudes are believed to be the cause of the trade's death.

The old-timers are either dying off or retiring while the upcoming stock looks for the excitement of easy, well-paid jobs.

Falling fish populations, too, have prompted conservation legislation which drastically restricts the amount of seine-netting.

Today a lone boat fishes the waters off Durban's ski-boat base each day. In the past between thirty and forty boats would leave the city's shore each dawn.

'Thirty years ago we would catch between 30 000 and 40 000 shad a day. Now they are lucky to fill their nets,' Bob Mariemuthoo says.

Learning

Bob is 72 years old. He is a third-generation member of a family which began netting in the last century. Last year he retired as arthritis and general ill-health rendered him almost a cripple.

He began learning his skills from his father when he was 15. The family then lived at Fynnlands before they were moved by the Group Areas Act to Chatsworth ... away from the sea.

Fathers taught their sons who in turn passed their knowledge on to the next generation.

'Now we find most young people aren't interested in the trade. They want glamour and money and easy work,' said Dixon Munisamy, another retired fisherman and Bob's companion.

'10 ten years,' he shrugged, 'the art will die out.'

They no longer go the beach each day. It is heartbreaking and arthritis hampers their mobility. Instead they sit at home and talk.

They show photographs of the past, friends and teachers. 'Only three of us are left ... us and Shorty,' they say.

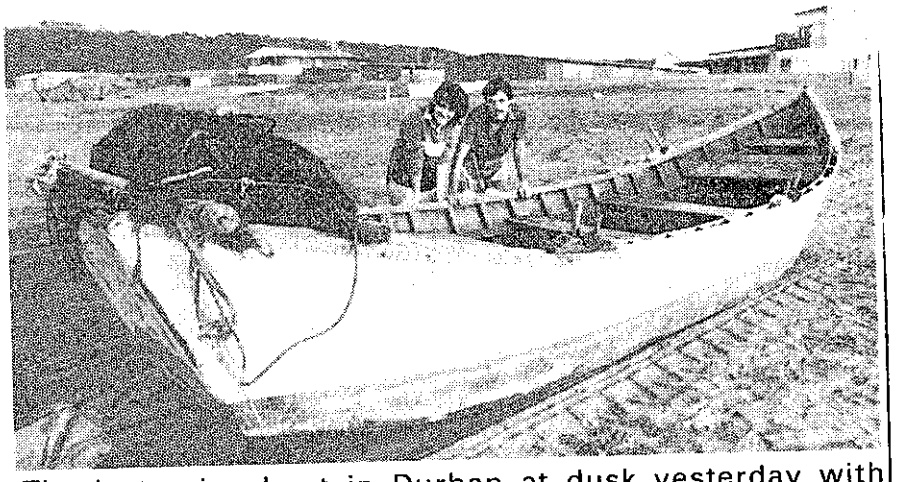
Only one permit exists for the seine-netters. That means only one net can be laid at a time in a defined area. Between eight and 10 fishermen operate this net. Some of them are young, other are close to retiring.

These men launch their boat each morning soon after dawn. They lay their nets, return to shore, and haul them in.

Besides this group the only other seine-netters in Natal are at Isipingo Beach, the men say.

The fish are sold by 'Whitey' who runs a store in the Indian market.

'In the old time the people would leave their places of work and buy fish off us on the beach for sixpence. Now, well, times are changing,' Bob nodded.



The last seine boat in Durban at dusk yesterday with Johannesburgers Isabel and José Silva.

Row over foreign trawlers

(3) Fishing & Post 5/8/83

'Big hauls while local fishermen are restricted'

By SHIRLEY PRESSLY

FOREIGN TRAWLERS are cleaning out local fishing grounds with large catches and netting young fish before their breeding season while local trawlermen have to stick to a quota, according to fishermen whose boats are based in Port Elizabeth.

The local fishermen say they have to "ration" their fishing hours to avoid having to lay up their boats for part of the year when they have reached their quota, while there is no control over what foreign trawlers take from our waters.

They say they are being being penalised by the regulations while foreign factory trawlers, which are four to five times their size, net hundreds of tons of fish.

The local fishermen are so touchy about the situation of outside competition that the skipper of a Durban-based trawler, Captain Kenneth Nielsen, says he got a chilly reception from Port Elizabeth trawlermen when he called in at Port Elizabeth harbour on his first visit in over two years.

"Port Elizabeth fishermen and owners appealed to the authorities to have our licence revoked," said Capt Nielsen, skipper of the Ocean Pearl which has a red fish licence and a fishing licence with a wide scope as long as she stays outside 42 fathoms.

"What had happened was that the authorities had reduced the quotas allowed to the local boats, causing them sometimes to be laid idle with crews unemployed. It was understandable that outsiders catching their fish would not be welcomed in Port Elizabeth," he said.

"As it happens, our fishing effort does not overlap the local catching too much. About 90% of the time we fish different grounds for a different species."

Capt Nielsen said he managed to ride out the storm.

"But imagine our feeling of outrage to find a big Japanese factory ship trawling alongside us the other night. These monsters can catch more fish in one trip than all the Port Elizabeth ships put together," he said.

The Ocean Pearl is 45 metres long with a 120-ton capacity. The Japanese factory ship which Capt Nielsen spotted was more than 70 metres in length with a carrying capacity he estimated at between 700 and 1 000 tons.

"Inquiries proved that 10 such ships are licensed to fish up to 12 nautical miles of the coastline," Capt Nielsen said.

"Surely the small type of vessel operating out of Port Elizabeth and Durban cannot have much effect on the fish stocks.

"The real killer is the super factory trawler, with the modern electronic aids, vast motive power and big trawls sweeping the grounds clean.

"The Japanese are catching the young fish which have still not had a breeding season."

"It's all quite unfair."

Mr Ray Hart, of Mossel Bay, chairman of the South East Coast Inshore Fishing Association, said the hake quota had been cut by 12% but he was hoping that it would be fully re-instated.

He confirmed that complaints had been received about the Ocean Pearl, but said Capt Nielsen would not have any further problems as long as he obeyed the regulations.

Mr Hart reacted strongly to the information that Capt Nielsen had trawled alongside a Japanese factory trawler.

"We must have the correct and precise information before we can take any action," he said.

Mr Hart said he was aware that 10 foreign trawlers were licensed to operate in the area within certain limitations.

"But we need to know where they are, when and at what depth," he said.

Mr Henry van Niekerk, a Port Elizabeth independent operator who increased his fleet when he took over Mr Bill Rankin's boats earlier this year, said local fishermen were not happy about the foreign trawlers operating in the area.

He said he had cut his hours of fishing by one-third so he would not exhaust his quota and have to lay up his boats.

Shocks in store for fishermen

ARG w3 8/8/83 3 Fishing

Political Staff

ALL South Africa's fishermen can expect some major shocks within the next few months as Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs, starts implementing major measures to save the country's marine resources.



Mr Wiley

Appointed to the newly-created post just over a year ago, Mr Wiley has been investigating the position of marine resources and now seems ready to take action.

The Alant Commission investigation into the pelagic fishing industry is due to be released later today and it is expected that a number of its recommendations will be accepted immediately.

Measures

Among the measures that can be expected are extended marine reserves, stricter quotas, and the licensing of privately-owned ski boats and sea anglers.

Mr Wiley said he accepts that many of the measures he intends implementing will not make him popular, particularly with vested interests in the fishing industry.

"But the job must be done if we are to protect this important resource," he said.

Mr Wiley said he is also investigating the possibility of totally rearranging the fisheries department because there is too much duplication of functions and authority along the coastline.

Report

He has received a report from the newly-formed Council for the Environment on the situation, and this will now be dealt with, he said.

He pointed out that apart from the powers held by the provinces and local authorities, the departments of Transport, Environmental Affairs and Community Development control different aspects of the coastline.

Mr Wiley said he wanted to see a single controlling authority which could delegate powers.

He said, however, he is not aiming at infringing the powers of the provinces and is consulting the Administrators of Natal and the Cape.

Mr Wiley said he is particularly concerned about the uncontrolled exploitation of the marine resources by private individuals.

"There are now thousands of ski boats, none of which are licensed, operating in the coastal waters.

"The time has come that they should also be licensed. All marine fishermen should have licenses, just as people fishing in fresh water must be licensed," he said.

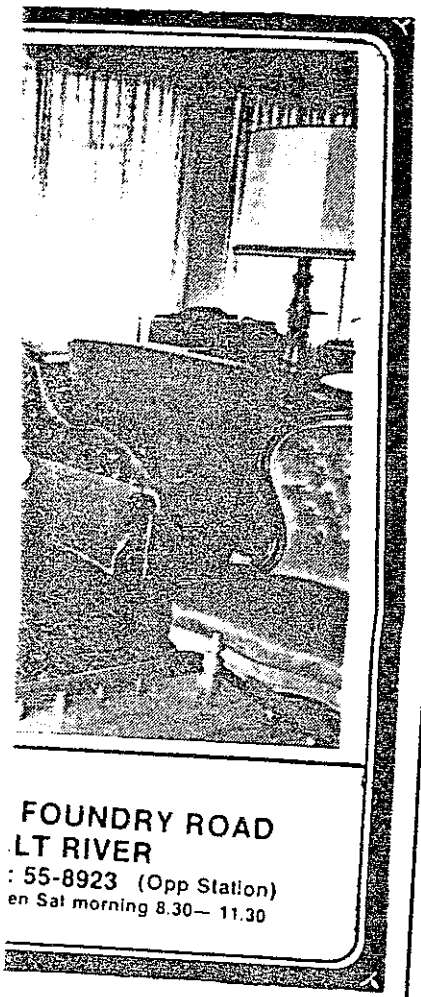
Mr Wiley is also concerned about the availability of the more exotic marine resources such as crayfish and perlemoen.

Resources

These resources are being used up at a rapid rate because of a large overseas market while the South African public has virtually been unable to get a share except at exhorbitant prices, he said.

Mr Wiley has warned that he intends taking steps to ensure the public gets its share, and will make an announcement soon.

He is expected to toughen penalties for black market trading, tighten quotas and ensure a significant percentage of crayfish and perlemoen is marketed locally.



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Fishermen could face hard times

By MELISSA LANGERMAN
Environment Reporter

FISHERMEN in Hout Bay and other areas could face an economic crisis if recommendations in the Alant Commission report on pelagic fishing are accepted.

Severe restrictions on the West Coast industry are proposed which would affect catches in the area.

The Hout Bay industry is particularly affected by the recommendation that fishing east of Cape Point be restricted to protect pilchard and anchovy spawning grounds.

ESSENTIAL

Mr John Wiley, Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs, said yesterday that it was essential to prevent fishing in breeding grounds and spawning areas should not be exploited while spawning was taking place.

He said his main concern was to preserve resources even if this meant a reduction in the number of active boats.

The report notes that "the fact that the maximum sustainable yield of the mixed-species resource could be captured and processed by an industry very much smaller than now, strongly suggests that rationalisation is neccessary to bring the size of the fishing into line with the expected yield of the resource".

Mr Wiley said that if the quota were reduced by 4 000 tons, one boat with a nine-man crew would be put out of operation. The report recommends an 80 000-ton reduction in this year's quota.

The Government would be having discussions with industry representatives over the next few weeks on reducing the local fishing capability, but the emphasis would be on voluntary moves rather than enforcement.

Invasio as US go to H

TEGUCIGALPA. — The first United States forces sent to Central America have landed in Honduras for manoeuvres which, Nicaragua alleges, are a prelude to its being invaded.

The Honduran military spokesman, Mr Cesar Elvir Sierra, denied this today, but added that the manoeuvres carry a "clear warning" to Nicaragua.

The Nicaraguan junta leader, Mr Daniel Ortega, said yesterday his country was rapidly preparing to fight US troops and to defend its territory "inch by inch".

Meanwhile, a military coup in Guatemala has brought to power a general believed to be favourably inclined towards the US.

Military sources say the manoeuvres in Honduras will last at least six months and will be the largest ever staged in the region.

A total of 5 600 US soldiers will join 6 000 Honduran troops. They will be backed by 19 US warships carrying more than 16 000 personnel and 140 fighter planes.

Reasons

Diplomats say the manoeuvres are intended to demonstrate US ability to deploy forces overseas quickly and as a show of strength in Central America, where President Reagan sees a spreading Soviet and Cuban influence.

The first Americans to arrive were engineers who landed in the northern coastal town of San Pedro Sula yesterday to build training camps, barracks and a hospital.

More personnel were expected today, and between 2 500 and 3 000 troops are expected to arrive within four to five weeks.

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CAPE TIMES 9/8/83 3 Fishing.

THE ALANT COMMISSION REPORT

Smaller but efficient industry could handle

THE West Coast fishing industry could become smaller but more efficient if the government accepts the Alant commission's recommendations.

The commission recommends a rationalization of catching and processing effort in an industry it says became over-extended in years of plenty.

The once-bountiful pilchard catch has collapsed and the commission warns that anchovies, which account for half this season's catch so far, are in danger of being over-exploited.

Despite attempts to prevent over-investment in the fishing industry, the fishing effort had intensified while catches dropped from 509 000 tons in 1967 to 376 000 tons last year.

The West Coast fleet now had fewer boats, but its hold capacity was only slightly lower than the 1967 peak catch. Fish factories could handle 1,2 million tons a year, more than double the 1967 catch.

Suggesting rationalization was needed because of reduced catches, the commission said the maximum sustainable yield could be caught and processed by an industry much smaller than now.

"The current situation of too much industry capacity chasing too few fish needs to be altered to one in which the expected yield of the resource is closer to the processing capacity of the industry.

"Such a rationalized industry is less likely to argue for increased quotas which undoubtedly jeopardize the resource."

The commission said over-fishing by over-extended industries had been found where fish resources had collapsed

Wiley's changes not all backed by sea experts

Special report by Political Correspondent MICHAEL ACOTT

THE controversial changes to the West Coast fishing season and catching quotas made by the Deputy Minister of Environment and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, have not all been endorsed by a commission he appointed to investigate the issue.

The Alant commission was given the task earlier this year of assessing the state and future of the West Coast industry and the validity of Mr Wiley's experimental moves which had provoked criticism in political, academic and fishing quarters.

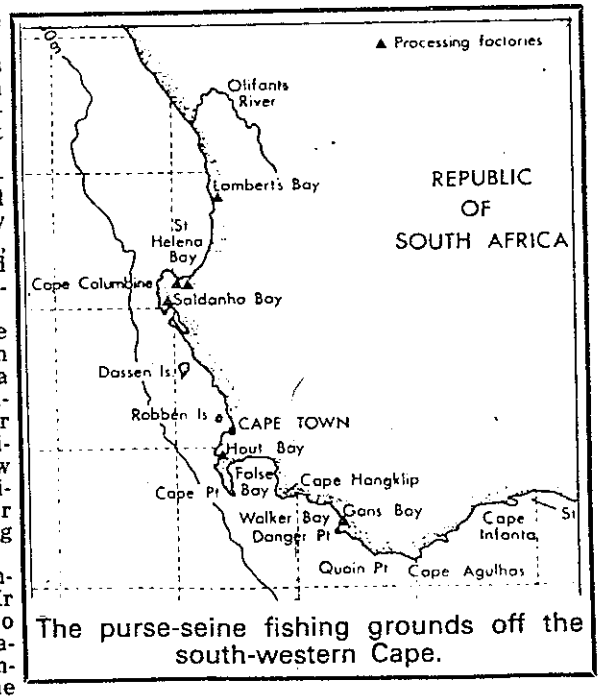
The commission, composed of scientists under the Nationalist MP for Pretoria East, Dr Theo Alant, is also strongly critical of the fishing industry itself.

It says the industry is over-extended, has been guilty of abusing regulations and has shown it cannot control itself.

The commission recommends restructured research and advisory functions which, it says, should be scientific and under government management.

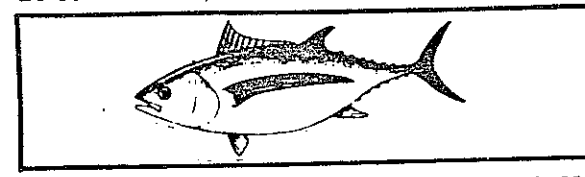
It proposes that the Sea Fisheries Research Institute become a national research institute like the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, with a new advisory council and liaison committees for each of the main fishing industry sectors.

The commission's investigation followed Mr Wiley's decision to switch the fishing season from winter to summer in a bid to save the West Coast industry from the same collapse of fish stocks which ruined Walvis Bay fisheries.



The purse-seine fishing grounds off the south-western Cape.

This was a move long propagated by controversial marine scientist Dr Jan Lochner, whose theories were both derided and rejected by previous Nationalist ministers.



Mr Wiley also introduced a split season, with half the 380 000 ton quota to be caught from October 16 to December 31, and the second half from January until the half-quota was filled.

The total quota was effectively increased by limiting it to endangered pilchards and anchovy. This was designed to encourage the industry to switch to "non-quota" species such as maasbanker, mackerel, red-eye and lantern fish.

The Alant commission's report, published today, agrees with Mr Wiley that the industry and its stocks are threatened.

It recommends rationalization and restructuring of the industry to meet changed circumstances and reduced catches.

It does not, however, back the season change or maintenance of the 380 000-ton quota.

The report says fishing could be allowed throughout the year and

Snoek supply could dry up

SNOEK could disappear from South African tables if the threatened West Coast anchovy shoals col-

Fishing limits will hit Hout Bay trawlermen

HOUT BAY fishermen would be severely hit by netting at all east of Cape Infanta.

measure for small pelagic fish. False Bay should re-

West Coast fishing could face restrictions

Political Correspondent

SEVERE restrictions on the West Coast fishing industry — Hout Bay fishermen in particular — are recommended in a report published today.

The Alant Commission was appointed to investigate the industry and the controversial quota and season regulations introduced by the Deputy Minister of Environment and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley.

It recommends an all-year season, contrary to the split summer season now in force, but also proposes a further quota cut this year and reductions in the West Coast catching and processing ability.

Hout Bay fishermen, already complaining about the closure of False Bay, would be affected by a recommended restriction of fishing east of Cape Point to protect pilchard and anchovy spawning grounds.

Mr Wiley yesterday expressed general satisfaction with the report, which he said had concentrated on the objective of all his measures — the need to conserve and improve threatened fishing stocks.

Asked whether the government would take steps to reduce the local fishing capability, he said this would be discussed with industry representatives over the next few weeks. The emphasis would be on voluntary moves, not enforcement.

Mr Wiley said he had maintained for years that the industry had too much capacity, and this had been borne out by several commission reports.

"We will take whatever steps have to be taken to preserve the resource."

Asked about a possible reduction in jobs, he said estimates were that every 4 000 tons by which the quota was reduced put a nine-man boat out of operation. The commission recommends an 80 000-ton reduction in this year's quota.

The commission chairman and Nationalist MP for Pretoria East,

To page 2

From page 1

Dr Theo Alant, said the objective was to conserve stocks and then adapt quotas yearly according to the situation.

This could be assessed much more accurately now than in the past and "the 300 000-ton quota this year could become 700 000 or 800 000 tons in a good year," he said.

The commission did not want the government to be "the industry's policeman". It recommended a situation where scientists, the government and the industry could get together and agree on measures to benefit all.

Mr Wiley said the government role could be phased out once its objectives had been met through the co-operation of the fishing industry.

"The government wants to get off the back of the industry and let the industry run itself, but we can't just abandon everything to the industry at the moment," he stated.

More reports on the fishing industry report are on pages 4 and 5.

Too late for classification

DEATHS

ROSSELET. — Felix. This gentleman will be sadly missed by all the Smalls.

Fishing in SWA is at a very low ebb

By TONY WEAVER
Mail Africa Bureau

WINDHOEK. — Fishing fleets in South West Africa are lying idle at the quaysides, hundreds of fishermen are being laid off and debts are spiralling as the crisis in the industry deepens.

Trawling for sole, the backbone of the Walvis Bay catches, has reached a virtual standstill, and catches of the two other main whitefish sources, hake and cob, are too low to justify putting out to sea in most cases.

A leading deep-sea trawler owner, Mr Charles Courtney-Clarke, told the Africa Bureau yesterday that 80% of the trips to sea at the moment were made at a loss.

The industry was in dire straits. "If nothing happens by the end of the year, a lot of guys are going to go out of business", he said.

Last year, in 50 days, he had caught 120 tons of sole, but now the position was so bad that after 10 to 14 days of fruitless fishing, he had not even bothered to go out.

Mr Gys Coetzee, manager of white fish processing at the Irvin and Johnson subsidiary, Kuiseb Fisheries, said boats could no longer fish profitably.

He said: "The bigger guys may be able to last out because they can diversify, but the smaller guys with no sidelines are going to suffer heavily."

Already about 300 fishermen and shore staff have been laid off and only six of the 19 licensed line fish boats operating from Walvis Bay are still active.

Only one third of the trawling fleet is still active. Nine boats — eight of them privately owned — are laid up.

The new factory commissioned by Table Top recently for over R3-million has been processing last year's bycatches, but is now virtually closed, according to reports.

The secretary for Economic Affairs, Mr Piet Kruger, was quoted yesterday as saying there was nothing the authorities could do to provide relief for the fishermen.

Both Mr Kruger and Walvis Bay fleet owners talked of the continuing onslaught on fish reserves by foreign-owned trawlers operating under International Conference of South East Atlantic Fisheries (Isceaf) concessions.

Isceaf's catches were boosted by almost 200 000 tons last year, mainly by fish caught off the South West African coast.

There are at present about 60 foreign trawlers active off the coast, and local boat owners claim they are operating within the "no go" zone along the Skeleton Coast, out of bounds to local fishermen.

Natal's prawn industry is recovering

DURBAN. — Natal's prawn industry appears to be recovering. Reports of good hauls are coming from the fishing banks beyond the 12-mile inshore limit off the Tugela River mouth.

However, the industry has not fully recovered since trawlers were stopped from entering the lucrative Mozambican waters in April and later had their activities curtailed in Natal.

The past president of the Natal Trawling Industries Association, Mr Colin Taylor, said only eight of the 20 usually active trawlers were now working from Durban.

"I believe attempts are being made to get us back into Mozambique and also to allow us to share the Cape hake waters with the other South African boats down there.

"The prawn banks off Natal will not sustain the demand."

Mr Paul Chinneck, who has two trawlers fishing off the Tugela, said his boats were doing well on the prawn banks there, but only four vessels had been issued with in-shore licences to fish within the 12-mile limit.

"We are not entirely happy with this arrangement. Some of those boats came into the business long after we did, yet we are not allowed to fish there," Mr Chinneck said.

No Department of Fisheries spokesman was available for comment. — Sapa.

3 Fishing

'New deal' for kreef industry

By JANE ARBOUS
Political Reporter

ONE of the most important aspects of the new "package deal" for the West Coast kreef industry was a doubling of local market supplies and a drop in retail prices, the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, said last night.

Announcing new control measures to protect kreef resources, fishermen and members of the public, Mr Wiley said regulations covering the main changes would take effect in November.

'Kreef route'

The new deal provides for a 1983/84 catch quota of 3 730 tons, an increase of 30 tons over last year's quota.

All quota holders will be required to market 25 percent of their product on the local market during the coming year. Supply at the moment is only about 13 percent.

Mr Wiley said the idea behind the increased local market sales was to try to establish a "kreef route" as popular as the Western Cape Wine Route.

At this stage, no maximum selling prices will be enforced. But Mr Wiley threatened to push for price control if prices were "not reasonable" and profits of hoteliers and restauranteurs were "excessive". He would also consider making more keef available on the local market.

'Own zones'

The next kreef season, he said, would start in November — on a date still to be announced — and would end on June 30 at the latest. The industry had been specifically requested to "stretch out" their catching period so as to provide longer employment.

Registered commercial boats will be confined to catching in their own zones until December 31 and only after that in other zones.

The quota system has also been rationalized. The current catching, packaging and marketing quotas have been consolidated into one overall quota.

Mr Wiley also announced new arrangements for private boat-owners — about a third of the industry.

In future, private boat-owners — most of whom belong to an association — would have shares in a co-operative or company which would receive a quota, he said. Those few people who did not belong to a private boat-owners' association would be dealt with separately.

Seasonal permit

As of this season, members of the public will have to obtain a seasonal permit to catch their five kreef per person a day.

Catching on "behalf of others" will not be allowed, neither will catching be permitted to take place at night.

The industry has also been requested to begin eliminating the excessive catching effort, as well as reducing the use of large traps.

Mr Wiley said the traditional small-boat and ring-net method of catching would be encouraged as a conservation measure wherever possible.

Although the industry had until now been curbed by quotas and prevented from catching in reserves, consideration was being given to opening up part of the reserves and closing over-exploited areas on a rotation basis.

Borain in UCT poll win

UCT Correspondent

NIC Borain, a former editor of Varsity, topped the polls with 47,9 percent of the votes when the University of Cape Town Students' Representative Council election results were announced late last night.

Christine Burger, a co-ordinator of the campus women's movement, who stood as an independent, was second with 46,7 percent of ballots, followed by Justine Simpson, a "liberal" and member of the Intervarsity Committee, who polled 39,5 percent.

The percentage poll was 35,3 percent.

Results, in decreasing order of votes polled, with their "tickets" indicated in brackets, are: Donna Jackson (representing residence students), Joanne Zasman and Glenn Goosen (focus on education), Howard Lowenthal (representing residence students), Graham Fieggen (support for Shawco), Viv McMenamin (standing for change), Max Ozinsky (standing for change), Anthony Greenstein (improving accommodation and bus service), Pierre du Plessis (campus contact), Francine Gordon (students should be more "involved" in their education), David Shandler (standing for change), Andrew Ball (independent), Mark Minter (liberal), Will Semmelink (environmentalist), Andre Terblanche and Graham Wheeler (dope information group).

The president and executive will be announced on Tuesday night when the new SRC meets to allocate portfolios.



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Youth shot, man held

Staff Reporter

AN 18-YEAR-OLD Kuils River youth, identified by police last night as Johnny April, was shot in the stomach outside the Eerste River post office about 7.45pm yesterday, and died in Tygerberg Hospital about 90 minutes later.

Police said a 29-year-old man had been detained soon after the shooting.

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Hout Bay fish factory sacks 89

Labour Reporter

EIGHTY-NINE workers have been retrenched at Harvest Dawn, a fish-processing factory in Hout Bay.

Mr W Visagie, financial manager of SA Sea Products, which has a major but not controlling share in Harvest Dawn, said 17 men and 72 women had been laid off.

"This is about 63 percent of the workforce. We will try not to retrench any more workers, but there are very adverse market conditions for hake fillet at present," Mr Visagie said.

The workers, all members of the Food and Canning Workers' Union, were guaranteed severance pay of one week for each year's service, said a union spokesman.

The union had not been told whether additional workers would lose their jobs, he added.

ARGUS 5/10/83

Crayfish season start delayed

Staff Reporter

THE traditional November 1 opening of the Peninsula's crayfish season has been delayed for two weeks until November 15.

However, the season will open as usual on November 1 along the Western Cape coast, in spite of plans for the issue of permits not having been completed.

According to the Deputy-Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, plans have been made for the Department of Justice to issue the permits to the public.

He said he had not yet received a reply from the minister concerning this.

He expected permits would be available from magistrates in coastal towns about two weeks before the season opened.

"I cannot say anything more until I have heard from the Minister of Justice. At that point my department will be issuing a statement with all the details," he said.

Earlier this year, anouncing the new deal for crayfishing, Mr Wiley said the season would be stretched to June 1984. Last season, however, ended in May, seven weeks early.

Registered commercial boats would be restricted to fishing for crayfish in their own zones until December 31.

The west coast is divided into two zones — the north from Lamberts Bay to Saldanha Bay and the south from the Langebaan to Hermanus.

More good times ahead for fishing industry

By PRISCILLA WHITE

PROSPECTS for the South African and South West African fishing industry in 1984 are good, especially in the light of a probable increase in fishmeal prices.

That is the opinion of Mr Richard Lomberg, of the research department of stockbrokers David Borkum Hare.

He said in an interview that a fishmeal price rise was on the cards because of a general shortage of protein, particularly soya beans.

Mr Lomberg said fishermen in South Africa and SWA have had a generally good season in 1983.

This was in spite of the season being split for the first time by the authorities. The disadvantage of the split season had been offset by "good catches of redeye and they should catch something in the little season".

The fishing interests of Willem Barendsz, Seaswa and Swafil were pooled in United Fishing Enterprises (UFE). Mr Lomberg said UFE in Chile could be expected to make a profit in 1983.

Mr Lomberg regarded JSE listed companies' involvement in Chile as advantageous, because it utilised assets which had been underutilised.

Shareholders in fishing companies had been netting the rewards of being involved in a high risk catchment area in 1983, because this sector was highly geared to an improvement in the fishing catch.



Fishermen at work after the catch is landed

There were six listed companies in the fishing stable of the JSE. Three of the companies gave shareholders a special dividend bonanza earlier this year while another benefited handsomely from the distribution of funds.

Swafish's chairman, Mr Robert Silverman, announced on June 6 a special payment of R2 per share to shareholders. Willem Barendsz, another JSE listed company, had a 16,3% stake in Swafish and interim dividends were increased from 3c to 5c and earnings from 2c to 7c.

"Due to a special 200c a share from Swafish, the second six months should be better than the first," said Mr Silverman, who is also chairman of Willem Barendsz.

The loss-making Chilean fishing venture was expected to be in the black this year because of good catches and the higher international price for fish meal, Mr Lomberg said.

Mr Abe Shapiro, chairman of Seaswa, announced in May a cash surplus of R10,5m and granted a special dividend of 250c to ordinary shareholders "now that your company is part of the widely diversified Barlow Rand group".

Lamberts Bay gave shareholders a 250c dividend.

Ordinary shareholders in Kaap Kunene were advised by executive chairman Mr A du Preez on September 1: "The consolidated group income after tax for the full year is estimated to be R6m (1982 R5m), which is equivalent to earnings of 42,2c (35,4c) per ordinary share. If these earnings are achieved, it is the intention to declare a dividend of 25c per ordinary share during December 1983 (20c).

Mr Andrew Ovenstone, chairman of Ovenstone Investment (OIL), declared in the annual report in May that earnings and dividends an ordinary share were respectively 9,65c (8,22) and 3,5c (3c).

He said: "We have reached our first objective, which was to concentrate our non-South African and SWA fishing interest in Chile, which is a low cost of production area with the strongest pelagic fishing resources in the world."

Mr Lomberg said it was interesting that non-fishing contribution to OIL was 83% of income before corporate expenses and external interest paid. In 1982, Chile remained the largest exporter of fishmeal in the world, with sales of 786 000 tons, a 30,5% increase over 1981.

Ocfish was the other quoted company in the fishing sector and also a Barlow Rand company through the Tiger Oats link. Ocfish owned a 53,2% stake in Seaswa.

Mr Lomberg said Ocfish has the biggest fleet of trawlers, with 129. The company pulled in the bulk of the rock lobster catch, accounting for 1,4-million kg out of a total industry quota of 3,7-million kg.

The fishing sector had a generous dividend and earnings yield in comparison with the rest of the industrial shares.

In Mr Lomburg's view, yields might ease back a bit because fishing was a "volatile" industry and was thus a high risk area.

New laws to regulate crayfishing

3 Fishing

Environment Reporter

THE catching of crayfish and perlemoen will soon be illegal for the man in the street unless he has an official permit for the season.

The crayfish season opens on November 15 and closes on May 15 next year.

Permits will be available from the second week in November at R10 each from magistrate's offices in most coastal areas of the Western and Southern Cape. Catches will be restricted to five crayfish per person per day.

Legislation that permits will be required by private individuals will be promulgated in the Government Gazette on Friday. Legislation for permeloen diving is expected to be gazetted within the next three weeks.

Statement

In the past permits were not required by private crayfishermen and the only restriction placed on catches was that no more than five crayfish could be caught per person per day.

Confusion over the new regulations was clarified in a statement yesterday by the chief director of the Marine Development Branch of the Department of Environment Affairs.

The statement said permits would only be issued to people over 16 years old and applicants would have to produce identity documents.

No artificial breathing apparatus (this does not include snorkels) could be used when diving for crayfish. Catches could also only be made by using a ring or scoop net from a boat which was not licensed for catching crayfish.

A permit-holder may carry or be in possession of a total of 20 crayfish caught over a period of four days. These must have been caught for his own use and carried by the permit-holder himself in a whole condition.

No crayfish caught in terms of a permit may be sold. The size limit of 8,89cm carapace length remains unchanged as well as the prohibition on taking soft-shelled crayfish and females in berry.

Offices

The owner or manager of a business selling or serving crayfish must obtain an invoice from the factory where it was bought to prove that it was acquired legally.

Permits can be obtained at the following magistrate's offices: Bredasdorp, Caledon, Clanwilliam, Garies, Goodwood, Grabouw, Hermanus, Hopefield, Kuils River, Laaiplek, Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Paarl, Piketberg, Port Nolloth, Simon's Town, Somerset West, Springbok, Stellenbosch, Strand, Swellendam, Vanrhynsdorp, Vredenberg, Vredendal, Wellington and Wynberg.

Rules on crayfishing

Staff Reporter

PERMITS for crayfisherman, costing R10 each, will be available from November 7 at Magistrate's Courts — a week before the opening of the private season.

The introduction of a permit system is to limit the number of crayfish removed from the West Coast by private divers.

The new regulations, to be gazetted on Friday, do not affect perlemoen.

Perlemoen can still be removed by divers using breathing apparatus, including snorkels, although it is believed new regulations are under consideration.

With the private season opening on November 15, the Marine Development Branch of the Department of Environmental Affairs yesterday released its first statement to right "a certain amount of confusion" among the public.

The permits entitle the holder to five crayfish a day.

The permits will be valid until next May and can be obtained from Magistrate's Courts in Bredasdorp, Caledon, Clanwilliam, Garies, Goodwood, Grabouw, Hermanus, Hopefield, Kuils River, Laaiplek, Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Paarl, Piketberg, Port Nolloth, Simon's Town, Somerset West, Springbok, Stellenbosch, The Strand, Swellendam, Vanrynsdorp, Vredenburg, Vredendal, Wellington and Wynberg.

To apply for a permit the diver must be over the age of 16. Each permit holder may catch crayfish either by using a ringnet or scoop or by diving from the shore without the use of breathing apparatus other than snorkels.

A permit holder may not at any time be in possession of more than 20 crayfish caught over a period of four days.

Each permit holder must transport the catch in a whole condition and every catch must comply with the 8,89cm carapace length. The removal of soft shelled crayfish or females in berry is prohibited.

The private permit holder may not sell or offer a catch for sale and the owner or manager of a business selling or serving crayfish must have an invoice from the factory where the crayfish were bought to prove they were not acquired illegally.

The whole coast is open to the private diver.

The commercial season begins on November 1 in the northern area between the Orange River outh and Ysterfontein and on November 15 between Ysterfontein and Cape Agulhas.

Cape Times 27/10/83

Good catches lift Oceana earnings

3 Fish. Cos

By ALEX PETERSEN

IN SPITE OF a cut in quotas in the fishing industry, Oceana Fishing Group Ltd have clearly enjoyed a good year helped by good catches of non-quota fish, strong United States demand for lobster and favourable exchange rates.

In the year to the end of December operating income was R10,53m, which with investment income of R7,5m, brought pre-tax profit to R17 590 000.

Previous figures are not comparable, since switching of year-ends has meant that 1982 figures were for seven months, while 1981 figures were for 14 months.

But the switch into the Barlows stable has clearly favoured shareholders.

The group has declared a final dividend of 36c to make a total of 48c. The 1982 dividend of 17c was equivalent to 28c if annualized. Dividend cover has dropped slightly to 1,9 times.

Income attributable to ordinary shareholders was R8,43m, making earnings a share 94,5c. Earnings for the previous period were 37c, which if annualized would be 63c.

However non-trading items show a R2 384 000 loss, which was on the sale of Leisurecor in the first half, which pulled earnings down to 66,5c.

While the cut in the quota pulled back catches of pilchards and anchovy sharply, the sweetener in the pill was that fish such as maasbanker and redeye are now non-quota, and tonnage showed a marked increase.

Sea Products SWA Ltd showed an operating income of R3 985 000, which with investment income of R2 506 000, brought pre-tax profit to R6 491 000.

Tax was R2 556 000, leaving net income of R3 935 000. Attributable income was R3 861 000, and earnings a share 91,9c. A final dividend of 42c has been declared making a total of 60c.

ARGUS 31/10/83 3 Fisheries

West Coast crayfish season starts for some

Staff Reporter

TOMORROW is the start of the crayfish season on the West Coast for commercial fishermen, but private fishermen and divers will have to wait another two weeks before going after the prized delicacy.

For the first time this year, private divers and fishermen will be subjected to the permit system — a method already in operation on the East Coast to ensure the preservation of certain marine species.

Permits, costing R10 each, will be available from next week from certain magistrate's courts to anyone over 16 years of age.

The permit, which will be issued only on presentation of an I D number, entitles the holder to dive for or catch a maximum of five regulation-sized crayfish between sunrise and sunset on any day during the season.

Divers may use only a snorkel as breathing apparatus and may not dive from a boat. Fishermen using ringnets or scoops may, however, operate from a boat which is not registered for commercial use.

On no account may private fishermen and divers offer their catches for sale.

Private permits will be available from next Monday from the following magistrate's courts: Bredasdorp, Caledon, Clanwilliam, Garies, Goodwood, Grabouw, Hermanus, Hopefield, Kuils River, Laaiplek, Malmesbury, Moorreesburg, Paarl, Piketberg, Port Nolloth, Simon's Town, Somerset West, Springbok, Stellenbosch, The Strand, Swellendam, Vanrynsdorp, Vredenberg, Vredendal, Wellington and Wynberg.

Trial run starts Tuesday for cheaper kreef

By GLEN GARVEN

IN TANDEM with the Christmas season, and for many the more meaningful of the two, comes the official November 15 opening of the kreef season.

It's the start of the perennial bitter-sweet love affair between crayfish and the people of the Cape — and the end of hibernation for an industry worth in the region of R35 million to the country each year.

This year the government has brought in regulations for the first time designed to bring down the price of kreef and make it more readily available.

Government officials say the new measures — among which are a 30-ton increase in the overall, or "global", quota, a stipulation that 25 percent must be made available locally and the introduction of a smaller wholesale/retail crayfish pack — have improved the system to "near its capacity" and will make this season a "test year".

At between R16 and R24 in the Mother City's restaurants, this amazing delicacy is being priced out of the reach of the man in the street.

"There's a whole generation of South Africans which has never eaten crayfish," says local hotelier Brian Bowman. He claims, however, that the mark-ups in restaurants are not as excessive as people think.

"Kreef is not a major profit item, but we are forced to sell it because people want it," he says. "A restaurateur should make 2½ times on cost, but if we make 100 percent on kreef we're lucky."

An out-of-town hotelier agrees. "If I could buy direct from the boat-owner, I'd have a crayfish festival every day."

Talking money in the industry isn't always a guarantee of accuracy. Nobody's figures add up to anybody else's. One thing, however, seems sure. There are too many people between the sea and the plate.

First the catcher, paid by the boat-owner, who sells to the producer, who then sells the packaged kreef to the wholesaler, from where it goes to the restaurateur.

Rough pricing figures work something like this: the catcher gets paid about R1,40 a kilo. The kreef is bought from the boat-owner for R4,10 to R4,30, and the producer sells for between R8,10 to R8,50. The wholesaler makes the restaurateur pay R10,50 — and it's this price which is likely to remain static as 1983 slides into 1984.

This season's new global quota — the amount allowed to be taken from South African waters — is 3 730 tons. Some six percent of this, or 240 tons, is controlled by the live crayfish industry, the six companies in the Cape Lobster Exporters Association, and the rest by Safroc, South African Rock Lobster Packers, who market frozen lobster tails and cooked lobster for the nearly 50 companies that export.

"Tail guys — same product, different industry," say the "live" crayfish men. "The tail men can go for their quota, catch it in the first six weeks, freeze it and get out. That's something the live industry can't do."

In fact, say the live industry people, a great part of their cost is being forced to keep on their staffs the whole year round, "because our guys are trained to do a skilled job, we can't afford to employ unskilled seasonal labour and risk having our fish arrive dead."

Up until this season, producers were allowed to market up to 88 percent of their quotas overseas. Most of the live catch goes to France and Spain, while the big markets for frozen tail are Japan and the United States.

There has never been a domestic shortage of the luxury food.

Mr Steve Malherbe, general manager of Safroc, told the Cape Times that he believes that even if the local price were to be dropped to where there was no profit margin, he couldn't sell 25 percent of the quota on the domestic market.

"South Africa is not really a crayfish-eating country," he says.

"With our small population, where crayfish-eating is localised to an extent, how could the local market soak up that amount?" he asks.

He says that though cooked lobster costs a wholesaler between R8 and R9 a kilo, processed tails retail in the Cape at R105 for 4,5 kilos, or R23 a kilo. In New York the same tails sell for just over R27.

"I'm not going to try and sell on the overseas market for foreign exchange at all costs, but neither am I going to create a demand locally if I can sell elsewhere at a better price," Mr Malherbe says. "It is an industry, and integral part of the Cape, as well as the South African, economy."

He admits that the industry is a "closed-shop" situation, but maintains that opening it up within the quota would destroy both the industry and, more important, the resource.

Many crayfish men, however, blame government controls for its high restaurant price.

Stiff fishing curbs for SWA

By TONY WEAVER
Mail Africa bureau

WINDHOEK. — The galjoen, known to anglers as one of the finest fighting fish off the southern African coast, will be strictly protected in South West African waters from now on.

The new measures, announced by the sea fisheries division of the Department of Economic Affairs, include a total ban on any commercial trading in the fish, regarded by gourmets as having one of the most delicate flavours of all pan fish.

Yesterday's announcement also brought into action measures to protect dassies (blacktail), kabeljou and steenbras, and curbed all cutting of red bait off the SWA coast.

Only red bait which has been washed ashore may be collected, and no angler may collect more than 1,8kg of the bait each day.

In addition, white mussels, another popular bait, may only be dug by hand and no angler may take out more than 25 mussels a day.

Local anglers have welcomed the measures, and see them as aimed mainly at holiday-makers from South Africa.

Friction has developed between local and South African anglers because anglers from the Republic have come to SWA with gas-run freezers.

When the December shoals hit the well-known angling spots near Swakopmund and Henties Bay, and the more remote Sandwich Harbour, freezers are piled with fish for resale in South Africa.

But in terms of the new regulations, no more than 25 galjoen will be allowed to be transported by any angler, and the maximum number of galjoen per vehicle is limited to 100.

A minimum length limit of 20cm has been set on galjoen, while no kabeljou smaller than 40cm and steenbras smaller than 30cm may be kept.

To protect dwindling bait resources on the SWA coast, the department also announced that no bait other than sardines may be sold commercially.

The limit on the number of crayfish remains at five, with no diving allowed between sunset and sunrise. All crayfish must be measured in the water, with the carapace shell minimum limit remaining at 6,5cm.

Foreign boats destroying SWA fish stocks — report

Cape Times 26/4/83 (3 Fishing) (2) (96)

From TONY WEAVER

WINDHOEK. — Foreign trawlers are in the process of wiping out SWA/Namibia's rich Benguela-current fishing grounds, a report released this week by the SWA Department of Economic Affairs has found.

The trawlers are fishing with illegal nets with a tiny mesh, are fishing way inside territorial limits and are openly disobeying orders from coastguard vessels to stop for searches.

Worst culprits are the Soviet Union, with 80 trawlers operating in March this year off the coast, Spain with 59, Rumania with 14, Poland with 11, Bulgaria, Cuba, Portugal and South Africa with four each, East Germany with three, and Japan, Korea and Israel with one each.

Reacting to the report, the Administrator-General, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said:

"It is time the international community took note of the plundering of fish along the SWA/Namibian coast and began taking active steps in this regard."

Complaints had been laid with the International Commission of South-East Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF), and the countries of registration of the vessels, but the complaints had had little effect, he said.

"It is very ironic that the main culprits are Eastern bloc countries such as Rumania, Poland and Russia — actually those countries taking the lead in the United Nations in accusing South Africa of 'exploiting' Namibia's natural resources.

"This hypocrisy must by exposed."

The report said that at "any give time, there are between 120 and 180 foreign boats along the coast of SWA/Namibia".

The SWA/Namibian fishing industry, already close to collapse because of poor catches as a result of over-exploitation, has had to lay off hundreds of fishermen recently.

The Department of Sea Fisheries recently introduced strict measures to prevent over-fishing by anglers fishing from the shore, but because of SWA/Namibia's international non-country status, the enforcing of stricter control over off-shore fishing is almost impossible.

Trawler sinks: 22 saved

CAPE TOWN — Twenty-two survivors were picked up from a fishing trawler, the St Gerard, which sank at about 8.15am today, 60km west of Cape Columbine.

The survivors were picked up by two trawlers and the search is continuing for four other crew members.

Two other trawlers are standing by and two Albatross reconnaissance aircraft are assisting in the search.

Conditions in the area where the trawler is believed to have sunk are reported to be far from ideal.

The sunken trawler was based in Cape Town but no details of the crew were available. — Sapa

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TO THE
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ARGUS 30/11/83 3 Fishing

20 000 permits issued for crayfish

Staff Reporter

MORE than 20 000 permits for the public to catch crayfish were issued in the first 30 days of the introduction of the licensing system.

This was disclosed by Mr John Wiley, Deputy-Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, who officially opened the West Coast crayfish route in Saldanha Bay yesterday.

In terms of the permit system a licence is needed to catch crayfish — a maximum of five a day for self-consumption.

Mr Wiley strongly attacked monopolies and "parasites" who made profits from South Africa's crayfish.

He said the Government "means business" in its campaign to make crayfish available to South Africans at reasonable prices.

"The industry cannot be a closed shop. The small man must share in our marine wealth," he added.

"There are far too many monopolistic and parasitic situations."

Too many people were participating as middlemen between the catchers of crayfish and "John Citizen buying them".

"There must be competition and not a closed shop. If necessary, more than 25 percent of kreef will have to be marketed locally," he said.

The market mechanism and not price rings should establish prices.

"Our philosophy must be South Africa first," said Mr Wiley, who added that many South Africans had been starved of kreef.

Exported

In the past 30 years 90 percent of the catch had been exported, much of it in the form of tails, to the United States.

"What a waste," Mr Wiley commented.

More recently whole crayfish and not only tails were being exported to Europe and the Far East. This was preferable, he said.

The newly opened crayfish route aims to enable the public to buy kreef and other seafoods, including perlemoen, from outlets at West Coast towns.

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Balmy days of summer

Staff Reporter

PLEASANT summer weather is with us for a few days, with a maximum temperature of 25 deg C forecast for today, accompanied by a fresh to strong south-easterly wind which is expected to reach speeds of between 20 (37km/h) and 25 knots (46km/h).

KING SIZE
Adventure in Nature No.
Saving the Acinonyx jubat



CMC Trials 30/11/83
3 Fishing 86

City men in court over 800 crayfish

Staff Reporter

FOUR crew members of the fishing boat Stormy Weather and two men from a transport business, yesterday appeared in the Magistrate's Court on four charges, including catching more than 800 crayfish without a permit.

The men originally faced eight charges, but four were withdrawn.

Alexander Groenmeyer, 49, of Cypress Way, Mitchells Plain, Johannes Johnson, 59, of Irvan Street, Manenberg, Basil Kannemeyer, 45, of Dirk Adams Road, Newfield, Armin Blaauw, no age or address given, Hassan Natha, 44, of Rajah Road, Parow, and Roy Swart 36, of Connaught Road, Parow, pleaded not guilty to all the charges.

It is alleged that they caught crayfish on Monday without the necessary permit, and neglected, after having caught 837 to deliver them to a licensed crayfish packaging factory.

They are also alleged to have removed the crayfish without having them weighed in the presence of a Sea Fisheries inspector and to have possessed 116 tails measuring less than 2,38cm after they had been unlawfully separated from the bodies.

Mr R Goldblatt, who appeared for Mr Natha and Mr Swart, said that the two, who are in the transport business, did not partake in the crayfish catch but were in the harbour merely to collect equipment used for catching crayfish.

He said the two men were totally unaware that crayfish had been loaded on to their lorry until it had been stopped and searched by customs officials.

Mr Goldblatt successfully applied to the magistrate for the release of Mr Natha's pantechnicon which had been impounded by the police. He said that the vehicle would not be disposed of and would be available to the police if required.

The trial continues today.

Mr B Carroll was the magistrate. Mrs J Sloth-Nielson appeared for the State. Messrs Groenmeyer, Johnson, Kannemeyer and Blaauw were not represented.

Oceana looking for profit on Chilean side

By ALEX PETERSEN

THE OCEANA Fishing Group's Chilean venture appears to have overcome its initial difficulties and is budgeting for a profit in the current year, the group's chairman, Mr Cedric Walton, says in the annual report.

Mr Walton, in his first report as chairman of the company, formerly known as Lamberts Bay Holdings, says that its subsidiary, Seaswas, has increased its interest in the Chilean venture, Pesquera Coquimbo dos Limitada, to 44,4%.

"The substantial improvement in the price of fish meal on the international markets and the additional tonnage of fish caught has made a material contribution to the profitability of the Chilean operations during the current financial year.

"Consideration is being given to increasing fleet capacity. Should this materialise, the profits are likely to show further improvement."

On the domestic front, however, the outlook is a little more cautious.

While operations of Seaswas at both Luderitz and Walvis Bay have been "most successful and have made an increased contribution to group results", the new quota dispensations in the pelagic fishing industry have caused a significant fall in production and sales volumes for the group.

The drop in volumes, compounded by the effect of inflation on production costs and overheads, has had an adverse effect on operating profits.

Pelagic fish catches at group factories in Lamberts Bay, St Helena Bay, Sandy Point and Hout Bay were 105 178 tons in the season from January to June 1983, compared to 148 828 tons between January and August 1982.

The group's catches represent 38,5% of the industry total.

Marginally offsetting the lower pelagic yield has been a higher price for fish-meal on the domestic market, as well as higher yields of quota-free fish.

For rock lobster, a favourable rand-dollar rate, together with higher production of whole cooked lobster, has maintained profit at a satisfactory level.

The "stringent conservation measures . . . appear to be having a beneficial effect", Mr Walton says.

He hopes that quotas, drastically cut in recent years, can, over time, be restored to their original levels.

Referring to changes in the dispensation of the rock lobster quota, as a result of which 260 tons of the group's quota will revert to private fishermen, leaving a balance of 240 tons, Mr Walton says this will not have a material effect on profitability, "due to the lower cost of catching by company-owned vessels".

He is cautious about the Alant Committee recommendations.

If accepted by Ministers, they are "likely to have far-reaching effects, particularly in so far as the Hout Bay pelagic fishing operations are concerned".

Mr Walton says that wholly owned subsidiary, North Bay Canning, is to begin prospecting operations for precious stones in its shallow water lease area shortly.

But a material contribution to group earnings is not expected at this stage.

Yearends to change at W&A

Financial Reporter

THE 10 quoted companies in the W&A group are changing their yearends to December 31 for consolidation purposes.

This means W&A Investment Corporation, Bradlow's Stores, Enyati Resources, Waicor and World Furnishers all change from June 30 to December 31. The next financial statements will cover the 18 months to December 1984, says a spokesman.

The Williams, Hunt group — Williams, Hunt SA, Aurochs, Autolec and Cap-auto Investments — acquired by W&A as part of the Anglo-African Finance Group, previously reported to February 25. They will also report to December 31.

The four companies in the Williams, Hunt group have a dispensation to report for the 10 months to December 31, 1983. They will not report for the six months to August 31, 1983.

General Tire & Rubber is changing its yearend from February 25, reporting for the 10 months to December 31, 1983.

It is a prerequisite for consolidation that all companies in a group have the same yearends.

IN DEEP WATER

S. Times 11/12/83

By EUGENE ABRAHAMS

Fisherfolk ordered to abandon their homes and lifestyle

FOR the fisherfolk of Skipskop, there is little joy this Christmas.

They've been told to clear out of their tiny hamlet, between the holiday resort of Arniston and the De Hoop Nature Reserve, to make way for Armscor's missile testing range on the Cape coast.

Not only will the 14 people left in Skipskop have to find new homes, they'll also have to find new means of livelihood.

The community staying in the hamlet is made up of five couples, two children, and two single men.

A pall of deep gloom enveloped the community when the Sunday Times visited them this week.

Their life

Fishing is their life. They know of no other way to make a living. Not a single villager can read or write.

Without exception, all admitted that they would feel lost outside the tiny community — and said they had all been brought closer together by the notice served on them to move.

Fifteen villagers have already moved out to nearby Gansbaai and a pall of gloom hangs over Skipskop.

The Hey Committee Report — which has been accepted by the Government — has stressed that "fair and just" compensation for the displaced fishermen be made.



Time to go . . . Jean Grandfield and her parents must leave Skipskop

The report said: "Merely paying the value of present-day self-erected shanties will not enable residents to obtain other accommodation elsewhere.

"Possible compensation for these communities should take the form of Armscor meeting the costs of providing acceptable alternative accommodation."

The Hey report said the choice of place and dwelling "should be respected and assisted".

The report said missile range development in the area would involve the resettlement of about 80 people from Skipskop and other parts of the area.

"They will therefore have a legitimate grievance and may find it difficult to adapt to changing circumstances," said the report.

The ocean in this area is rich in fish life. There are galjoen, steenbras, blacktail, and elf fish, among others.

And the question among all members of the Skipskop community is: "Why us and why Skipskop? Don't they realise that this is one of the richest breeding grounds for fish off our shores?"

For Mr Willem Grandfield, his wife Lena and their daughter Jean, the news that they will have to move on soon is devastating.

"We talk about it every day," said Mrs Grandfield, "but we have still to come up with an answer.

"We were married here and this is where I want to be buried.

"Now it looks as if my wish will not be granted," she said, wiping away tears.

Their modest two-roomed cottage, converted from an old fish store, is sufficient for the family.

"It's very difficult to move when you've been staying in a certain area for a long time," said Mrs Grandfield.

Mr Grandfield said: "We were born on the coast and this is where we'll die.

"I can't work on a farm, I'd be hopeless. All I know is how to catch fish.

"This will probably be our last Christmas here. We'll make the most of it. We'll have to, won't we?"

Michael and Ellen Matthys have no fears about leaving.

Shepherd

Mr Matthys used to be a shepherd before he and his wife came to Skipskop a year ago to earn a living catching fish.

Now, the farmer who used to hire Michael as one of his labourers wants him back.

"I'm sorry to be going back, but what can I do?

"Anyway, I will earn more money at the farm and my wife will be able to do casual labour at the farmhouse."

"I feel powerless to do anything."

Widower Tom Matthys, at 76 the oldest man in the village, may go to his son in Elim.

"I'll miss the old life of catching fish and selling it. It's the only thing I can do.

"If we are compensated, it will be okay. If not . . ."

The Hey Report recommended that meetings should be held with the residents of Skipskop and owners of holiday bungalows to ascertain their feelings.

"Every effort should be made to extend the tenure of those wishing to remain for as long as possible."

Anxious wait for land-owners

By DAVID JACKSON

LAND-owners who will make way for the Armscor missile range in the southern Cape began an anxious wait this week for news on the fate of their properties.

Negotiations on property expropriation — about 40 000ha of privately owned land was originally mooted — could take several months to finalise, government spokesmen confirmed.

The exact boundaries of the Armscor range, which takes in an area between Arniston and Cape Infanta, have still to be determined.

Among those who will have to make way for the new development — given the green light by the Government this week following the publication of the Hey report — are owners of farms, holiday cottages and several Coloured fishermen and their families in the village of Skipskop.

Most land-owners were accepting the Government's decision with shocked resignation.

Mr Geoff Todd, chairman of the Portterberg Protection Society which fought a long and expensive campaign against the missile range, said: "I don't think we can take it any further. One is dealing with a total bureaucracy. "It seems the decision was made before the release of the Hey report.

■■■

"I believe the report was a sop to public opinion to make people think there has been a compromise.

"Assurances are being given now — but what guarantee do we have that things won't be altered at a stroke of a pen at some future stage? I think it's a very cunning piece of PR work.

"We have had absolutely no contact with any one. We have had to rely on the media to find out what is happening to us."

According to a statement this week by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr S A S Hayward, negotiations with the land-owners will be started by the Department of Community Development "as soon as possible."

The De Hoop controversy could lead to a streamlining of government land acquisition procedures, it emerged this week.

These came under fire in the report chaired by Mr Douglas Hey.

It found there were "serious shortcomings" in the present procedure for acquisition and allocation of land for government projects.

Wiley to ban commercial trade in galjoen and introduce pe

Fish clampdo

NKGUS 14/12/83

PRIME HINDQUA
per kg.....
FIRST GI HINDQUA
per kg.....

ORNED BEEF

Staff Reporters

TOUGH new restrictions on the exploitation of fish and shellfish are to be enforced by the Government in a bid to avert an emergency developing as South Africa's marine resources diminish.

Acting on his earlier warnings that South African fishermen could expect major shocks, Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries Mr John Wiley last night announced his intention to ban commercial trade in galjoen which ranks with elf (shad) as one of the most popular angling — and eating — fish.

The ban will mean the disappearance of galjoen from fishmarkets and restaurant menus and, like black mussels, the only way people will be able to enjoy the delicacy will be to catch it themselves.

Mr Wiley has also said that a closed season and bag limits for elf in Cape waters — as enforced in Natal — is another possibility.

Perlemoen permit system

Mr Wiley said a permit system for private catchers of perlemoen will be enforced in January because of pressure on South Africa's reserves and a new plan concerning the commercial exploitation of perlemoen will come into effect at the same time.

Important features of the plan include: Confirming the catching rights of perlemoen divers; coupling divers to certain factories; restricting diving spots to 14 and restricting the time perlemoen can be gathered and taken to factories.

More attention will also be given to providing accurate weighing for perlemoen at factories.

Private diving permits costing R10 each will be valid for a calendar year and available to people over 12. Perlemoen will only be able to be collected between sunrise and sunset.

Crayfish concession

But, in a concession to crayfish catchers, Mr Wiley has lowered the minimum age limit for permit-holders from 16 to 12.

Mr Wiley also announced pending restrictions on bottom-trawling in the vicinity of the Breede River mouth and on net fishing.

Mr Wiley said he is concerned about the declining numbers of popular angling fish.

The situation is being scientifically investigated, he said, but it will be some time before recommendations can be made.

Commercial trade banned

He had decided in the meantime to protect galjoen by banning all commercial trade in the fish and the measure will soon be published in a Government Gazette.

Anyone uncertain about the regulations should contact Department of Fisheries inspectors or the Marine Development Branch at ☎ 21 6290.

Mr Wiley said he is concerned about coastal trawling near the Breede River mouth which is ecologically sensitive and plays an important part in fish recruitment in the area.

A notice will soon be Gazetted prohibiting bottom-trawling along an imaginary line from Cape Infanta to Cape Barracouta.

This step will have no effect on the coastal trawling industry but will protect small kabeljou and immature soles, he said.

Net-fishing

Mr Wiley said permits for treknet-fishing will in future be given only to existing permit holders if they fill in a questionaire, have been successful in the net fishing industry in the previous five years, and have continually submitted statistics.

No permits will be issued for The Strand and fishing with nets inside the 12 km line south of the Klein River mouth near Die Plaat will be prohibited.

Fishing with treknets in False Bay and Walker Bay will be allowed only between sunrise and sunset.

Mr Wiley said catching of linefish will also be carefully watched. The size of nets will be restricted and the mesh size of treknets and drift nets will be increased from 4,4cm to 5cm from January 1.

Cape Times 14/12/83

New shellfish permit system

EXTREME pressure on South Africa's perlemoen resources had made it necessary to enforce a permit system similar to the one protecting the Republic's crayfish, the Deputy Minister of Environment and Planning, Mr John Wiley, said last night.

Speaking at a function at the Cape Boat and Ski Club at Miller's Point near Simonstown, Mr Wiley said the perlemoen permit would cost R10 — the same amount as for the crayfish permit already in force.

Permits would be issued from January 1, 1984 and would be valid for a year. Perlemoen catching would be limited to the hours between sunrise and sunset, as with crayfish.

Persons over 12 would qualify for permits. It had also been decided to lower the age for crayfish permits from 16 years to 12.

He also said he was concerned that popular angling fish were becoming scarcer. Galjoen had been fished out in many areas, and he said he would soon introduce legislation prohibiting commercial trade in galjoen.

He said he was also concerned about bottom-trawling in the immediate area of the Bree River mouth, and a notice would be published in the Government Gazette soon prohibiting bottom-trawling along a imaginary line between Cape Infanta and Cape Barracouta. — Sapa

FISHING — 1984

JANUARY — DEC.

New licences for perlemoen

CAPE TIMES 7/1/84 3 Fishing

Environment Reporter

MORE THAN 1 000 perlemoen licences have been obtained by divers in the Western Cape since the new perlemoen regulations came into force less than a week ago.

In Hermanus, widely regarded as South Africa's perlemoen centre, well over 800 permits have been issued at the Magistrate's Court in the past two days. In Cape Town, more than 200 had been issued by yesterday.

Mr George Stander, director of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute, also confirmed yesterday that more than 12 000 crayfishing licences had been obtained by divers since that permit system was introduced in November last year.

"In the past we had a fairly good idea of how many kreef were being caught, but it will be interesting to assess the situation towards the end of this season," Mr Stander said.

According to the new regulations gazetted on January 1, perlemoen divers must have a permit which costs R10 a year and authorizes the collection of five perlemoen a day between sunrise and sunset.

Scuba equipment is no longer permitted for perlemoen divers.

In addition, perlemoen may not be shucked at sea but must be transported whole; the size limit is restricted to 11,43cm; perlemoen collected by the public may not be sold; licences are not transferable, and children under 12 do not qualify for licences.

Not more than 20 perlemoen may be transported in a vehicle and no more than 20 may be stored at home.

● Licences are available from most revenue offices, but anyone uncertain about the regulations should contact the Department of Fisheries inspectors or the Marine Development Branch at ☎ 21-6290.



Morning Star . . . impounded last year.

Fishing rights: 'Mozambique is willing'

By Joao Santa Rita

South African trawlers could soon be fishing in Mozambique's territorial waters if the talks between Pretoria and Mapu lead to agreement, according to South African fishing sources.

"In Natal, owners of trawlers were facing a crisis because of Mozambique's decision to enforce a ban on all fishing within 200 miles of its coastline.

"An agreement would be the best New Year present for the fishermen," they say.

At the talks held in Maputo earlier this week the question of fishing rights was discussed.

"Mozambique is willing to give us rights to fish there. They need hard currency. Those rights could be part of the answer to that particular problem," they say.

Last year a South African trawler, Morning Star, was impounded by the Mozambican authorities and its owner fined R167 000 for allegedly fishing in Mozambican waters.

The skipper of Morning Star, Captain Peter Davids, said at the time he was unaware of the 200-mile limit.

The crew was released but, the sources say, Morning Star is still at the Maputo harbour because the fine has not been paid.

"Lots of people invested thousands which will go down the drain if the 200-mile limit continues to be imposed on us. The willingness of the Mozambican authorities to discuss the issue is a good sign for us."

Ciskei to set up fisheries division

EAST LONDON — The Department of Agriculture and Forestry in Ciskei is moving towards the establishment of a fisheries division which will fall under the auspices of the department's branch of nature conservation, led by Mr Ron Thomson.

A statement by the Department of Foreign Affairs said Ciskei was conscious of its fishery resources and responsibilities.

The culture of shellfish on the Ciskeian coast was under consideration as was the harvesting of marine fish.

No commercial harvest of natural shellfish populations would, however, be permitted. These were being reserved for controlled use by the country's growing tourist industry.

A commercial carp fishing project at Laing Dam, near Zwelitsha, had been thoroughly researched by the Agricultural and Rural Development Research Institute (Ardri) of Fort Hare University and would be administered by the nature conservation branch.

In the initial stages, gill-netting would take place once a week and catches would be carefully monitored to establish the harvestable yield. One or two private Ciskeian entrepreneurs would then be permitted to establish viable commercial fishing businesses based upon the dam. "Results so far look very encouraging," the statement said.

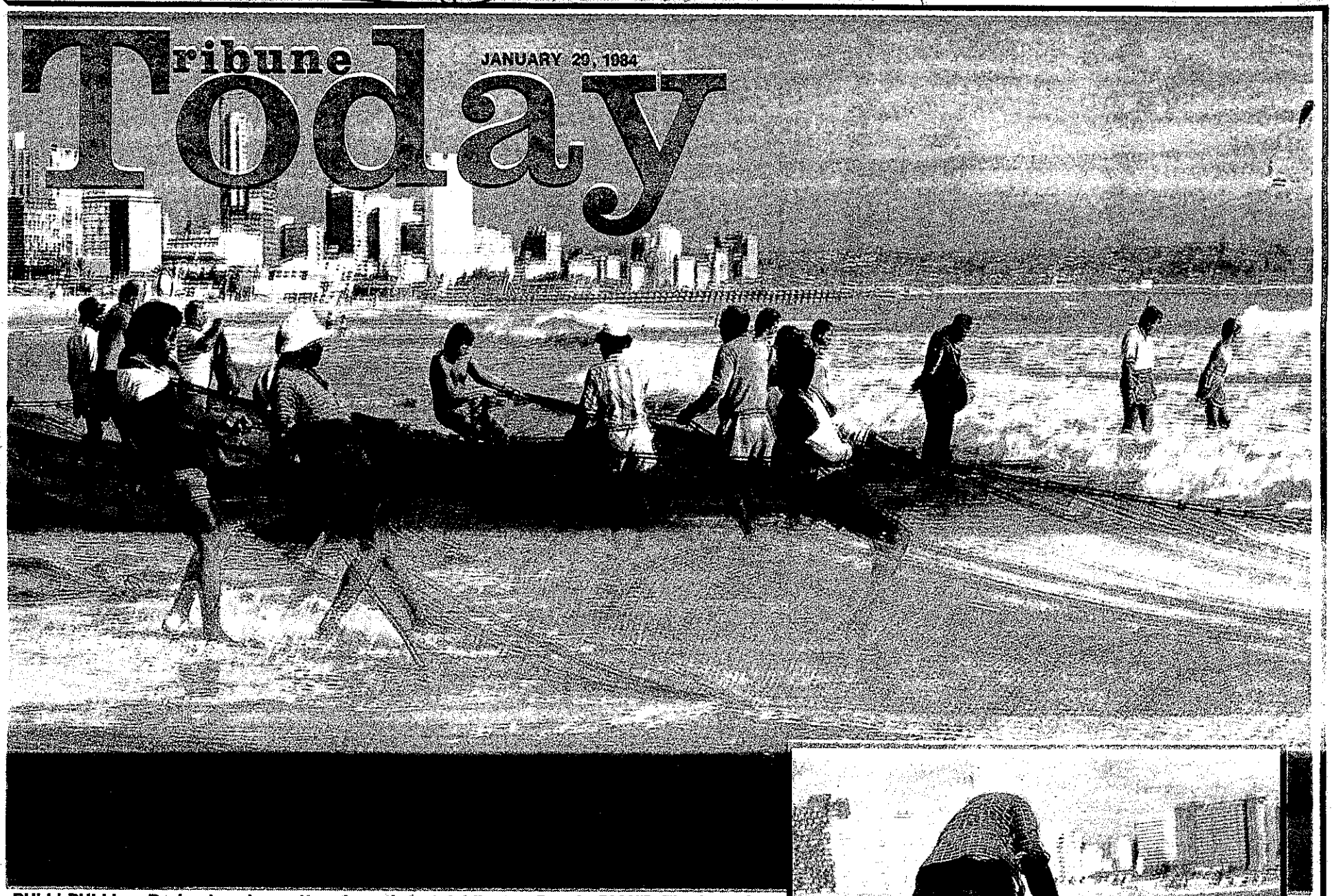
A recent advertisement in local newspapers invited Ciskeian citizens to apply for the experimental fishing rights on the dam, which, it stated, would give an initial return of some R2 000 - R2 500 a year. Ardri was offering a small loan to assist the successful applicant to launch this enterprise but there had been few takers. It is understood, however, that a Ciskeian has been selected and will begin fishing early in 1984.

The statement said the Laing Dam project was only one small facet of the fishing potential in Ciskei's inland waters. The Department of Agriculture and Forestry recently took over the Pirie trout hatchery from the Cape Provincial Administration and intended to re-equip the hatchery and re-establish a supply of trout fingerlings, possibly eyed-ova (fertilised eggs) and possibly also trout for the table.

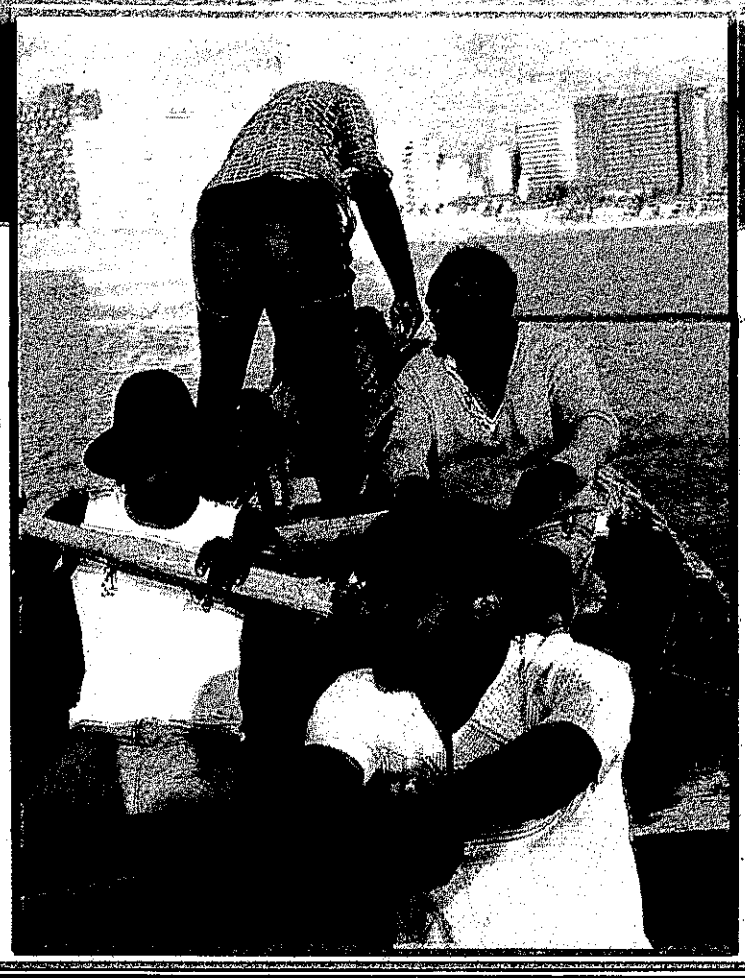
Ardri was also researching and developing a warm water fishery at Old Woman's River near the Great Fish River Mouth. This fish station was intended to supply bream (kurper) fingerlings for stocking family dams throughout Ciskei to improve the availability of protein to the Ciskeian people. — DDR

(3 Fishing) D. Tribune - 29/1/84

Tribune Today
JANUARY 29, 1984



PULL! PULL! . . . Durban's seine netters in action at Addington Beach. RIGHT: The last of the seine fishermen's boats in Durban Bay



(3) Fishing S Tribune

The Last Seine Netters

29/1/84

Story and Pictures by FRANCI HENNY

AS the sunrise spreads across the eastern horizon, a handful of men lugging heaps of fishing nets stagger across the beach to a strange-looking rowing boat. Some climb aboard, arrange themselves among the nets and are pushed off by their companions, to embark on one of the loneliest jobs in the country.

They believe they are the last of South Africa's seine-net fishermen and they crew the only remaining boat of its kind.

Durban was once the hub of seine-net fishing. In days gone by, almost the entire village of Fynnland on

Turn To Page 2 ➡

INSIDE

Stress: Spice of life?
Conquering the Orange
Click: Obie's outback
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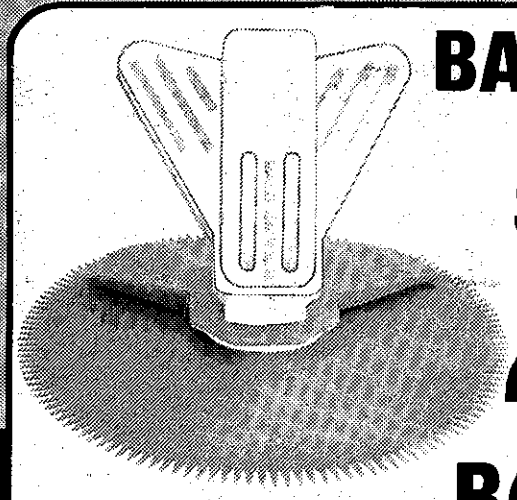

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Launching the boat
and (below) the stampede to see what the fishermen have netted





THE ONES THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY ... Skipper Keith Moodley, centre, and friends with some of the day's catch

Ancient fishing art faces extinction as only a handful of netters survive

(3) fishing S. Tribune 29/1/84

From Page One

the Bluff earned their living seine-net fishing. Fleets of between 30 and 40 boats would set out every morning to net fish off Durban's beaches but over the generations their numbers dwindled. Pushed out by the massive oil refinery and the Group Areas Act to be resettled in Chatsworth, far from the sea, most of the fishermen turned to other jobs.

The young men prefer the glamour, excitement and wealth of city jobs to the antiquated lifestyle of seine-fishing and old timers are not being replaced. Falling fish populations, too, have prompted conservation legislation which drastically restricts the amount of seine-fishing.

Now there is only the one boat left, crewed by 10 diehard seine fishermen.

They have formed a company, *Natal Seine-Netters (Pty) Ltd*, and operate from two tiny shacks, squeezed between the ski-boat club and the yacht club near Addington Beach. They have only one fishing permit, which means only one net can be used at a time in a defined area.

To these men, seine-net fishing is more than just a way of earning a living — it is an art that has been passed down from generation to generation, an art that now faces extinction.

Although the seine-fishermen, whose ages range from 18 to 55, always make an early start, the sea is invariably already speckled with a myriad of other fishing craft from paddle ski-boats to sophisticated motor launches.

Their row-boat, however, is peculiar: its hull is curved like an archer's bow and both the bow and stern are flat. The faded pink and white paint is streaked with rust and its name, *DNA 27*, is barely visible.

"We built it ourselves. It took three months. When it gets too old and unseaworthy, we'll build another just like it. The flat stern is essential for casting nets into the water and the curved shape rides better on the swells. It's impossible to use an outboard motor because the net would simply get tangled in it," explained skipper Keith Moodley. So the fishing technique they use, dating back centuries, is almost biblical.

One word from Keith and the men prepare to launch, amid a cloud of sea-gulls squawking, wheeling and diving in anticipation. Four men take to the oars and Keith calls the pace: "Hup ... hup ... hup and a one, two, 10."

Their conversation rarely centres around work — they know their routine so well they could do it sleep-walking. Instead, it's all light banter-ing: "Hey, Bobby, it looks like you had a good party last night?" or "Man, that wife of yours has got a lovely voice over the telephone. Perhaps I should come and visit more often."

The rest of the team waits on the shore and plays out a rope attached to the net on the boat. Keith acts as spotter — often the water is so clear shoals of fish are clearly visible from the boat. He instructs his men to row in a wide arc out to the shark nets and back to the shore again, ending several metres below their starting point. All this time, the net is being slung overboard. The net is bouyed with corks at one end and weighed down with lead at the other.

Once the boat is beached, the men start hauling in the net by hand. It is a strenuous, labourious process; an unusual sight that attracts hordes of curious oglers and even more seagulls.

"Haai, yerra, ma, kom kyk vir die ouens." Several bystanders can't bear the anticipation and lend a hand to pull in the net more quickly. Even with their help, it takes more than an hour to drag the sluggish net to the shore.

Then pandemonium breaks loose: the excited shrieks of children and adults blend with the cries of the fishermen and seagulls. Everyone stampedes into the shorebreak to see what the net has bagged. A fisher-men holds up a bloated groupper: more squeals of delight and disgust from the audience. But disappoint-ment reigns. Only half a basket of fish has been caught.

"Most of this, we'll sell as bait to the ski-boat and surf fishermen. Mos days are much better though. W regularly supply fish to the fresh fi market. But we'll keep on trying no until we have netted a substanti catch," said Keith.

Keith explained that types of fi vary with the seasons: sardines r in June and July, snoek in Novemb and mackerel are found early in year. "So some seasons are inva ably better than others. There is ways a lot of bay squid which is big demand and we always ca enough to earn a living."

But for how much longer, no can predict. Even Keith is pessi tic. "I realise seine-fishing is pa from generation to generation. today's world is very competi and if my sons want to do somet else, well, that's up to them."

So the rare scene of a fishing rowing their creaking boat out t to net fish by hand could last on long as the youngest seine-fisher

(3) Fishing S. Times 29/1/84

Still room for a good fishing haul

By Elizabeth Rouse

FISHING shares, which outperformed other sectors on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in the past year, could have more run in them.



The JSE Actuaries fishing index has climbed by 98,6% to 264,5 from 133,2 over 12 months and the sector's performance has been spectacular seen against movements in the industrial index.

Part of the strong surge was attributable to the dividend strip of the companies involved in the Tiger-Barlows deal, which caused a scramble for the shares involved.

Some analysts have lost interest in fishing shares since the strip. Others believe they are still good investments.

The fishing sector's dividend yields have traditionally been higher than most other sectors' because of the speculative aspect of catches. Compared with relatively narrow yields in other sectors, the current average dividend yield is 10,3% and the PE ratio is 5,6.

Historic yields range from 5,8% for OIL, which has a small fishing content, 6% for Wilbarz, 7,7% for Kaap-Kunene, 10,2% for Oceana Fishing (Ocfish) and 10,4% for Swafish to 13,2% for Seaswa.

However, chances of action in fishing companies seem limited. Diversifications have not always paid off. Ocfish had to write off Leisurcor Industrial Holdings — acquired when still Lamberts Bay — to the tune of more than R2-million in its 1983 accounts.

This failure to profit from non-fishing interests partly prompted the decision to pay shareholders the money harvested from the Tiger-Barlows deal instead of using using it for diversification.

However, Ocfish will continue to look for acquisitions, says joint managing director Eric Kiwi. Ocfish, after receiving dividends from subsidiaries, Seaswa and Swafish, has R22,6-million cash in the kitty, says Mr Kiwi.

For the moment, the group has a "respectable spread" in fishing interests in South Africa, Namibia and Chile and 1984 results should be good, although earnings might not be up to 1983's 94,5c a share.

The shares are reasonably priced at 470c, but scrip is hard to find.

There is a chance of action in the Kaap-Kunene/Suiderland group if the Du Preez and Neethling families decide to sell out to a big group.

In that case, there is a possibility of synergy with OIL, in which the Premier Group has a 22% stake. But that is mere speculation at this stage as Kaap-Kunene is resolutely independent.

Kaap-Kunene has diversified into fruit farming, but this investment is not expected to pay off until 1985. There must still be lots of cash in the group — R10-million, according to the last annual report.

Kaap-Kunene shares have soared by 91,2% to 325c in the past 12 months. Earnings for the year to December 1983 were up at 42,5c (35,4c) a share and the dividend was lifted by 5c to 25c.

Short-term favourable background factors for fishing are that the season has started well, that Chilean interests are at last paying off, that fishmeal prices are up and fishoil prices are reasonable.

Mr Kiwi is as confident as only a fisherman can be that catches will equal last season's.

The industry's quota for pilchards and anchovy has been reduced to 291 000 tons from 380 000 tons (all inclusive last year), but other fishing is free of quotas this year.

If the run is good for quota-free species the industry could well surpass last year's catch, says Mr Kiwi.

The Namibian quota is unchanged and so are the dates for the season. The industry is not perturbed about the short-term outlook off the Namibian coast.

Rock-lobster catches have gone well and export earnings should rise because of the rand's weakness against the dollar.

Mr Kiwi reports an increase in canning, which will certainly reduce the need for imports this year.

Ocfish's interest in Chile's Pesquera Coquimbo dos Limitada has been increased to 44,4% and the fleet has been expanded.

Vivian Epstein, Kaap-Kunene's joint managing director, is reluctant to make a forecast for the 1984 season. "Might as well gaze into a crystal ball," he says.

He expects the industry's total catch to be maintained, but the fishoil yield will depend on the quality of fish.

Mr Epstein is cautious about propects in Chile where fishing conditions are apt to be stormy. Kaap-Kunene has a 50-50 interest with Fedfood in a fish-canning operation, Pesquera Del Norto.

For this reason the Chilean operations are not reflected in the accounts. However, R1,4-million provisions for losses remain on the books.

the proposed constitutional dispensation; if so, (a) from which institutions and/or organizations and (b) what was (i) the import of, and (ii) his reaction to, each of these representations?

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

Yes.

(a) Various Indian persons, organizations and bodies

(b) (i) and (ii) I am still engaged in negotiations in this regard and consequently not in a position at this stage to express an opinion or take a standpoint regarding the matter.

National parks

*18. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether any additional areas of land were set aside for national parks in 1983; if so, (a) where and (b) what is the extent of each of these areas?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Yes

(a) The Karoo National Park near Beaufort West.

(b) 8 200 hectares.

Fishing Hansard Q. 61.47 3/2/84

Pelagic fish

*19. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

How many tonnes of (a) anchovy and pilchard and (b) non-quota pelagic fish were landed during the 1983 fishing season (during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Particulars in respect of the two fishing seasons during 1983 are as follows:

(a) 299 208 tonnes of anchovy and pilchards.

(b) 77 307 tonnes other pelagic fish. May I add for the information of hon members that the season started on 15 January, and the information to date is that good catches of non-quota species are being recorded.

Drakensberg: prospecting/mining operations

*20. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether he or his Department has received an application from (a) a person and/or (b) a company to conduct (i) prospecting and (ii) mining operations in the Drakensberg mountain range in Natal; if so, (aa) from which person and/or company and (bb) within which area;

(2) whether the application has been acceded to;

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) (a) No.

(i), (ii), (aa) and (bb) Fall away.

(b) Yes.

(i) Yes, but not prospecting in the true sense of the word.

(aa) Southern Sphere Mining and Development Company (Pty) Ltd.

(bb) Cathedral Peak, Monk's Cowl, Highmoor, Mkhomazi Cobham and Garden Castle State forests, parts of which have already been declared wilderness areas or nature reserves or

which are to be declared as such.

(ii) No.

(aa) and (bb) Fall away.

(2) No.

(3) No. The attention of the hon member is however, drawn to a press release issued by the Departments of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Environment Affairs on 25 January 1984, a copy of which will be made available to him.

For written reply.

Television licences

28. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications:

(a) How many television licences were issued in 1983 and (b) what was the amount collected in licence fees?

The MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

(a) 1 794 077; and

(b) R71 741 946,92. This amount includes penalties paid in respect of late renewals.

Sandton: Reserve Police Force

32. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many persons joined the Reserve Police Force in Sandton in 1983;

(2) how many reservists (a) retired and (b) dropped out from the Reserve Force in that year?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) 18 persons.

(2) (a) None.

(b) 11.

X 329 Hansard Q. 61.3 3/2/84 X

Detainees

51. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many persons are detained at present under section 29(1) of the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982;

(2) whether any such persons have been detained for longer than three months; if so, (a) how many and (b) for what period in each case?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) 21 persons as on 31 January 1984.

(2) No.

Detainees

58. Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether any detainees are hospitalized at present; if so, (a) how many and (b) for what reasons;

(2) whether hospitalized detainees may be visited by their relatives; if not, why not; if so, how often?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) No.

(2) Falls away.

Police salaries

71. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether he will reconsider his decision regarding questions on police salaries; if not, why not; if so, what are the rates of pay for (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian

Fishing curbs shock for Natal

(3) Fishing Mercury 7/2

CAPE TOWN—New curbs have been announced by the Deputy Minister of Environment and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, on catches of reef fish on the Natal North Coast and the exploitation of 74 on the South Coast.

Ormande Pollok
Political Correspondent

And further conservation measures were being considered for Natal and the Cape.

Announcements would be made as soon as investigations had been completed.

Mr Wiley said yesterday that the seaward boundary of the St Lucia Marine Reserve was to be extended to three miles and that there would be a ban on catching 74 during the breeding season.

His decision to introduce the curbs had been taken after discussions with the Administrator of Natal, Mr Stoffel Botha, Mr Dering Stainbank, MEC and the Director of the Natal Parks Board, Mr John Geddes Page.

The new sea boundary on the reserve, which includes St Lucia itself, Cape Vidal and Sodwana Bay, will now be the same distance as the Tsitsikama Reserve.

'In recent years there has been a considerable increase in marine exploitation in these areas by skiboaters, skin divers, line fishermen and other anglers,' said Mr Wiley.

Patrolled

'[illegible] pressed that reef-fish in particular are under abnormal pressure.

'The extension of the seaward limit to three sea miles will bring all the main coral reefs within the boundaries of the reserve which will be administered and patrolled by the Natal Parks Board and its inspectors.

'In addition a proclamation of a "closed season" on 74 will be made shortly whereby 74 will not be permitted to be caught during the breeding season — August, September, October and November — between Greenpoint Lighthouse on the South Coast and the Cooper light off Durban.'

Mr Wiley said he hoped that the measure would contribute to rebuilding Natal's heavily over-exploited stocks of 74, one of South Africa's best known table fish which had already almost completely disappeared along parts of the Cape coast.

'The imposition of further conservation measures for other over-exploited angling and table fish both in Natal and the Cape Province is enjoying the special consideration of committees of Natal scientists and officials of the marine development branch,' said Mr Wiley.

SUNDAY TRIBUNE, FEBRUARY 12, 1984

Blacks claim Umhlanga wants to drive them off its beaches

'Fish ban aimed at us'

(3) Fishing S. Tribune 12/2/84

By Eddy Andriés

UMHLANGA, the rich people's seaside resort, has introduced a strict fishing prohibition which effectively keeps non-whites off all its beaches.

Notices which ban surf angling except for three hours in the early morning and three hours in the early evening, have been erected along the length of the foreshore controlled by the borough, which includes elite La Lucia.

The ostensible reason for the move is that it had been necessary to control a litter problem, but fishermen say the real reason is racial.

No other local authority in Natal has introduced comparable regulations.

The ban comes about after the Natal Provincial Administration overruled an attempt by the Town Council to restrict fishing to permit-holders — who were restricted to holidaymakers, fishing club members and local residents.

Outraged anglers with nowhere to cast their lines are now preparing to band together to petition against the new measures.

Umhlanga's mayor, Peter Carter, denied that the prohibition — which carries a maximum fine of R50 for offenders and is policed by officers of the town's protection services department — was intended to prevent Indians and blacks from frequenting the popular fishing spots.

But he admitted that it had been introduced after complaints from burgesses "who, let's face it, pay an awful lot of money to live near the sea".

Mr Carter said: "The problem is the mess left behind by these chaps.

"We can't afford to keep on picking up rotting bait, fish hooks, empty bottles and general rubbish strewn about the place."

However, the secretary of the Umhlanga Angling Club, Ken Wilkinson, said: "That's nonsense. We feel the reason for the ban is basically racial — but nobody is prepared to stand up and say it."

If litter had been the cause for the ban the borough should have provided more and larger dirt bins on the beaches.

"A lot of people decided on retiring to Umhlanga so that they could spend time fishing. What do they do now? I thought beaches were public property and for the use of everyone."

Norman Seif, secretary of the controlling body of surf fishing in the province, the Natal Coast Anglers' Union, said the prohibition would be taken up "at a higher level".

As far as he was concerned it should be rescinded or, at the very least, considerably relaxed.

Mr Seif had "also heard" that the ban had been racially-motivated, but did not wish to comment.

A group of Indian fishermen who were asked to give their views on the controverial ban were unanimous replying: "It is apartheid."

'Culling' in sanctuary

ARGUS 15/2/84 (3 Fol.)

By MELISSA LANGERMAN
Environment Reporter

DEPUTY Minister of Environment Affairs Mr John Wiley has given two Hout Bay fishing companies permission to catch 50 tons of crayfish in the Atlantic coast sanctuary.

The companies, SA Sea Products and Chapmans Peak Fisheries, which have two weeks to catch the crayfish, began trapping today between Hout Bay and Oudeskip Point near Sandy Bay, an area which has been inviolate for more than 20 years.

Mr Wiley said he had decided to allow the companies to catch crayfish in the reserve partly as compensation for taking away other commercial crayfish grounds in False Bay.

He emphasised that the catches were part of an experiment and said he did not believe commercial fishing companies would receive permission to take crayfish from other areas in the crayfish sanctuary this year.

He said he wanted to see whether the sanctuaries could be used on a rotational basis to prevent overfishing in other areas and fishing in sanctuaries could take place again in the future if the experiment proved successful.

Mr A Broeder, director of SA Sea Products, and Mr S Dorman, managing director of Chapmans Peak Fisheries, confirmed that they would start catching the crayfish this morning.

Mr Broeder, who said his company would probably catch about 35 tons, emphasised that they would be catching the crayfish for only two weeks and were under instructions to be back in Hout Bay with their traps every evening by 7.30 pm.

They said the crayfish was part of their quotas and they would merely be catching in the sanctuary instead of elsewhere.

Experiment

Department of Environment senior research officer in charge of rock lobsters Dr David Pollock said scientists would monitor the experiment and the area to see how the crayfish population reacted in the long term.

He said scientists had proved that adult crayfish normally stayed in a restricted area and his department wanted to see whether population growth would be stimulated by the "culling exercise".

Five deny Ciskeian terror charges

Staff Reporter

KING WILLIAM'S TOWN. — Five former officers of the Ciskeian armed forces, including three members of the Sebe family, have pleaded not guilty in the Bisho Supreme Court to charges of terrorism.

They are Mr Ntobeko Mlotana, Mr Khambashe Sebe, Mr Mbulelo Xaba, Mr Colin Sebe, and Mr Toni Sebe.

They declined to disclose the basis of their defence yesterday.

The charges against them arose from the detention on July 13, last year of a certain Brigadier Tamsanqa, second-in-charge to the former Lieutenant-General Charles Sebe.

The State alleges Mr Sebe called a meeting of officers on July 14. Mr Mlotana, then a Major in the Ciskei police, allegedly incited the officers to release Brigadier Tamsanqa by force.

After the meeting the other four accused allegedly drove to the home of Mr B N Pityi, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and fired shots at it.

(Proceeding)

Prison head ordered assaults, court told

Argus Correspondent

WITBANK. — Lieutenant Johannes Wessel Niemand, former acting head of the Barberton "heat exhaustion" prison, had ordered the gruesome baton assaults on defenceless convicts — and warned the warders who manned the attack to take a vow of silence about the incident, a magistrate was told.

The former prison head denied charges of attempting to defeat the ends of justice by allegedly ordering the six warders involved in the "wholesale attack" not to provide the police with information of the assaults and inciting or ordering the warders to assault convicts.

Three prisoners, ordered to push loaded wheelbarrows in temperatures of 35 deg C, died of heatstroke and shock after being assaulted by the warders.

SENTENCED TO JAIL TERMS

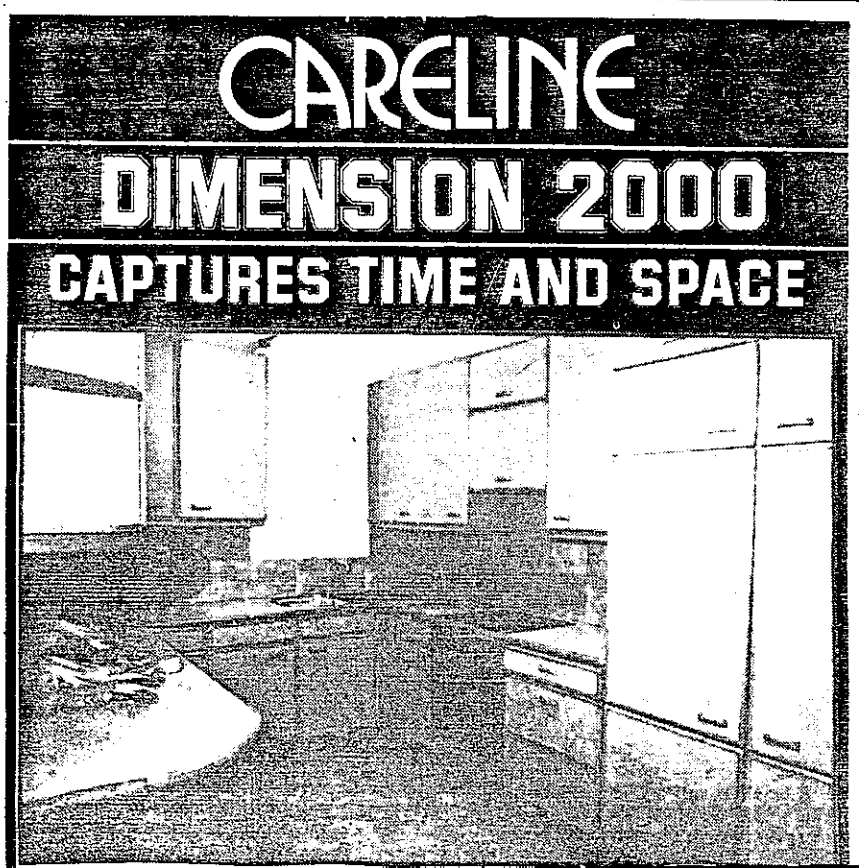
The six warders were last year sentenced to jail terms ranging from one to eight years.

Gert Smit, a former warrant officer now serving eight years for assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, said that on the morning of the day in question, Lieutenant Niemand had instructed him to "take a few prisoners to the Pretorius Dam to make them warm". This he gathered meant prisoners were to be punished.

Smit then organised a number of warders and told them to get prisoners together and "wallop them".

Another former warder, Jacques Stoltz, serving three years for taking part in the assaults, said Lieutenant Niemand had warned him "not to breathe a word to the police" about the incident.

(Proceeding.)



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Crayfish sanctuary opening 'of grave concern'

ARGUS 16/2/84

3 Fish

Environment Reporter

THE decision by the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs to allow limited commercial crayfishing in the Atlantic coast sanctuary is of "grave concern" as it might set a precedent for violations of other wildlife sanctuaries, says a spokesman for the SA Wildlife Society.

Mr John Greig, editor of African Wildlife, said his society found the move "most surprising".

Mr John Wiley said yesterday he had opened the sanctuary off Hout Bay for two weeks to enable SA Sea Products and Chapmans Peak Fisheries to catch 50 tons of crayfish as an experiment to see how it affected the reserve.

Investigation wanted

Mr Roger Hulley, PFP spokesman on environment affairs, said Mr Wiley's decision represented a "major policy question" that had been made without full public investigation.

"A matter which involves a major change to sanctuaries managed for decades should not be allowed to take place without an investigation, partly to ensure there is no commercial advantage to the firms concerned," he said.

Mr Wiley's statement said he wanted to see if crayfish sanctuaries could be used on a rotational base in future to prevent overfishing of other areas.

Benguela current

Mr Greig said: "As far as we are concerned, one of the purposes of this sanctuary is to re-stock West Coast crayfish grounds with larvae bred in the sanctuary and carried along the coast by the Benguela current.

"I believe a sanctuary is a sanctuary and should be inviolate. If overfishing is possible in open areas the solution to the problem can hardly be found in 'opening sanctuaries'. Instead, the quota system should be re-examined.

"If we are short of red meat, do we open the Kruger Park for commercial exploitation of meat?

Research scientists

"We wonder whether this is a spontaneous decision on the part of the Deputy Minister or whether it was done on the advice of departmental research scientists."

Dr Peter Cook of the University of Cape Town's zoology department, who has made a study of crayfish, said the decision was a "good thing" as long as the reserve was being opened only for research and was not "a con to extend commercial fishing".

to Question No 84 put to me by the ember for Sunnyside.

Public Service: personnel

Maj R SIVE asked the Minister of Affairs:

at amount was spent in the 1982-83 cial year on (a) advertising and (b) city for the recruitment of personnel e Public Service?

MINISTER OF INTERNAL AF-

e expenditure from vote 12 (Commis- or Administration) is—

R685 843 for advertisements; and

R194 380 for publicity for the recruit- ment of personnel.

rnment: loans from private banking sector

Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Min- Finance:

Whether any amounts have been borrowed by the (a) Government and (b) Reserve Bank from the private banking sector since 1 April 1983; if so, (i) what amounts and (ii) when;

whether any of these amounts have been repaid; if so, which amounts?

MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(a) Yes, from the Reserve Bank.

(b) No.

(i), (ii) and (2) When the Exchequer experiences temporary deficits, money is obtained from the Reserve Bank on a daily basis to finance those deficits. Surpluses on any day are likewise used to repay such "loans".

Since 1 April 1983 Treasury has raised and repaid Reserve Bank loans as follows:

Month	Raised	Repaid	Balance
August 1983	R857 million	R857 million	Nil
November 1983	R120 million	R120 million	Nil

It is assumed that with "borrow" it has not been the intention to include amounts which the private banking sector or the Reserve Bank invested in public issues of government stock and treasury bills.

WEDNESDAY, 15 FEBRUARY 1984

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†Indicates translated version

For oral reply:

Prime Minister:

Constitutional dispensation: cost

*1. Mr A SAVAGE asked the Prime Minister:

(1) Whether his Office has done any calculations regarding the cost of the implementation and functioning of the new constitutional dispensation; if so, what are the estimated costs involved; if not,

(2) whether such a study is to be undertaken; if not, why not; if so, when?

The PRIME MINISTER:

(1) and (2) Owing to various practical aspects which are still being worked on, such as the establishment of administrative structures, general procedure arrangements, constitution, nature and functioning of Ministers' Councils and Standing Committees, matters relating to the functioning of Parliament etc, it is not possible at this stage to determine what the costs involved will be.

Ministers:

(3) Fishing Hansard Q. 61.154 15/2/84

Pelagic fish

*1. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

What estimated percentage of the catch of (a) pilchards and (b) anchovies in 1983 were immature juveniles?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(a) 85%.

(b) 55%.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, arising out of the reply given by the hon the Deputy Minister, could he tell the House whether there was an increase in the percentage of juveniles taken in the anchovy catch during the second half of 1983?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I anticipated this question. The figures for the two seasons are as follows: Pilchards 85% and anchovies 60%, that is for the first season, and in the second season, pilchards 85% and anchovies 50%.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the reply given by the hon the Deputy Minister, could he tell us whether he is concerned about the increased catch of pilchards during the second season?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the pilchard resource is, as everybody knows, under threat, and one is of course concerned about last year's catch. That is one of the reasons why we have cut the pilchard quota to 25 000 tons for the current year.

(3) Fishing Hansard Rock lobster 22/2/84 Q. 61. 292

*20. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

(1) Whether he or his Department has recently issued permits to any commercial firms to catch rock lobster in any established rock lobster sanctuary; if so, (a) why, (b) on what basis, (c) to which firms, (d) in respect of which part of which sanctuary and (e) for the extraction of what total quantity of rock lobster were these permits issued;

(2) when (a) was the sanctuary in question established and (b) were permits last granted for the catching of rock lobster in this sanctuary;

(3) whether tenders from interested parties were called for prior to the issuing of these permits; if not, why not; if so, from whom were tenders received?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

(1) Yes.

(a) For experimental purposes.

(b) Strict conditions were laid down in the permits issued regarding, *inter alia*, the total mass, time, period and number of boats. Catches take place under supervision of scientists of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute and the inspection service.

(c) South African Sea Products (Pty) Ltd, Chapman's Peak Fisheries (Pty) Ltd, and a private boat owners' organization known as Dassen Lobster (Pty) Ltd.

(d) That portion of the Hout Bay/Melkbosstrand Rock Lobster Sanctuary between the beacon situated at the point known as Oudeschip, south of Llandudno, and the beacon situated at "Die Josie" on Chapman's Peak at the southern extremity of Hout Bay.

(e) Fifty tonnes whole mass.

(2) (a) 26 February 1965.

(b) No permits were previously issued.

(3) No, it is not the policy of the Department of Environment Affairs to grant quotas on a tender basis. The 50 tonnes allocation was made at a meeting of the Sea Management Association at the request of the Department. This organization represents the whole West Coast rock lobster (kreef) industry. The 50 tonnes are part of the quota for area eight and is therefore not an additional quota. In addition, pressure on the resource in the rest of area eight is relieved by the limited experiment. I may add that since the beginning of the 1982-83 season the commercial catching of rock lobster in False Bay and an extended area north and south of Kommetjie has been totally prohibited.

The Marine Development Branch scientists estimated that approximately 50 tonnes of rock lobster were previously caught in those areas by commercial boats. Private individuals who were entitled to catch five rock lobsters per person per day thus enjoy protection in both False Bay and around Kommetjie. I may add for the information of the hon member that the Government looks after the small man.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, could he say whether he approached any conservation bodies before taking this step, and, if so, which ones, and, if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, no conservation bodies were approached, but the scientists of the department worked in conjunction with the industry.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, did he consider granting this quota of 50 tonnes to the small men, the people who have permits to catch rock lobster as individuals, and, if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, to have done that would have been to have created a condition of chaos. It would have been completely impossible to monitor those people. In addition to that, the whole purpose of the experiment was that it should be conducted under controlled and disciplined conditions.

Mr R R HULLEY: Where is the small man now? [Interjections.]

Northern Natal: floods

*21. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether he has conducted a survey of the flood-damaged areas of Northern Natal; if so, what are the results of the survey; if not,

(2) whether he intends to conduct such a survey; if not, why not; if so, when is it anticipated that results will be available;

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) The Department of Agriculture carried out a survey to determine the damage to agriculture. The report is at present under consideration.

(2) Falls away.

(3) The Government will make an announcement as soon as it is feasible.

Northern Natal: sugar crops

*22 Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the

New rules for perlemoen fishermen

Staff Reporter

PROFESSIONAL perlemoen fishermen will have to operate from clearly-marked boats in future, feuding interests in the perlemoen industry have agreed.

At a meeting organised by the MP for Caledon, Mr L H Fick, it was unanimously decided to set up a permanent co-ordinating committee representing the public, professional operators, conservationists and perlemoen packers.

The Deputy Minister of Environment and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, promised to implement immediately a suggestion that the 50 commercial perlemoen boats licensed at present carry compulsory identification.

LETTER "A"

Mr Wiley, guest speaker at the meeting, said the boats would be painted with the letter "A" and an identification number.

This would allow the public to identify boats illegally operating without licences and would protect bona fide operators from allegations that they were stripping the country's perlemoen resources.

Mr Jack Winshaw, a member of the Kleinmond/Betty's Bay coastal conservation board, claimed he had seen double the number of licensed perlemoen boats off the coast near his home.

FACTIONS

The meeting called on Mr Fick to set up a committee of the industry's warring factions, who met for the first time today to discuss what Mr Fick called "the credibility gap yawning between them".

Dominating the discussion were charges that the public was not able to find perlemoen at reasonable prices because professional operators were stripping the country's perlemoen resources for export.

All sides agreed that the 185 m coastal limit within which professional catches were banned, was unworkable.

FORCED OUT

They added that they would be forced out of business if the limit was extended to 250 m as urged by coastal ratepayers associations.

Mr J van Schalkwyk, chairman of the Walker Bay Angling and Conservation Society, said the professional divers should make perlemoen available to the man in the street at R9 a kilogram.

He said this would still allow the professionals a 50 percent profit.

"They have the right to exploit a national asset, therefore they also have an obligation to supply the public," he said.

(3) Fishing Q. 61. 342
24/2/84

Pelagic fish

*22. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

What was the total catch of pelagic fish in the 1982 and 1983 calendar years, respectively?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

1982: 377 003 metric tonnes.
1983: 376 515 metric tonnes.

Rock lobster/abalone

*23. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

How many catch permits have been issued to private individuals during the current season in respect of (a) rock lobster and (b) abalone?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Up to 31 January 1984 the following were issued:

(a) 17 357 rock lobster permits; and

(b) 3 243 abalone licences.

'Exorbitant profits' on perlemoen

Environment Reporter

EXORBITANT profits were being made in the perlemoen industry, which had become over-exploited, over-priced and fraught with distrust, a special meeting heard in Cape Town on Thursday.

Organized by Mr H L Fick, MP for Caledon, in an attempt to reconcile critical problems among warring factions in the industry, the meeting was opened by the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley.

Unanimous

All parties present at the meeting decided unanimously to establish a permanent management committee representing the public, professional operators, conservationists and perlemoen-packers to help control the industry.

The meeting heard that:

- Perlemoen had become critically scarce for the general public, who were not even able to buy perlemoen at reasonable prices because professional operators were stripping the country's perlemoen resources for export.
- The 185m coastal limit within which commercial catches were banned was unworkable and often violated.
- Feelings had run so high over these violations and over-exploitation by commercial divers that members of the public had attempted to shoot at boats ignoring the 185m limit.
- Even though there were only 50 commercial perlemoen boats licensed at present, sometimes double that number were seen fishing off the coast.
- Contrary to current research findings, the Walker Bay coastline had been stripped of perlemoen and commercial divers were forced at times to go 80km out to sea to dive.
- Perlemoen divers were paid R2 a kilogram for perlemoen, while the packers sold it wholesale at R17,50 a kilogram. It was contested that even if they sold it at R9 a kilogram to the man-in-the-street, a 50 percent profit would still be made.
- Exorbitantly high prices on the local market had made illegal diving attractive and encouraged a thriving black market.

The meeting was attended by the Perlemoen Divers' Association of South Africa, the Abelone Packers' Association, conservation and ratepayers' associations along the coast of Walker Bay and the Sea Fisheries Research Institute.

- The government was determined to slash perlemoen prices and make it more readily available on the local market, the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, said at Thursday's meeting.

'Dominated'

Mr Wiley said the export market had dominated the industry in the past and only last year had it been possible to arrange for 10 percent of the annual catch to be allocated to the local market.

He said he hoped this percentage could be increased.

"We are quite determined to create a flourishing seafood trade in the Western Cape for both locals and overseas visitors, but not at the high prices that presently exist. The prices must be made more attractive to the man-in-the-street," Mr Wiley said.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

At an average rate of 5,38 tonnes per day varying between 1,6 and 10,2 tonnes per day.

I may add that they are large rock lobsters. Most of them are destined for the local market, I hope at reasonable prices.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, would he tell the House whether this culling exercise has now been completed?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: I do not have the information at my disposal. It was to have lasted two weeks, and I am not sure whether it ends at the end of this week or next week.

Mr R R HULLEY: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, in view of the fact that the 50 metric tons represents about 100 000 individual rock lobsters, according to my estimation, would he, if he is going to repeat this experiment or if there is some portion left, consider granting individual quota holders a permit for a free day or a free weekend to extract some of these rock lobsters? If he would grant this for one day or one specific weekend, it would be possible to control this and at the same time have it done in an orderly fashion.

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Sir, there are no individual quota holders. I think the hon member is referring to members of the public who are allowed to catch five rock lobsters per person per day. I can tell him that this possibility has not been considered by me, but obviously I will consider it as I do all other possibilities.

Fishing Hansard
(3) Rock lobster 29/2/84
Q. Col. 387

*19. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

At what approximate rate per day is rock lobster being caught in terms of the permits granted to catch 50 tonnes whole mass of rock lobster in the Hout Bay/Melkbosstrand sanctuary referred to in his reply to Question No 20 on 22 February 1984?

in the *Gazette* on 18 November 1983, while the final prohibition was published in Government Notice R388 of 2 March 1984.

Hansard 16/3/84 Q. 61. 668

Fish meal

523. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Industries, Commerce and Tourism:

What was the (a) national consumption and (b) level of imports, in tonnes, of fish meal in 1982 and 1983, respectively?

The MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES, COMMERCE AND TOURISM:

(a) (i) 1982: 194 000 tonnes.

(ii) 1983: 221 100 tonnes.

(b) (i) 1982: 60 000 tonnes.

(ii) 1983: 61 100 tonnes.

Figures represent estimates.

Red tide cases 'worst in years'

Cape Times 7/4/84

3 Fishing

Staff Reporters

NO more cases of poisoning were reported yesterday following one of the worst outbreaks of "red tide" in the past few years.

On Thursday, five people were admitted to Cape Town hospitals after eating poisoned mussels and other shellfish.

Red tide outbreaks had been seen at Milnerton and Simon's Town, but this could be more widespread, Dr Louis Botha, deputy director of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute warned yesterday.

"It could be spread right up the West Coast or be localized in small patches," he said.

He said the Institute was in the process of monitoring the extent and nature of the tide and would be doing tests next week to assess the situation.

Dr Botha said that depending on the weather conditions, the tide might break up within a few days, but it could also last for a couple of weeks.

The hot weather of the past week had made conditions ideal for outbreaks of red tide at this time of the year.

He repeated his warning to the public "not to collect or eat mussels or any other shellfish from along the entire West Coast until further notice".

The unidentified 16-year-old Brooklyn boy poisoned by mussels was yesterday in a satisfactory condition in Groote Schuur Hospital.

Mr Bernard van der Pohl, 29, who was rushed to Tygerberg Hospital from Woodstock hospital was also in a satisfactory condition yesterday.

He was, however, still in a special respiratory unit.

The three men who had been admitted to Woodstock Hospital — Mr Kenneth van der Pohl and Mr Rodney Udeman, both of Woodstock, and Mr Tony de Pao, of Three Anchor Bay, were all discharged yesterday.

Officer blamed for sea tragedy

By NOEL BRUYNS

THE chief engineer of the I & J trawler, St Gerard, which sank last year claiming four lives, was yesterday found responsible for the loss of the vessel by a marine court of inquiry held in Customs House.

Mr Roy Langwood's certificate as chief engineer was suspended for 12 months.

The skipper, Captain Peter Cottee, was found to be in default and reprimanded. The owners, Irvin & Johnson Ltd, were also found to be in default.

The Cape Town-registered St Gerard sank off Dassen Island on November 25 in heavy seas when water entered through the fish hatch on the ship's ramp.

In his judgment, Mr C F W van Zyl, the Chief Magistrate in Cape Town, said Mr Langwood had failed to check the emergency hand air compressor before the ship left Cape Town harbour. It was found to be inoperative when it was needed after the main engine stopped at sea and the auxiliary engine could not be started owing to lack of pressure in the air bottles.

'At all costs'

Mr Langwood had drunk eight beers within three hours before and while he was on duty.

Irvin & Johnson Ltd were also found responsible for the loss of the St Gerard. Captain Cottee had been instructed by the owner's Fishing Master, Captain Yaghya, not to cut the trawl warps but "save the fishing gear at all costs."

In sentencing Mr Langwood, Mr Van Zyl said the order to suspend his certificate should be seen as a "condemnation, personal deterrent and a general deterrent to others."

Mr Van Zyl was assisted by Captain H G Hoy and Captain H S Toxopeus. Mr P L Erasmus appeared on behalf of the Director General of Transport. Mr Langwood was represented by Mr A Abercombe, and Captain Cottee by Mr T Walters. Mr R Field appeared for Irvin & Johnson Ltd.

Lost trawler: Court suspends ticket of chief engineer

Shipping Reporter

THE loss of the trawler St Gerard was partly by default of the skipper and the owners and by default and wrongful action of the chief engineer, a marine court of inquiry has found.

Captain Peter Cottee was reprimanded by the court, Irving & Johnson Ltd were advised to "reconsider company policy" and the chief engineer, Mr Roy Langwood, had his chief's ticket suspended for 12 months.

First mate Mr Daniel Wolhuter was absolved from blame because he acted under Captain Cottee.

CAPSIZED

The 40-metre trawler capsized and sank about 29 miles off Dassen Island on November 26 after losing power and being "anchored" with her stern to weather by the trawl gear.

Weather and sea conditions deteriorated over 21 hours while the crew tried to restart the engines. During this time the swells washed up the trawler's ramp, flowed into the stockerpond and into the factory deck which became flooded.

The trawler listed to starboard, capsized and sank with the loss of four lives.

The presiding officer, Chief Magistrate C F W van Zyl, said the court found Mr Langwood guilty by default through not checking the emergency equipment before sailing, and he had committed a wrongful act by consuming alcohol while on duty.

FISH HATCH

The skipper was in default because he allowed the fish hatch to be hammered down with a hammer without first finding out from the chief whether there was another way of closing it.

He also failed to take sufficient preventive action to stop the inflow of water and allowed advice and instructions to influence his decision to cut the trawl.

The company was in default by not giving the skipper its approval to cut the trawl on the three times he had sought it.

Assisting Mr van Zyl were Mr Henry Hoy and Mr M Toxopeus. Mr Roger Field appeared for I&J, Mr Tom Walters for Captain Cottee, Mr A Abercrombie for Mr Langwood and Mr Peter Whelen for Mr Wolhuter. Mr P L Erasmus appeared for the Department of Transport.

Maitland landlord fined R300

Court Reporter

A MAITLAND landlord who harassed his tenants has been fined R300 by a Cape Town magistrate for contravening the Rent Control Act.

The magistrate suspended R200 of the fine for five years.

Lucas Steenkamp, 62, of Steenkamp Properties, Hely Street, Maitland, had pleaded not guilty.

Evidence was that between 1981 and November 1982 Steenkamp harrassed his tenants by sending his workmen to remove the roof and a bedroom window from a house at 194 Coronation Road, Maitland, rented by Mr L W Napier and his wife.

INSTALMENTS

Steenkamp's defence was that during the period Mr Napier had been paying instalments for the house and not rent.

He acknowledged a previous conviction of charging more rent than stipulated by the Rent Board.

Mr B Carroll was on the Bench. Mr J G van Zyl appeared for the State. Steenkamp was not represented.

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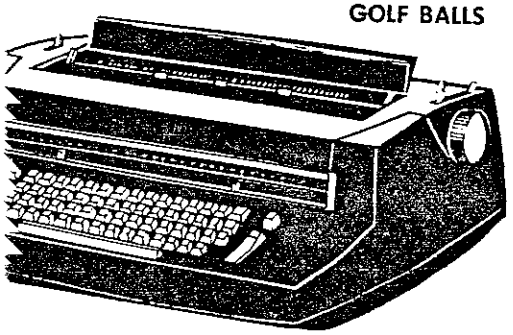

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Krill the key to hunger — professor

AR645 24/5/84

3 Filing

Environment Reporter

SOUTH Africa must as soon as possible investigate its role as an exploiter or purchaser of krill, a shrimp-like animal which could help feed the country's future millions.

This is the opinion of Professor Roy Siegfried of the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute, who delivered his inaugural lecture at the University of Cape Town last night.

He said the potential exploitation of krill and other new food resources needed to be assessed within a national policy for the maximum exploitation of renewable marine resources.

He said this had not been the practice in the past and he unfortunately saw few signs of it occurring in the future.

Alternatives

Alternative resources and techniques for increasing food production and improving its distribution without doing irreversible damage to the environment would be needed to feed South Africa's population within 15 years.

This meant it was likely that arguments against the exploitation of krill — it is uneconomic to do so — could lessen.

Krill can be converted into a meal with a protein content similar to other fish meals.

Only resource

Professor Siegfried said he believed krill was the only natural resource likely to be exploited commercially on a large scale in the immediate future in the Antarctic region.

It was unlikely that anyone knew the size of petroleum oil and other mineral deposits there, and most people believed hard rock mining and drilling for oil was not imminent.

Squid represented a potential food source. It was not being exploited because of the lack of effective equipment.

New award for Southern Ocean, Antarctic research

Environment Reporter

AN annual award for the best research report or post-graduate thesis dealing with the natural resources of the Southern Ocean and Antarctica is to be set up at the University of Cape Town.

This was announced last night by Professor Roy Siegfried of the university's Percy Fitzpatrick Institute.

He said the award — the BP Antarctic Prize — would be a travel grant to enable the recipient to gain firsthand experience of polar resource exploitation management.

It would be worth between R3 000 and R5 000. Although it was an annual award, it would not necessarily be awarded each year.

PCP leader fined on two charges

Tygerberg Bureau

THE leader of the Peoples' Congress Party, Pieter Marais of Bellville, has been fined in Bellville Magistrate's Court for driving an unlicensed car and for contempt of court.

Marais, 40, of Tuna Avenue, Nooitgedacht, was fined R30 (or 30 days) and R10 (or 10 days) respectively on the two charges.

Yesterday he admitted driving an unlicensed car in Modderdam Road on March 1 and failing to appear in court on March 29.

In mitigation he said he had been unemployed for two months and was short of money. He had started work again this month.

He was involved with the Peoples' Congress Party and was kept busy with the registration of coloured voters and addressing meetings. He also had to travel a lot, even to the Transvaal.

Mr W J Faught was on the Bench. Mr W P Welgemoed appeared for the State. Marais was not represented.

Video films were not sexy enough

WORTHING (England). — Video fan Mr Gerry Burton has won a court case against a sex shop that hired him films that were not explicit enough.

The shop was ordered to give Mr Burton, a 26-year-old plumber, and his former wife Jill a refund on five films they rented for home viewing.

"I think I'll use the money to get some more films — but from a better source this time," Mr Burton said after the case. — Sapa-Reuter.

CAPE TIMES 30/7/84

Ovenstone-Diroyal in R150m merger

By PAUL DOLD, Financial Editor

OVENSTONE INVESTMENTS is merging with Diroyal to create a group with assets of R150m and interests ranging from electronics to fishing.

The merger suggests that Ovenstone is likely to be a more aggressive predator in the medium term, while it will also have the advantage of a far larger capital and asset base which should allow rapid profit growth.

The Premier group has joint control of Oil with the Ovenstone family through Ovenstone Consolidated Investments an unlisted company.

Subsidiaries

In essence Oil will become the top holding company with a new company Ovenstone Holdings housing the operating subsidiaries of Oil and Diroyal.

Mr Andrew Ovenstone current chairman of Oil is to be group executive chairman of Ovenstone Holdings with Diroyal's Mr Harold Sender becoming chief executive of the division which will control and develop the existing Diroyal operation in Ovenstone Holdings.

Mutual benefits

The deal brings Diroyal's electronics arm Lovell Proctor, the Premier Wire division and a Ford motor franchise into the group.

Last night the chairman, Mr Andrew Ovenstone, said the deal would have mutual benefits for both Diroyal and Oil shareholders.

Total shareholders' funds will exceed R58m and earnings this year for both groups are expected to increase.



Group executive chairman of Ovenstone Holdings Ltd, Mr Andrew Ovenstone.

"It is a logical step. We have had a stake in Diroyal for more than 10 years and the merger will provide the core of a third leg to our business in addition to fishing and property — construction."

He added that there would be ample scope for expansion which could be in either in the fishing or non-fishing sectors.

Oil assets

The deal which will provide Oil with increased diversification from its traditional fishing operations is taking place through the injection of Oil assets into Diroyal.

Diroyal in turn will issue shares to Oil with Diroyal being renamed Ovenstone Holdings. Oil which already owns 25 percent of Diroyal will end up with an estimated 87 percent of the new Ovenstone Holdings and become the group holding company.

The mechanics of the deal are that Diroyal will issue 58m new 50c shares plus 5m prefs. Half of the prefs which have a coupon of 10 percent will be cumulative redeemable prefs of 1c which are being issued at a premium of 99c.

Of these 1 250 000 are to be redeemed at the issue price in five equal instalments from 1987 to 1991 and the balance in 2 000 or earlier at Diroyal's option. The other 2 500 000 prefs will be cumulative irredeemable, issued at the same price.

Earnings

The Barclays Merchant Bank says that based on Oil and Diroyal's recent 12 month results Oil earnings per share before the deal would have been 12,3c and 11,2c afterwards, while Diroyal earnings would have been 2,5c before and subsequently 9,8c.

In assessing these figures it should be borne in mind that Diroyal had an unusually bad year last year.

On net assets value Oil's n.a. would have been 68,8c before and 72,8c afterwards with Diroyal at 87,6c and 65,8c.

● Kaap Kunene has 25 percent of Diroyal and will end up with a stake in Ovenstone Holdings.

CAPE TIMES 8/6/84
3 Filing

Perlemoen and lobster inquiry

By BARRY STREEK

THE government yesterday announced the appointment of a three-man committee of inquiry into the marketing and distribution of rock lobsters and perlemoen in South Africa.

The committee, to be chaired by Dr Theo Alant, MP, was aimed at improving the present position in regard to the requirements of the local market in these commodities, the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, said in a statement last night.

Mr Wiley said the existing marketing and distribution arrangements, as well as the prices the public had to pay for them, were "unsatisfactory and are often criticized".

Marketing

Rock lobster and perlemoen were "two of our traditional delicacies and attract tourists and visitors to the Western Cape".

They were caught by licensed catchers and divers, delivered to a limited number of quota-holders and marketed through the same quota-holders' centralized marketing organisations.

"Because of over-exploitation, both of them have been subjected to quota limitations for some years, while the public, too, has been restricted to five of each species per person per day.



Mr John Wiley

"Both of these delicacies have proved very popular overseas and valuable rock lobster and perlemoen export markets have been built up."

However, since this year, 25 percent of the rock lobster catch and 10 percent of the perlemoen catch had to be marketed locally. This was a requirement which did not apply to other seafoods.

Mr Wiley said the committee would investigate "the requirements of the local market in both these commodities, existing marketing and distributive mechanisms, and their prices, from catcher and diver to the ultimate consumer".

Monopolies

The committee is to take evidence, hear representations and report to Mr Wiley before the end of September 1984, "with a view to advising me on improvements on the present system, so as to ensure an adequate supply of both rock lobster and perlemoen at reasonable prices during the next season on the local market.

"Methods of combating the operations of black-marketeers and eliminating monopolisitic situations will be included in the committee's terms of reference," Mr Wiley said.

The other two members of the committee are Mr G S Fick, chairman of the Fisheries Development Corporation and of the West Coast Rock Lobster Management Committee, and Mr Theo Behrens, former Secretary of Tourism who is at present managing director of Wesgro.

proached by students with their grievances before the boycott began; if so, (a) on what date and (b) what was the response of the college administration;

(2) whether his Department was informed of this approach at the time; if not, why not;

(3) whether the students' representative council of this college provided food to the boycotting students; if so, where did the students have this food;

(4) whether the relevant authorities will reimburse the students' representative council for funds expended on these provisions; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes.

(a) 30 March 1984.

(b) The Hostel Committee met the House Committee of the students on 12 April 1984 and undertook to attend to the grievances of the students.

(2) No. This aspect of the matter is being followed up departmentally.

(3) Yes, they provided some food. The students also purchased food themselves. As far as can be ascertained at various places on the premises, including the dining room.

(4) No, it is not intended to ask for funds to be made available for this purpose. Food was available at the hostel at all relevant times and the hostel staff were trying to improve matters.

Coloured schools damaged by fire

*11. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Community Development:

(1) Whether any Coloured schools were damaged by fire during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available; if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the total replacement cost involved;

(2) whether investigations were held into the causes of the fires; if not, why not; if so, what were the findings in each case;

(3) whether any steps have been taken to assist the principals of the schools concerned in regard to alternative accommodation and facilities; if not, why not; if so, what was the nature of the assistance provided?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

(1), (2) and (3) The desired information is unfortunately not readily available. Since it is a time-consuming task to go through the particulars and as personnel therefore is not available, I regret that it is not possible to furnish the hon member with the desired informtion.

For written reply:

Telephone directories

978. Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications:

(a) How many (i) white and (ii) yellow page telephone directories were printed in excess of the number of telephone subscribers in the (aa) 1979-80, (bb) 1980-81, (cc) 1981-82 and (dd) 1982-83 years and (b) in respect of which areas were these excess directories printed?

The MINISTER OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS:

(a) (i) (aa) 2 159 012,
(bb) 2 708 954,
(cc) 1 518 811,
(dd) 1 148 797, and

(ii) (aa) to (dd) none; and

(b) all directory areas.

Notes: The actual number of telephones and not the number of subscribers was used as a basis to determine the figures reflected above as subscribers are not only entitled to directories for main services but also for extensions.

In determining the number of copies to be printed, provision is nevertheless made for less copies then the total number to which telephone subscribers are entitled because many subscribers fail to collect their copies despite appeals made to them to do so.

The reason why more directories are printed than the number of telephones is ascribed to the fact that provision has to be made for normal telephone growth, for copies to be sold in other areas and overseas countries and also for a higher distribution of directories in metropolitan areas where subscribers are entitled to free copies of all directories for those areas. For example, a Johannesburg subscriber presently receives copies of the Johannesburg (white and yellow pages), the East Rand and West Rand directories. Prior to 1981-82 subscribers in all areas, except those in the OFS and Northern Cape, were also provided with free copies of the directories for adjacent directory areas (for example, subscribers in the Transvaal received all the directories for that province and those in the Cape Peninsula and the Western and Southern Cape the directories for both these areas).

(3) Fishing Hansard Q.61.1613 13/6/84

Guano islands

980. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries:

Whether any guano had been collected from 1 April 1983 up to the latest specified date for which information is available, from the islands of Mercury, Ichaboe, Possession, Penguin, Plum Pudding, Pomona, Roast Beef, Sinclair, Halifax, Hollands Bird, Long and Seal, respectively; if so, (a) what was the yield in the case of each of the islands concerned and (b) what was the (i) total cost of collection for this period and (ii) value of the guano so collected?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND FISHERIES:

Yes, but only on the islands of Mercury, Ichaboe, Penguin and Seal.

(a) Particulars for the calendar year 1983 are as follows:

Mercury	1 028 metric tonnes;
Ichaboe	1 929 metric tonnes;
Penguin	150 metric tonnes;
Seal	24 metric tonnes.

(b) (i) and (ii) The information is not available as the guano was collected by a private firm for its own account.

Hansard Q. Col. 1614 13/6/84

In-service training

995. Mr S P BARNARD asked the Minister of Manpower:†

What amount was spent by the State on in-service training in respect of (a) whites, (b) Coloured persons, (c) Asians and (d) Blacks in the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

During the 1983-84 financial year an amount of R5 081 894,72 was paid in cash grants to industrialists in decentralized areas. Figures in respect of each population group are not readily available and the amount which was allowed by the Receiver of Revenue in the form of tax concessions in respect of training is not known to the Department of Manpower but the number of persons who, during 1983, underwent in-service training in terms of approved training courses at group training centres, private training centres and training schemes which qualify for the concessions or cash grants amounts to 434 941 of whom 227 098 are Whites, 46 089 Coloureds, 20 001 Asians and 141 753 members of the Black population groups.

Voters' rolls

1022. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Internal Affairs:

When is it anticipated that the final

Premier buys out Ovenstone family interests

By Peter Farley

The Premier Group has entrenched its control over Ovenstone Investments (OIL) through the acquisition from the Ovenstone family of the 50 percent in OIL's unlisted pyramid Ovenstone Consolidated Investments (OCI) that it does not already own.

No offer is being made to OIL minorities. The purchase of the outstanding 50 percent in OCI, which in turn holds 50,2 percent of OIL, will be settled by the issue of 590 000 Premier ordinary shares to the Ovenstone family.

The new shares are being issued at an average price of R22,15 a share, or equivelant to a total of slightly more than R13 million. This values OCI at R26 million.

Although no management changes are envisaged under the new set-up — Mr Andrew Ovenstone will remain chief executive — a R1,5 million restraint of trade has been paid to certain members of the Ovenstone family to prevent them from competing with OIL in the fishing industry for the next five years.

The acquisition of the 50 percent in OCI which Premier did not own was made through the purchase of certain Ovenstone family investment companies and trusts which had indirect holdings in OCI.

These family businesses also have other assets, which Premier also acquires, but these are unrelated to OIL. The transaction means that OIL becomes a subsidiary of Premier Group Holdings.

Premier Group director Mr Derek Hunt-Davis said there is no intention of splitting the various interests within Ovenstone. It will remain intact as a seperate division under Premier Group and will not be shifted over under the recently-formed Premier Food Industries.

Mr Hunt-Davis said that although in the past OIL had a poor rating on the market, he felt that this had now changed. These changes, he said, were directly due to the existing management.

He said Premier had no previous experience with the non-food activities (property, construction etc...) which make up a large portion of OIL and for this reason it was best to leave the group together under the present management.

(3) Fish C. Times 14/7/84

SA importing 'snoek' from New Zealand

By BRIAN GROBBLER

SOUTH AFRICA has been importing thousands of tons of a fish similar to the Cape snoek from New Zealand for the past three years because of a dramatic fall-off in local catches.

A Sea Fisheries official said local catches of snoek had fallen off dramatically over the past few years.

In 1982 the local snoek smoking industry, which consists of four factories in the Peninsula and several smaller ones on the West Coast, imported 3 000 tons of the New Zealand fish which is described as identical to our snoek. They imported 3 500 tons in 1983 and 1 000 tons have been brought in so far this year.

Cape snoek catches started to decline from about 1980 and there have been virtually no catches over the past three years, hence the importation of fish.

The position became critical for the local fish-smoking industry, which uses about 90 percent snoek in its trade while the rest is made up of angel fish, mackerel and maasbanker.

In good years the smokeries consume about 3 000 to 4 000 tons of snoek, which represents about three million individual fish, caught mostly by commercial handline fishermen.

Also affected by the poor catches are the handline fishermen, who rely on snoek catches to make a living in winter, the fish-hawkers who sell the fish mainly to the coloured community and the fish shops which sell pieces of fried snoek to the public.

The smokeries have to obtain permits from the Director of Imports and the blessing of the Sea Fisheries before they are allowed to import fish. It is understood Sea Fisheries have been and still are sympathetic to the imports, as the closing of the smokeries would mean the loss of jobs and a highly sought-after protein food.

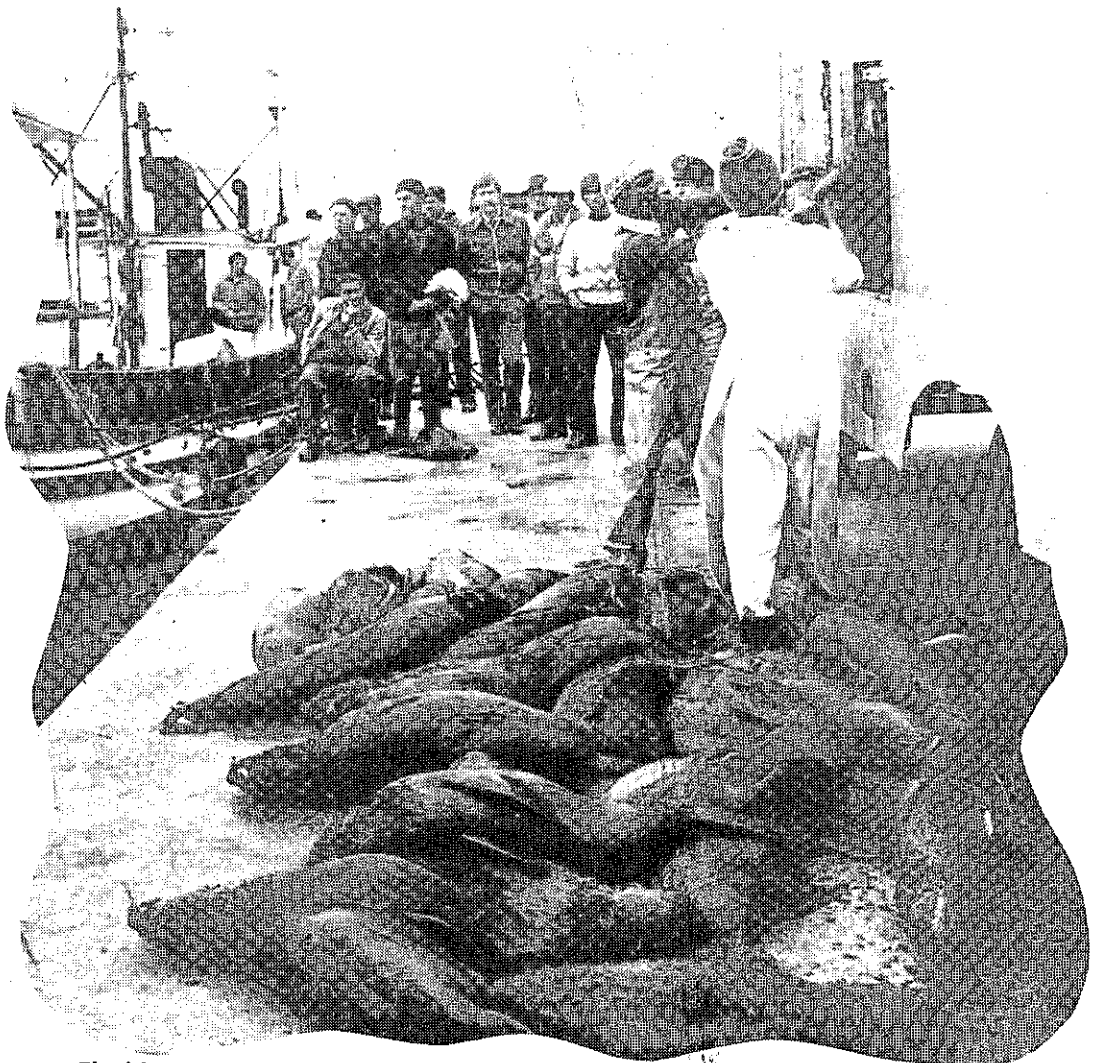
The price paid for the New Zealand snoek was on a par with South African prices until recently, when the rand plummetted against the dollar. With the imports being paid for in US dollars, the price of smoked snoek is espected to rise along with that of other imports.

There are several reasons given for the tremendous decline in snoek catches but the main two seem to be the decline in the pelagic fish stocks of pilchard and anchovy on which the fish feed and mid-water trawling by both the local and foreign trawling fleets.

In normal years, the shoals first appeared in January/February off Angola and SWA/Namibia and made their way south, arriving in Cape waters in autumn and remaining until about December. They moved east as far as Cape Agulhas and then disappeared, not to be seen again until the next autumn. Now experts say the migratory chain is being broken in the north by heavy trawling and the shoals are being broken up and are not making it to the south any more.

Fishing interests and scientists are concerned about the growing seal population — estimated at 1,3-million off the Cape coast, and nearly a million off the coast of SWA/Namibia — vying with fishermen for marine resources. The Argus Africa News Service in SWA/Namibia and a Staff Reporter in Cape Town examine the problem.

Seals saved from clubbing but fish resources down



Flashback: Dead seals in Hout Bay harbour after seal-culling on Seal Island.

SEALS in South Africa and SWA/Namibia are safe from death by clubbing for at least a year — but the swelling colonies could threaten dwindling fish resources.

Scientists calculate that the seal population in SWA/Namibia eats 1,4-million tons of fish a year and in South Africa, 1,82-million tons.

Fishing interests and scientists are concerned about the growing seal population — estimated at 1,3-million off the Cape coast and ne[illegible]



— Sapa-Reuter.

fuses to comment.



A bull seal. The seals eat 1,82 million tons of fish a year

At the centre of the debate between conservationists, who feel that nature will run its course in cutting the seal population, and commercial fisherman who support a renewed seal culling drive, are Dr Louis Botha and Dr Jan Jurgens.

Constant

Culling has played a significant role in recent years in keeping seal numbers constant, but has come to a halt in South Africa and SWA/Namibia with the bottom having fallen out of the pelt market.

Sea Fisheries Research Institute director Dr Botha said a "partial yes" to the question of whether the growing seal population would deplete the dwindling fishing reserves off the West coast.

"Seals are predators of the sea and feed on pelagic fish, of which our pilchard reserve is seriously depleted and the anchovy reserve unstable."

According to Dr Jurgens, director of the SWA/Namibian Sea Fisheries Department, the seal growth rate in the territory is "too high" — even with culling.

"The seals are devouring fish equal in tonnage to the amount caught by local and international trawlers," he says.

There are 14 seal breeding points on the islands off the SWA/Namibian coast, and the seal population grows by between 12 and 17 percent annually.

Every year, for decades, men have gone to the colonies to harvest the young for their valuable pelts — clubbing them to death in their thousands to satisfy the North European and Scandinavian fashion demands.

But the territory's seal count has more than doubled since 1971.

In the past three years the demand for pelts has crashed, largely through the efforts of anti-culling proponents such as Greenpeace and changes in fashion trends.

In trouble

The situation has deteriorated to such an extent hat Mr Ernst-Oscar Valkmann, managing director of a Cape Town sealing company operating in SWA/Namibia, says: "We are in a lot of trouble, to put it mildy. I don't see any future in the sealing industry, and I doubt my company will be doing any sealing this year."

There are an estimated 250 000 pelts in storage, which have accumulated over the last three years.

"If the growth in the number of seals continues there will definitely be problems," says Dr Jurgens. "I am not referring only to industrial considerations, but also to the natural ecology of the coast."

"By the time natural control takes effect, the damage might well have been done."

The situation in South African waters is not much different. In 1982 a total of 36 664 seals were culled and last year economic considerations forced contracters to forego the hunt even though culling permits were issued.

No permits

No permits have been issued for this season.

The seal population in South African waters is estimated to be growing at a 5,5 percent rate annually.

"The future growth of the seal population will determine what type of impact they have on the fishing reserves," Dr Botha says. "We are continually monitoring the situation."



Mother and child on Seal Island

Argus 23/7/84 (3) Fishing

Govt asked to raise duty on fish by up to R1,44/kg

Tsumeb shop bombed

Argus Africa News Service

WINDHOEK. — A bomb has exploded in front of a shop in the northern South West African mining town of Tsumeb.

The blast happened about 9pm on Saturday, causing an estimated R3 000 damage to a shopping complex owned by Mr L Kasch. No one was injured, police said.

It was the second bomb explosion in Tsumeb this year, and the latest of at least 20 bomb explosions in northern South West Africa since April.

Farmer shot dead — youth, 17, arrested

Argus Africa News Service

WINDHOEK. — Police are holding a 17-year-old schoolboy following the death by shooting of an Otjiwarongo farmer at the weekend.

Mr Abraham Johannes Dreyer, 43, died with 11 bullets in his body on his farm, Woodholm, on Saturday night.

He was married with a son and two daughters.

A police spokesman said the youth was at school in Windhoek and had returned to his home in the Otjiwarongo district for the holidays.

HELD AT ROADBLOCK

He was arrested at a police roadblock set up in response to a report of the shooting. He was apparently driving Mr Dreyer's car.

It is alleged that Mr Dreyer was shot with a 9mm pistol and that 22 shots were fired, of which 11 struck the farmer.

The shooting allegedly followed an argument.

By HENRY LUDSKI
Staff Reporter

WHOLESALE and restaurant prices of popular table fish such as steenbras, kabeljou and yellowtail could rocket if the Government agrees to fishing company proposals to increase duties on imported fish.

The Deep Sea Trawling Industry Association, representing companies with white fish quotas, has asked the Board of Trade and Industries to increase import duty on kingklip and sole from 6c to R1,50 a kg and other species such as steenbras, kabeljou, stumpnose, yellowtail, tuna and swordfish from 6c cents to 70c a kg.

Fish wholesalers believe such duties would force many of them out of business and create an artificially high price structure which would allow large companies to manipulate prices.

"Derisive"

The association has asked for the increases to protect the local "capital intensive and competitive" market from imports, saying in the application that the "tickey a pound duty was adequate in the 1950s but today it is simply derisive".

They say that the erosive effects of inflation and the fact that many competing fisheries enjoy much lower production costs than the local industry means that existing tariffs are "almost totally meaningless as a protective instrument".

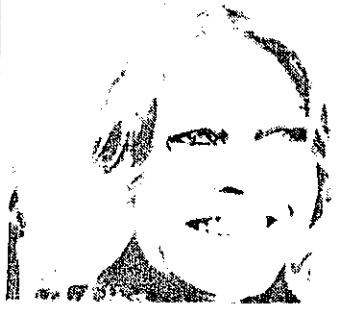
But wholesalers whose businesses depend on imports — about 50 percent of their markets are imported fish — are up in arms over the application describing it as "unjustified and ridiculous.

Fly to Pretoria

They are to fight the proposal and have offered to fly to Pretoria to explain personally to board officials why the application is unjustified.

They agreed that the local

Cat-lady Bardot saves horse and foal from death



Argus Foreign Service

PARIS. — Film star Brigitte Bardot has won an 11th-hour battle to save a horse and foal from slaughter.

"Before they kill that mare they will have to kill me," the sex kitten who owns 60 cats told a televison station.

After four months of fruitless negotiations Miss Bardot persuaded Allain Bougrain-horses before their slaughter.

But Bougrain-Doubourg and his two accomplices were caught red-handed at the Nice abattoir on Saturday.

Now Agriculture Minister Mr Michel Rocard has assured Miss Bardot that the horses will be spared.

The pregnant mare arrived in France from Poland four foaled.

Slaughtermen cared for the mare and her colt, but when they could no longer delay the slaughter they told Miss Bardot of the horses' plight.

She found a veterinarian prepared to buy the horses, but French regulations say no animal may leave an abattoir alive.

Miss Bardot has seven dogs

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Argus 23/7/84 (3) Fishing

xed to raise duty
by up to R1,44/kg

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Fly to Pretoria

They are to fight the proposal and have offered to fly to Pretoria to explain personally to board officials why the application is unjustified.

They agreed that the local industry should be protected from imports, but believed that the market was sufficiently protected by the Department of Sea Fisheries which controls import permits to shelter local industries from cheaper overseas fish.

They also believe that the the two largest members of the association — Sea Harvest and I&J — are already protected by having about 84 percent of the white fish quota.

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Miss Bardot has seven dogs and 60 cats.

Writer jogging, dies of heart attack

Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — Mr Jim Fixx, 52, whose best-selling books inspired millions of poeple throughout the world to take up running, has died while jogging.

He died while on a lone run in Vermont on Friday. Several passers-by tried to resuscitate him.

The autopsy carried out at the weekend showed that two of his coronary arteries were sufficiently blocked to warrant a bypass operation.

His books, including The Complete Book of Running, insisted that active people live longer.

Drastic curbs on fishing catches

(3) Fishing 2/11/84

Staff Reporter

ANGLERS face a bleak Christmas season following the announcement that bag and size limits will be drastically curbed and that sales of catches by sport fishermen will be banned from December 1.

The measures announced yesterday by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley, will hit sport fishermen and semi-professional boat fishermen particularly hard.

No bag limit will be imposed on full-time professional fishermen as this would jeopardize their livelihood. However, sport fishermen will be restricted to 10 fish a day and semi-professional boat fishermen will be phased out "as soon as possible".

The new measures are recommended in an interim report by a national marine linefish committee established earlier this year in an effort to conserve "already over-exploited reef fish species".

The committee comprised a wide cross-section of interested groups including research bodies, fishermen's organizations and independant legal experts.

Measures announced yesterday include:

- Semi-professional boat fishermen will be restricted to a bag limit of five protected species per person per day, with no restriction on the number of other species.
- Sport fishermen (using boats), rock and surf anglers, as well as speargun fishermen, will be restricted to 10 fish a day but no more than five of the protected species.
- Galjoen (a protected species) catches have also been reduced from six to five fish per angler a day.
- Size limits on 13 different deep-sea reef fish have been raised to 25cm in a bid to encourage people to catch larger fish.
- Raised size limits have been imposed on nine popular linefish, including elf, galjoen, spotted grunter, white steenbras and snoek.
- All linefish, except snoek, must be landed with head and tail intact and snoek must be landed with the pectoral, pelvic and anal fins intact.
- The re-introduction of a closed season for snoek from August 1 to November 30.
- A closed season for the seventy-four and red steenbras species from September 1 to November 30 between the northern Ciskei and Mozambique.

In addition commercial and semi-commercial boats will be required to carry prescribed identification symbols and give monthly catch statistics. An increase in the number of boats will be allowed if resources recover sufficiently.

"These are drastic measures — we mean business. There has been too much of an assault on the resident reef fish populations by too many people in the past few years," said Mr Wiley.

He said it was obvious that control of marine linefish resources could not be properly carried out unless distinctions were drawn between recreational fishermen and those who caught fish for full or part-time commercial purposes.

It was well known that many of the weekend fishermen had only registered their boats so that they could sell their catches. He said he was waiting for recommendations from the committee regarding the phasing out of this group.

An increase of licence fees for linefishing boats was being considered as well as recommended regulations for small boat safety.

Cape Times 13/12/84

Bag limits on 10 species of fish lifted

3 FISH

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

FROM January 1 all line fishermen will be entitled to unlimited catches of five species of sport angling fish, as well as five species of bait fish, the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries, Mr John Wiley, announced yesterday.

The sport angling fish on which bag limits will be lifted are snoek, tuna species, marlin, kob and yellowtail. The bait fish to be exempted are mackerel, maasbanker, strepie, steentjie and haarder/springer.

The announcement applies to all fishermen — commercial, semi-commercial and sport — and follows numerous representations to the minister during the past six weeks from anglers and boating clubs.

On November 1 Mr Wiley announced tough new restrictions that hit recreational fishermen particularly hard.

Other important new measure announced yesterday include:

● Nine new species will be added to the "protected species" list: Slimjannie, musselcracker, janbruin, brown hottentot, Cape kraaibek, Natal kraaibek, Cape baardman, Natal baardman and kinnebakvis (milk fish).

● The department no longer intends to phase out semi-commercial boat fishermen "as soon as possible" as announced on November 1.

● Serious consideration is being given to three-to-four-year blanket bans on fishing along certain areas of the coast to aid in the rejuvenation of fish populations.

● All commercial fishermen not already registered as line fishermen will in future be treated as semi-commercial fishermen and be bound by their bag limit of five protected species per person per day.

● The closed season for "elf" in Natal from September 1 to November 30 each year will in future apply to the entire country.

Under present regulations, sport fishermen (using boats), rock and surf anglers, as well as spear fishermen, are restricted to 10 fish a day but no more than five of the protected species.

In justifying the lifting of bag limits on the five species of sport angling fish, Mr Wiley said they were "international fish" that migrated from all over the world and were not confined to reefs where certain species had been seriously depleted.

He said the restriction on snoek had been lifted because bag limits on this species would have adversely affected tourism in areas like the Western Cape.

Mr Wiley said that new and existing regulations affecting linefishing would be evaluated during 1985 and could well be changed again in 1986.

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CAPE TIMES 18/12/84 (3 Fisheries)

700 seal carcasses wash up on

By CHRIS ERASMUS
Science Reporter

MORE than 700 seal carcasses have been washed up on the False Bay coast since late last month, most of them illegally clubbed pups, and an official investigation has been promised.

Yesterday afternoon Cape Town's City Engineer, Mr Jan Brand, confirmed that more than 700 seal carcasses had been cleared off False Bay beaches between Muizenberg and Mnandi by the City's cleansing branch since November 29.

Mr Brand said 261 carcasses had been cleared from beaches on Saturday and a further 89 on Sunday.

"Most of these were pups and some were adults. According to my information, the pups were clubbed and the adults shot. Some of the adults were skinned. All the carcasses were removed by the cleansing branch and those responsible will be billed for the cost," he said.

Mr Keith Goudie, secretary of the Cape of Good Hope branch of the SPCA, confirmed yesterday that seal carcasses had been found in excess of the usual number washed up at this time of the year and that at least some of the pups found appeared to have been clubbed.

"It is normal that at this time of the year when the seals are breeding that young pups which cannot yet swim are washed into the sea or blown off the island by the south-easter. In the past we have recorded 150 to 200 carcasses on the False Bay coast, but more than 300 in one weekend seems an excessive number," said Mr Goudie.

"Unfortunately we were unable to get a man out to Seal Island before the culling operation ended there last week, although we had someone at Kleinzee where the other culling operation was taking place. Our inspector said everything at Kleinzee was in order.

"We are shocked at the apparent unnecessary and illegal clubbing of pups on Seal Island and will definitely lay an official complaint with the relevant authorities.

"The clubbing of pups on the island makes no sense at all — the bulls were chosen because there was a market for the aphrodisiac obtained from their genitals and because culling this group is a more effective method of reducing exploding seal populations. This sort of thing is totally unnecessary," he said.

Mr A P Le Roux, Director of Marine Management in the Department of Environment Affairs' Marine Development Branch, said yesterday that while a concession had been granted to cull bull seals on Seal Island in False Bay, no concession had been given to club pups on the island.

"At Kleinzee permission was given to cull pups if necessary in order to get at the bulls which were to be culled there, but no permit condition for the culling of pups on the Seal Island concession was given.

"Our inspector who was on the island for the culling gave no indication that clubbing of pups had taken place and this is the first report that we have received that any clubbing took place.

"However, if there is a complaint from the SPCA we will certainly launch a thorough investigation. Our next step will probably be to contact the SPCA to find out where they got their information," he said.

Last month Mr John Wiley, Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, said concessions for the culling of 5 000 adult bull seals on Seal Island and 10 000 adult bull seals at Kleinzee had been authorized by his department.

Permission was granted for a further 5 000 pups to be culled at Kleinzee "if necessary" during the culling operation there. The bulls were to be shot and pups clubbed. Sea Fisheries inspectors were to have been present during both operations.

Yesterday Mr Wiley declined to comment further on the allegations that clubbed pups had been found on False Bay beaches, but confirmed that he had been in contact with Mr Le Roux about the matter.

424 - LETTING FLATS OR ROOMS, THE TRADE OF, CERTAIN AREAS.

Superceding w.d. no: 267,360 & 361

AREA A: Alberton, Bellville, Benoni, Boksburg, The Cape, Durban, Germiston, Goodwood, Johannesburg, Kempton Park, Krugersdorp, Nigel, Oberholzer, Pinetown, Pretoria, Randburg, Randfontein, Roodepoort, Simonstown, Springs, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging, Westonaria, Wonderboom and Wynberg.
Municipal Areas: Port Elizabeth and Sasolburg

AREA B: Kuils River and Paarl and
Municipal Areas: Despatch, Uitenhage and Umhlanga

AREA C: Beacon Bay, Bloemfontein, Kimberley, East London and Pietermaritzburg

AREA D: Highveld Ridge and Klerksdorp,
Municipal Areas: Odendaalsrus, Potchefstroom, Virginia, Welkom and Witbank

AREA E: Municipal Areas: Bethlehem, Kroonstad, Ladysmith, Middelburg(Tvl), Newcastle, Pietersburg and Rustenburg

Footnotes

1. Length of the week - The week runs from Monday to Sunday, with the provision of a free period of 24 consecutive hours per week.

1985

AGRICULTURE - FISHING

R45m cash offer to minority holders

Cape fishing firms to delist

ROOM 2/2/85 (3) Fishing

By PAUL DOLD

CAPE TOWN. — One of the best-known fishing groups, Kaap Kunene, and its diversified associate, Suiderland, with a market value of R93m, are heading for delisting.

The Du Preez and Neethling families, which hold control, are making a R45m cash offer to minorities.

The Kaap Kunene offer is being pitched at 420c and Suiderland at 130c. Suiderland owns some 38% of Kaap Kunene, which is well above the historic net asset value of around 398c and 108c, respectively.

In addition, holders of the 10% cumulative prefs in Kaap Kunene are being offered R1 a share.

Suiderland was suspended at 93c and Kaap Kunene at 310c. In view of poor prospects and limited tradeability of the two shares, minorities should leap at the offers.

A total of 1,3m Suiderland shares and 724 000 Kaap Kunene shares were traded in 1984. Kaap Kunene's price ranged from a high of 435c to a low of 305c, and Suiderland's between 155c and 90c.

However, the proposed scheme of arrangement will probably cause in-depth analyses by brokers to see whether minorities are getting a good deal, a delisting of companies being a rare occurence in Diaginal Street.

The Du Preez and Neethling families say the offer is being made because of the trend of the economy.

The fishing outlook appears far from bright, with Kaap Kunene catching only 13 000 tons of a 200 000-ton anchovy quota last year.

In addition, the Chilean investments have not performed as expected and fish exports to South Africa from Chile have been affected by the falling rand.

Suiderland, which has widespread interests, is feeling the downturn in the building industry.

The group is, however, negotiating with Armscor over compensation for land which was expropriated last year.

Major institutional shareholders have not yet been consulted on the offer. As the bid is being made through a scheme of arrangement, the controlling shareholders will not be voting their shares and minorities will have a free vote.

It is estimated that the offer will cost the Neethling and Du Preez families some R40m in cash, but this will be offset by the group's cash holdings, which vary during the fishing season and are probably between R20m to R30m.

What makes the bid intriguing is that with current high money market rates, this sum could easily yield a gross 20% plus, while Kaap Kunene is currently on a yield of only about 9%.

The share has weakened in line with the fishing sector and is close to 12-month lows.

(3) Fishing Mercury Jan 10 72

New bag and size limits for shad anglers

Mercury Reporter

A CHANGE in legislation concerning shad catches and size limits is imminent and Natal fishermen face new bag and minimum length limits as well as a different method of measuring each catch.

The Oceanographic Research Institute and Department of Environment and Tourism spokesmen yesterday confirmed the national shad bag limit would be five — one more than the present limit in Natal.

The minimum shad length will be set at 30 cm, against the present 27,5 cm limitation.

According to a spokesman for the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban, anglers will be required to measure their catch from the 'tip of the snout to the centre of an imaginary line between the tips of the tail as the fish lies naturally'.

He said it was not necessary to pull the two parts of the tail together before taking the measurement.

The move will bring Natal in line with the Cape.

'This is essentially to standardise legislation with the object of improving things for the angler,' the spokesman said.

A Department of Environment and Tourism spokesman said the limit changes followed recommendations by the National Line Fishing Committee appointed by the minister.

The new laws will affect sport and semi-commercial fishermen.

ARGUS 15/2/85 NATIONAL 3 Fishing

Fishing quotas 'necessary to protect SA's reef fish'

Staff Reporter

FISHING quota limits introduced on January 1 were in response to "considerable pressure" on resources by South Africa's estimated one-million line fishermen.

Although some saw the new regulations as "radical surgery", they were in the interests of the line-fishing fraternity, the director of the Sea Fisheries Institute, Mr G Stander, said today.

He told the SA Hydrographic Society symposium at the University of Cape Town that the importance of protecting the country's reef fish was clearly underlined by the fact that there were an estimated one-million line fishermen, who had spent more than R150-million on fishing tackle, boats, outboard motors, trailers and other equipment.

Discord

Mr Stander said the question of discord between the public and the organised fishing industry had to be addressed.

"Typical examples are the frictional situations between sportsmen and professional line fisherman, amateur and professional abalone divers, skin-divers and professional rock lobster fishermen.

"The allegation is frequently made that the industry is decimating the resources for personal gain. Such an act would be suicidal," he said.

Organised industry had invested heavily in boats, equipment and facilities, and had experienced "very severe" quota cuts.

The industry paid considerable sums in the form of levies to the Sea Fisheries Research Fund, supplied protein to the population and earned foreign exchange.

Many small coastal towns would just about vanish if the industry were to collapse.

On the other hand, Sea Fisheries regulations prevented the industry collecting alikreukels, periwinkles, black mussels, limpets, scallops and sea-urchins.

Only the public was allowed to collect these, he said.



Marcel Cronje, 26, who has been crowned South Africa's travel queen in Johannesburg.

Marcel, a marketing consultant with a car rental company in Bloemfontein, has been showered with prizes, including overseas trips and luxury accommodation at South African hotels and resorts.

The runner-up was Moira-Anne Schaaf, a cabin attendant with South African Airways.

Michele Deftereos, a travel consultant, was chosen as second princess.

Row over export of crayfish

w/e Argus 2/3/85

3 Fishing

Weekend Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — The managing director of the only company entitled to export South African rock lobsters from South Africa claims that he has evidence they are being illegally exported by other organisations for huge profits.

And in Cape Town a spokesman for Mr John Wiley, the Minister of Sea Fisheries, said Mr Wiley was aware of the allegations and had asked his department for comment. He would react when this was received.

Mr Eric Kiwi, the South African managing director of SA Rock Lobster Services based in New York, said he had evidence and names of firms and individuals involved from the time the lobsters leave South Africa until they reach destinations in the United States.

He would not give the names or identities yet "because we are watching them in the hope that we can catch them out", said Mr Kiwi.

He said the illegal exporters were shipping consignments through England.

About 200 boxes were involved. They were worth about $625 a box in the US, compared to about R250 a box in South Africa, allowing a huge profit.

He said he learnt about the illegal exports through Mr Ben Koslov, one of the biggest US importers, who normally receives his rock lobsters through Mr Kiwi's firm. Mr Koslov had been approached by others offering South African lobsters at a slightly lower price.

Mr Kiwi explained that only his firm has the appropriate Government permit to export lobsters from South Africa.

Price difference

The illegal exporters were allegedly documenting their exports as some other fish, thereby getting round a variety of Government restrictions placed on the export of lobsters.

The incentive to buy is the huge price difference between rock lobsters sold overseas and those sold in South Africa.

At least 25 percent of the harvest must, by regulation, be sold in South Africa. Since the price in South Africa is extremely low compared to the price lobsters fetch overseas, some of those being set aside for domestic consumption were being secretly exported and the profits left overseas.

(2) (a) how many racially mixed registered trade unions were there at that date and (b) how many, (i) White, (ii) Coloured and Asian and (iii) Black members did each such trade union have?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) (a) 56.

(b) 35.

(c) 23

(2) (a) 78.

(b) Information concerning total membership of such unions is not available for 1984, since unions are required to furnish information not later than 31 March in terms of the Labour Relations Act. Figures for 1983 are contained in Department of Manpower's Annual Report for 1983. Information in respect of individual unions is treated as confidential in order to maintain mutual trust between individual unions and the Department.

Note: The figures are as at 31 December 1984.

Hansard Q.61.487 11/3/85

Community health centres

500. Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health and Welfare:

How many community health centres (a) were there in each province as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) were built in each province during each of the latest specified three years for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:

(a) Transvaal: 2
Orange Free State: 5
Natal: 2
Cape: 6

(b) from 1982 to 1984

Transvaal: 2
Orange Free State: 2
Natal: 2
Cape: 1

Congo fever

501. Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Health and Welfare:

(1) How many (a)(i) suspected and (ii) confirmed cases of and (b) deaths from Congo fever were there in 1984;

(2) what steps were taken in the (a) first and (b) last six months of 1984 to combat this disease;

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:

(1) (a) (i) 108 suspected cases

(ii) 15 confirmed cases

(b) 3 deaths in 1984

(2) (a) and (b)

(i) surveillance

(ii) Dissemination of information to medical/para medical personnel and general public

(iii) in process of standardization of guidelines to deal with patients.

(3) No.

Airports: thefts of motorcars

510. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

How many thefts of motorcars from the offical parking areas at the (a) Jan Smuts, (b) D F Malan and (c) Louis Botha airports were reported in 1984?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(a) 70 of which 20 were recovered.

(b) 10.

(c) 3.

The above figures are in respect of the official parking areas only which are those areas controlled by car parking concessionaires. For the sake of completeness it is mentioned that in the case of D F Malan Airport further thefts were reported namely 1 from a position in front of the departure hall and 24 from the parking area occupied by the care hire firms.

Blue Train

521. Mr W V RAW asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

How many passengers travelled on each journey of the Blue Train in each direction in respect of the last week of (a) March 1984 and (b) September 1984?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

		Pretoria—Cape Town	Cape Town—Pretoria
(a)	25 March 1984	33	82
	27 March 1984	64	49
	29 March 1984	33	49
	31 March 1984	65	65
(b)	24 September 1984	85	90
	26 September 1984	96	96

Hansard Q.61.489 11/3/85

Technicians/artisans

531. Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Communications:

How many (a) technicians and (b) artisans were employed by his Department as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) 5 296; and

(b) 852,
as at 31 January 1985.

Note: The above figures do not include telcom eletricians nor staff in training.

Fishing Hansard Q.61.489 11/3/85

Pelagic fish

538. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism:

How many tonnes of (a) anchovy and (b) non-quota pelagic fish were landed during the 1984 fishing season or during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(a) 296 245 tonnes.

(b) 50 373 tonnes.

Hansard Q.61.490 11/3/85

Solitary confinement

568. The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) Whether any persons serving sentences for refusing to do military service were held in solitary confinement in 1984; if so, (a) how many, (b) for what reasons in each case and (c) for what period has each of them been sentenced to such confinement;

(2) (a) how many racially mixed registered trade unions were there at that date and (b) how many, (i) White, (ii) Coloured and Asian and (iii) Black members did each such trade union have?

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(3) Fishing BDM 3/4/85

FISHMEAL PRICE HIKE SOUGHT AS HIGHER FUEL PRICE BITES

SOUTH WEST African Fishing Industries has applied to the Government for a special increase in the price of fishmeal.

The company was hit hard by the recent increase in the price of fuel used by its fleet and also in the manufacturing process.

If granted, it would enable the company to recover most of the increased costs, according to a preliminary profit announcement for the year to December.

On a turnover for the year of R25,20m (up by 32% on 1983), the group income before taxation was down 3% at R9,11m.

The attributable amount to ordinary shareholders was down by 10% at R4,50m (R4,98m), with earnings a share also down by 10% at 142c (158c).

The directors said the main reason for the drop in earnings a share was because of a drastic reduction in usage fee income from United Fishing Enterprises, after poor anchovy catches throughout the industry last year.

However, with a final dividend of 70c a share (30c interim), the 100c level of 1983 was maintained.

In addition, a special dividend of 200c a share was also declared for the 1985 financial year.

Of prospects for 1985, the directors did not expect a profit from their investment in Chile, because the fish processing operation there was under financial strain because of a decline of $100 a ton in average realisation of fishmeal compared with the previous year.

But, generally, "given a normal pelagic fishing season and no undue developments in the other sectors, we expect a reasonable increase in earnings over 1984." — Sapa.

3 000 out of work in fishing industry

Staff Reporter

AN estimated 3 000 people in the fishing industry are out of work following suspension of catches of all pelagic fish yesterday.

The suspension was announced on Wednesday by the chief director, marine-development branch of the Department of Environment Affairs, Dr J Serfontein.

The decision follows a meeting between the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, leaders of the pelagic industry and senior officials of his department.

A number of fishermen who telephoned the Cape Times said they were surprised at the move and were now out of work.

They said factories from St Helena Bay right along the coast to Gansbaai had been affected. The factories had closed and no boats were being allowed to go to sea.

Dr Serfontein said the reason for the suspension on catches of pilchards and anchovies was because large-scale dumping of pelagic fish had been taking place.

"Pilchard reserves are in a very bad state, therefore quotas of 10 000 tons by catch and 15 000 tons by direct catch was allowed this year as against 275 000 tons of anchovy. This means that pilchards can only make up a very small percentage of a mixed catch.

"At the moment there's quite a concentration of mixed plichard and anchovy schools near the coast, and fishermen are dumping mixed catches which will put them over their quota."

Dr Serfontein said the schools tended to separate later in the season.

"There are major quantities of lantern fish and redeye, which are non-quota fish, further out to sea and those can be caught instead."

A meeting would be held on April 22 between officers of his branch, pelagic factory managers and representatives of private boat and skippers associations.

He appealed to fishermen to co-operate.

Fishing ban hits 3 000 employees

CAPE TOWN. — An estimated 3 000 fishing industry employees are out of work following the suspension of catches of all pelagic fish.

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R8-million boost for West Coast inshore fishing industry

w/e news 27/4/85
3 Fishing

By DEREK TOMMEY
Financial Editor

THE West Coast inshore fishing industry has been given an R8-million boost as a result of a decision by the authorities to increase the South West African pilchard quota this year by 30 percent from 32 500 tons to 42 000 tons.

The decision to enlarge the quota was taken after the Walvis Bay companies had caught their initial quotas within six weeks of the opening of the season.

The move has been welcomed by the fishing industry. as catches of the other resource, anchovy, have been small.

The pilchards being caught are large and in good condition and suitable for canning.

Provide jobs

Fishing company officials estimate that the quota increase will enable them to produce an additional 400 000 cases of canned pilchards this year.

The move will also help to provide jobs for a longer period of time for the fishermen and factory workers at Walvis Bay who had been threatened with unemployment as a result of the good catches early in the season.

This drop in the anchovy catch has been a setback for the industry, but it does raise the hope that the conservation measures that have been enforced for several years are working and that fishing conditions off the South West Africa/Namibian coast are at last reverting to what they were in the good days in the 1960s.

Final decision

Then anchovy was also scarce but pilchards plentiful, and the industry's pilchard catch was running into hundreds of thousands of tons.

Officials admit that current good pilchard catch has raised hopes that the pilchard quota could be further increased next year. But the final decision here will be in the hands of the scientists who are continually measuring the resource.

An official said that the pilchards being caught are large and in excellent condition. Moreover, the fish are being caught only three hours' steaming from Walvis Bay which means the fish reach the canning factories in a an excellent state.

Meanwhile, inshore fishing was resumed in Cape waters this week after a temporary stoppage last week. It had been found that pilchard were being caught with other varieties and there was concern that too many pilchards were being taken.

The catches are being closely monitored and a decision will be taken by the Department of Sea Fisheries in the first week in May on whether to allow the fishing to continue.

Former fishermen returning to sea

(3) fishing 11/7/85

By DEBBIE BOOYSEN

FORMER fishermen are returning to the boats because of retrenchments in other industries.

"Many faces we haven't seen for years are now coming back to the boats," the chairman of the Port Elizabeth and District Boat Owners' Association, Mr Bill Rankin, said this week.

Many fishermen left the industry when South End was proclaimed a white area. Coloured families living in the area were relocated and among them were fishermen who found the distance to the harbour too great to continue fishing for a living.

While local skippers have welcomed the return of fishermen, there are also other plans in the pipeline to boost the local fishing industry. These include a promise of funds from the Department of Environmental Affairs and Fisheries for the restoration of the Dom Pedro jetty, which is in a bad state of repair; an ice-plant to help meet the shortage of ice locally and elsewhere; and the proposed small boat harbour.

The industry has, however, encountered problems due to legislation, trade agreements and regulations imposed on it in recent years.

These were the trade agreements with countries like Russia, Japan and Israel, the quota system and harbour security measures.

"Russian factory boats have not been fishing within our waters for a number of years, but Japanese trawlers still fish along our coast, although they stay mainly outside the 12-mile (19 kilometre) limit," Mr Rankin said.

"The trade agreement allows these boats (which process anything between 30 to 100 tons of fish daily) 10 000 tons of hake per year as well as other types of fish not subject to quota.

"Over the last few years we have only had 12 inshore trawlers and, if one of these managed a catch of three tons a day, it had done very well."

The quota system has also reduced the livelihood of local fishermen considerably over the past five years.

"The industry used to be very much sole-orientated, but this has virtually collapsed because sole fishing is not very economical.

"The target species has now become hake, but here again, once one's quota is full, work's over and the crew is either laid off or taken line-fishing so as not to lose the men."

Mr Rankin pointed out that one of the local trawlers, for instance, had only two weeks left to fish this year before its annual quota was full.

He said after the moving of fishermen and their families from South End to areas far from the harbour, many had looked for more accessible employment elsewhere.

"Consequently about 80% of our four lineboats' crews are now recruited from Jeffrey's Bay.

"But we do hope the ice-plant will eventually provide a strong drawing-card for boats from other places to make PE their home-base."

Due to harbour trading regulations fish may no longer be sold on the jetty which means that local housewives pay up to 30% more for readily prepared fish.

"An open-air fish-market would be the answer to this, but unfortunately the local health authorities have not been receptive to the idea.

"With the help of specially the Fisheries Development Corporation, we are working towards improved facilities and infrastructure.

"Tremendous resources like pilchards, anchovies and crayfish are still lying untapped.

"Locally we have only four crayfish boats, while there are about 20 freezer-boats from Cape Town operating in the area."

According to Mr Rankin, maasbanker, which sells at between R1 and R1,30 a kilogram, has virtually become part of the staple diet of blacks and coloureds.

"But because we don't catch enough, we have to import from other centres."

A bigger fleet could therefore provide employment for almost double the number of people at present in the processing, maintenance, selling and backup services of the industry.

One of the fishermen who have "come home", is Mr James Stevens, of Arcadia, who worked for a hotel after he stopped fishing about two years ago.

He lost his job "and now I've come back to fish to keep me and my family alive".



A part of Port Elizabeth's small fishing fleet that has remained since South End was cleared and fishermen and their families were moved to areas far from the harbour.

SCALE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

N. Bromberger

This paper reports empirical work on the measurement of male African unemploy-

WEEKEND POST, MAY 11, 1985

Plenty of hands to haul in the net



Some of the local fishermen still manning PE's diminished fishing fleet.

Black market in crayfish

CAPE TIMES 23/5/85

3 Fishing

A GOVERNMENT inquiry has found that there is a "substantial" local black market in South African crayfish and perlemoen and has also recommended a review of fines for fishing offences.

The report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Local Marketing of Crayfish and Perlemoen in South Africa, released here yesterday, said prosecutions for crayfish and perlemoen offences made up at least 80 percent of all fishing offences.

Prosecutions had almost doubled from 800 in 1982 to 1 500 in 1983.

The committee found that fines for fishing offences had not kept pace with either inflation or the sharp increase in the value of crayfish and perlemoen products.

It recommended that methods be investigated by which the industries involved and the public could be involved in combating these contraventions, and that minimum punishments be reviewed.

'Excessive' price of perlemoen

It also said that a number of aspects of perlemoen marketing needed urgent attention from the industry. Among these was the "excessive" price of perlemoen.

With regard to crayfish, the committee recommended that the two organized industries, Safroc and Clea, form a marketing group to bridge "existing gaps" in the product's retailing.

This group's members should include representatives of the Federation of Hotel Associations of South Africa, the SA Tourism Board and Captour.

Dr Theo Alant, MP for Pretoria East, who headed the three-man committee, said the minister, Mr John Wiley, would respond to the recommendations of the committee during the parliamentary debate on his Budget vote tomorrow. — Sapa

Bid to form union for Natal's unemployed black seamen

NM 25/5/85 3-Fishing

Shipping Reporter

THOUSANDS of unemployed black seamen living in Natal are finding it increasingly difficult to get work on both foreign and South African ships.

This has been disclosed by Mr Vincent Mofukeng of Chesterville, who is trying to unite black seamen by forming a union.

Yesterday he produced a list of 156 seamen in the Durban area who were out of work.

Mr Mofukeng explained the background to the hardships experienced by about 6 000 men since 1974.

'In 1974 we were told the ships in which we were working were going back to their owners overseas and they no longer needed our services — some of us had worked on the ships for more than 10 years,' he said, adding that no benefits were given.

Attempts were made to get jobs through the South African Marine Corporation in Cape Town, but this failed, as employment could be offered only to coloureds living in the Peninsula, Mr Mofukeng said.

Although the men had been able to seek employment by going on board ships in Durban harbour, the main job source was at Richards Bay, but the distance involved made it impossible to travel there regularly with no assurance of getting a job, he said.

Mr Mofukeng now hopes to get all unemployed seamen in the Durban area together to discuss the possibility of appealing to foreign governments for help in getting jobs on foreign lines. This would increase the chances of forming a union.

'If the shipping agents in Durban and Richards Bay need us, we have all the experience they need in any of the three departments — deck, engine-room and catering,' he said.

Question 9

Bid for Kaap Kunene increased by R6m

By PAUL DOLD
Financial Editor

KAAP KUNENE'S controlling shareholders — the Du Preez and Neethling families have increased their offer to minorities by R6m to R54m, and the bid has been increased from 420c to 475c a share with the Suiderland offer now up 14c to 144c.

The increased offer followed negotations between Mr Issy Goldberg (on behalf of minorities) and the controlling shareholders.

Both the Kaap Kunene and Suiderland shares were suspended at the request of the companies yesterday and the group must be congratulated on the secrecy which surrounded the revised offer.

Senior staff and their auditors worked late into the night to prepare the new circulars to some 6 000 shareholders.

Certainty

There is no certainty as yet whether the increased bid is sufficient to gain the acceptance needed for the offer to be approved. The house has not yet approached institutional shareholders.

Mr Issy Goldberg said yesterday that the revised offer was in his view fair and reasonable, while a spokesman for one of the groups of institutional shareholders opposing the offer said that he was unlikely to vote in favour if the bid remained below 500c.

Mr Du Preez made it clear last night that the 475c offer was final and would not be increased.

This is bound to weigh heavily with most shareholders but several institutions have said that they would rather remain invested in Kaap Kunene than exit at a price which they consider well below their net asset value estimate of over 600c.



Mr Issy Goldberg ... successfully negotiating a R6m bonus for shareholders.

Thus shareholders are faced with the choice of taking 475c cash now or remaining invested in the shares and sitting out the recesssion. The share price could fall if the offer is rejected.

Offer

In their statement last night, Mr Du Preez and Dr Neethling said the increased offer flowed from the higher price of the stake in I&J which had risen in market value by R2,8m or 20,3c a share since the original announcement.

After talks with Mr Goldberg it had also been decided to include the R3m profit on the expropriation by Armscor of the company's De Hoop property as a special bonus. This totaled some 21,8c a share.

The third factor which led to the increased offer was that payment to shareholders on the approval of the offer will now be far later than was envisaged. Although the offer was first mooted in February it had only recently been possible to make a formal bid.

Investors

Mr Goldberg said that investors were faced with the vulnerability of the shares due to:

- SWA-Namibia sourced income.
- The exposure in Chile which could result in a loss of R10m.
- The state of the property market and the group's undeveloped land in the Port Elizabeth area.
- The poor demand for timber products and the virtual closure of the Piet Retief sawmill.
- The vagaries of the fishing industry.

Mr Goldberg said he was fully aware that various critical analysts have put the asset value per share of Kaap Kunene at anything between 550c and 650c.

"This may or may not be correct. Analysts have been known to make mistakes.

"However, asset values should not be the prime factor for consideration. What they produce in terms of income and dividend are of paramount importance to shareholders. Certain shares are trading at a third of their net asset value," he said.

Fishing quotas: Plan for companies

Staff Reporter

THE traditional coloured fishing communities on the West Coast are planning to form corporations in an effort to hook a bigger bag.

This was confirmed by the Labour Party MP for Mamre, Mr Abe Williams, who has called on the government to set right the quota imbalance in the industry by issuing fishing quotas to the coloured community.

He said existing quotas had been allocated to factories on the West Coast in direct proportion to the fishing communities, with factories tacitly accepting a social responsibility for them.

However, looking at the communities today it was clear that few of the factories had ploughed back profits into the communities responsible for their welfare.

He said many had diversified and some, although no longer active in the industry, had retained their quotas.

One highlight in the industry was the Coloured Development Corporation, which made loans available to a number of kreef fishermen for the purchase of equipment.

The CDC was also asked to administer the kreef quota granted to the coloured population and in 1975-76 it finally bought Dromedaris Fisheries.

In 1981, half the shares were issued to quota holders in direct proportion to their quotas and the remaining shares were issued the following year. The company pays out all profits to the 175 share and quota holders.

The original 500 000kg quota has over the years been reduced to about 250 000 kg.

July 24 1985

CITY/NATIONAL

Argus 24/7/85 Fishing

Professional divers taking out perlemoen 'illegally'

Environment Reporter

PROFESSIONAL perlemoen divers working the coast of the Good Hope Nature Reserve near Cape Point are allegedly taking perlemoen illegally within 185 metres of the shore, according to angry local skin-divers.

They say that as many as 11 professional divers have been seen working in the Bordjiesdrif and Rooikrantz areas in the past fortnight.

"We were at Bordjiesdrif at the weekend and these guys were using a compressor to dive on the inside of the bay, well within 100 metres of the shore," said Mr Tony Smuts of False Bay Underwater Club.

"The Simon's Town to Cape Point area is vulnerable to exploitation and it's one of the few areas where sport divers can still take out their five perlemoen a day.

"These professional divers have now ruined it for everyone and the area will take at least 10 or 12 years to recover," he said.

Other divers were critical of Sea Fisheries inspectors who, they alleged, "harassed" spearfishermen but made no attempt to control the professional divers.

"These divers don't adhere to the rules; they don't give a damn," one said.

"If the authorities want to protect the environment let's do it right around."

Professional divers have a total annual quota of 660 tons and a closed season from the end of August to the beginning of December was imposed for the first time this year.

Mr L H "Lampie" Fick, MP for Caledon and convener of the recently established Perlemoen Source Management Committee, described the 185-metre limit as "problematic". Some of the professional divers had not filled their quotas for this year because of poor weather, he said.

"There have been requests to postpone the closing of the season or for the unfilled quotas to be carried over to next season. Personally I'm not in favour of this because security and discipline is lost," Mr Fick said.

Mr James van Langelaar, chief inspector of the Directorate Marine Development, said he was aware that professional divers were working in the Cape Point area but he denied they were transgressing regulations.

"We have the situation fully under control," he said.

He said the 185-metre restriction on professional perlemoen divers did not apply west of Cape Point lighthouse.

Anglers to face action for fishing off groynes



MERCURY

Mercury Reporter

ALL anglers who fish from the two new Durban groynes off North Beach will be prosecuted, according to a warning issued yesterday by Mr Errol Scarr, director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Beaches.

Since the completion of the groynes last month, there has been a battle between the authorities and anglers over use of the groynes for fishing.

Mr Scarr said: 'Due to continued pressure of public complaints in regard to the condition of the piers, and the danger to all users of the piers and adjacent water space, I wish to issue a warning to the angling fraternity that, as from Friday, August 9, this department's amenities inspectorate will enforce the by-laws in regard to fishing after the hours of daylight.

Complaints

'This action will continue until the council has decided otherwise.'

The Amenities Committee will consider the issue at a meeting next Tuesday.

There have been complaints about the piers being littered with plastic packets, fish gut and bait which attracted many flies.

Mr Scarr said his department had endeavoured to seek the cooperation of anglers who had been contravening the by-laws by fishing on the piers.

'Notwithstanding the erection of a notice at each pier the anglers have continued to ignore the prohibition.

'We had hoped the anglers might see the problems involved, but their response has not been good,' Mr Scarr said.

Commenting on the step taken by the authorities, Mr Barry Rebeck, president of the Natal Coast Anglers' Union said: 'I really can't blame them with the mess being created there.'

However, the NCAU has approached the city council with an offer to lease the groynes and keep them clean, said Mr Rebeck. If this materialised fisherman would be charged a fee to use the piers.

Line-fishing industry is close to collapse

Shipping Reporter

DURBAN'S line-fishing industry is on the verge of collapse because of the suspension of fishing rights in Mozambican waters a month ago and low fish yields in local waters.

This is the opinion of commercial fishermen whose lucrative fishing rights were taken from them when the Maputo Government decided not to renew fishing rights which expired at the end of September.

While officials of the Directorate of Marine Development in Cape Town negotiate with the Mozambican authorities to reconsider the decision, the boats affected are either tied up in Durban or operating in other waters to make ends meet.

Alternative

About 100 black crewmen could lose their jobs should the industry collapse.

Mr Des Willans, who has fished commercially from Durban since 1967, said the industry had been brought to its knees by the Mozambican issue.

'I can safely say they will never renew the Mozambican fishing contracts and we are now looking for alternative supplies of fish,' he said.

The fresh fish market in the Durban area is losing about 50 tons of fish a month because of the ban, he said.

In desperation Mr Willans has moved his boat, San Gabriel, to Port Elizabeth to catch squid. Should his predictions on the fishing contracts prove correct, he will move there permanently.

There are only six large line-fishing boats in Durban.

Mr V Moodley, a director in Roseglen Fishing, whose only vessel, the Volendam, sank while fishing off Mozambique in June, said he was optimistic that the contracts would be renewed, in which case he would attempt to buy a smaller boat for the run.

Mr Noel Clarke, who skippers for various owners, said an alternative was to fish just outside the Mozambican border where yields were about half that in the Mozambican fishing grounds.

RESOURCES

Fishing in the troubled waters of SWA/Namibia

BRENDAN SEERY of The Argus Africa News Service reports from Windhoek on ruthless exploitation of SWA/Namibia's fishing resources

WESTERN capitalist multi-national mining giants are often accused by socialist activists of stripping SWA/Namibia's mineral wealth.

But in the heavy swells of the South Atlantic close to SWA/Namibia's coastline, the vast fishing grounds of the nutrient-rich Benguela current are being systematically plundered by Soviet-bloc trawlers.

While the Soviet and East Europeans are the major culprits in over-exploiting a vital resource of a fairly poor Third World country, other countries also find the pickings easy off the arid coast of the sub-continent. Trawlers from South Africa, Israel, Spain, Germany, Japan and Korea have been seen taking advantage of what is one of the world's richest fish larders.

At any given time, according to air and sea observations, there are between 120 and 180 foreign vessels off the SWA/Namibian coast.

A SWA/Namibian delegation will hammer home their feelings on the issue next month when they take part in a meeting in Spain of the International Conference on South East Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF).

Windhoek's new Minister of Agriculture and Sea Fisheries, Mr Eben van Zijl, intends to put across strongly the case for preservation of SWA/Namibia's fishing resources.

Mr van Zijl said this week that the possibility of securing compensation for SWA/Namibia would also be discussed at the meeting. A fund to compensate the territory had been set up by ICSEAF, but so far only South Africa had made any contributions to it, added Mr van Zijl.

At the heart of the problem is the fact that the ICSEAF countries — with the exception of South Africa — refuse to recognise the 320 km "economic zone" along the South West African coast, which was declared by the now-disbanded SWA/Namibian National Assembly in 1982.

In addition, the foreigners trawling off the SWA/Namibian coast are often no respecters of the 22 km nautical exclusion zone — SWA/Namibia's "territorial waters".

Boats from various countries have been seen as close as 5 km from shore.

At present, there are two types of fishing — excluding lobster catching — off the SWA/Namibia coast. The pelagic industry — anchovies, pilchards and similar fish — is virtually monopolised by South African trawlers which fish close inshore.

Because the traditional fishing grounds of the pelagic industry are inside the territorial waters of SWA/Namibia and the South African enclave of Walvis Bay, strict control of catches and fishing methods is exercised.

There are controls on the length of the fishing season, the numbers of fishing licences issued and also on the size of catches.

However, the damage appears to have been done in the "white fish" trawling grounds, where hake, maasbanker and horse mackerel are caught.

A United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) study on fishing off the South West African coast said that the catches of hake and maasbanker had begun to decline rapidly after the deployment of the modern international trawler fleet in the late 1960s.

From a peak of around 600 000 tons in 1972, the catches of hake had dropped to around 100 000 tons annually, said the report, contradicting earlier predictions that the South East Atlantic fishing grounds would be able to sustain indefinitely a yield of 600 000 tons of fish a year.

Under the ICSEAF quota system for hake, SWA/Namibia (through South African trawlers) gets allocated only 6,5 percent of the catch of about 46 000 tons annually.

This compares with 370 000 tons of fish hauled out each year by Soviet vessels and the 107 000 tons of hake and horse mackerel harvested by Polish trawlers.

The FAO report commented: "Much of the fishery resources in the waters off the coast of Namibia are being over-exploited without direct benefit to the Namibian people."

In addition to over-fishing, foreign trawlers are also accused of contravening hake fishing regulations by using nets of smaller than minimum size to catch smaller fish and boost the harvest.

The waters off the SWA/Namibian coast are regularly patrolled by boats reporting to the Department of Economic Affairs in Windhoek.

These patrol boats are empowered under the ICSEAF agreements to ask vessels to stop and undergo examination.

However on a number of occasions foreign trawlers have refused to heave to, or have hauled in their nets and sailed away.

Others fishing illegally within SWA/Namibian territorial waters have likewise hauled in their nets and fled out to sea at the approach of the patrol boats.

Soviet and Eastern bloc trawlers also fish extensively in Angolan waters and this issue is known to have been a cause for tension between Moscow and the Namibian African proteges.

The Angolans have raised the issue on a number of occasions with their Soviet counterparts with little apparent success.

23/12/85 BUS DAY

Soviets side with SA on fishing

3 FISH -

THE Soviet Union sided with South Africa on some important issues at the recent International Conference on South Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF) in Spain.

The ICSEAF is an organisation of member-countries which fish the waters off SWA.

Dr J Serfontein, chief director of the marine development branch of the Department of Environmental Affairs, told *Business Day* that the patrolling of the coastal waters off SWA, and the safety of SA's inspectors while boarding foreign trawlers found fishing in the area, had caused concern.

"The ICSEAF is one international forum where SA has a voice that is listened to."

The organisation provided a platform for SA and other member-countries to gradually identify the weak areas concerned with administering and conserving fishery resources in the coastal belt off SWA.

This area has become a contentious issue internationally, and has created ruptures in the United Nations recently after moves to declare the SWA fishing grounds a protective zone closed to foreign fleets.

Serfontein said the SA delegation, and that from SWA, had used the ICSEAF meeting to complain about the way the fleets of some member-countries were continually infringing SWA's 22km fishing zone and plundering the territory's hake, mackerel and maasbanker resources.

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

Although the number of infractions had dwindled from about 300 to 40, the matter was still unsettling.

"These infringements are a continual threat to the shoals of pelagic fish stock in the area, and we made a lot of noise about it at ICSEAF," said Serfontein, adding that SA had obtained considerable support from West Germany on its stand.

The meeting had also been used to determine the fishing quotas for foreign fleets permitted to fish in the controlled zone between the Orange and Kunene rivers.

On scientific advice, the hake quota for 1986 has been increased to 481 000 tons from the 429 000 tons for 1985.

Maasbanker quotas were reduced to 485 000 tons from 650 000 tons, and mackerel from 200 000 tons to 100 000 tons.

A quota was also established for snoek for the first time. This will be 34 000 tons for 1986, and represents the beginning of efforts to conserve these stocks for SWA alone, according to Serfontein.

Under the ICSEAF quota system for hake, SWA (serviced by SA-owned trawlers) has been allocated only 6,5% of the total catch, or about 35 000 tons.

This compares with the more than 375 000 tons hauled out by Soviet vessels, and the 107 000 tons of hake and mackerel harvested by Polish fleets

CAPE TIMES 5/12/85

3 Fishing

Fishing grounds 'up for grabs'

From NOEL BRUYNS

WINDHOEK. — SWA/-Namibia's rich fishing grounds are up for grabs again.

On December 9, the cabinet in Windhoek will decide on the reallocation of fishing licences. They lapse on that date in 25 years' time.

A number of South African fishing concerns will be affected by the decision.

For example, Marine Products, a Cape Town-registered company, a full subsidiary of Fedfood SA, has three wholly-owned subsidiaries in SWA/Namibia.

When the cabinet allocates licences it will also reallocate quotas each licencee may catch.

But some cabinet members and quota holders want the quota for certain South African interests increased.

Another faction, however, wants a better deal for the territory itself. Only the quota of Consortium — the only locally-owned concession holder — should be increased, they say.

SWA/Namibia is also anxious to protect its fishing resources from "foreign fleets".

According to analysts, the industry has over the years brought in a profit of almost R500 million, of which only a small part has been put back into the territory.

"Blessed with one of the richest fishing grounds in the world, we had to watch how everybody, with the exception of locals, climbed in and got rich — including some countries whose names we could hardly spell," complained an editorial in the Windhoek Advertiser.

Finger in pie

International interest will be aroused by the interim government's reallocation of licences and quotas next week as the United Nations also has a finger in the pie.

In New York, the UN Council for Namibia decided to proclaim a 200-mile-wide protective zone which will be closed to foreign fleets.

The Soviet Union opposed the idea. Of the top seven countries fishing off SWA/Namibia, it stands at the top of the list with a catch of 357 000 tons.

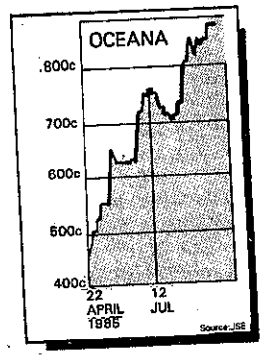
South Africa's catch, by comparison, is an annual 46 000 tons.

BUS DAY 3/12/85

Oceana looks forward to another good year

(3) FISH

STEPHEN ROGERS



OCEANA FISHING chairman Cedric Walton says in the group's annual report that he expects the 1986 financial year to be another satisfactory one.

This forecast, although not quantified, comes in the light of a 37% increase in earnings a share last year.

Walton attributes the improvement last year to increased taxed investment income, better results from the Blue Continent group and large profits on the export of rock lobster because of the fall in the rand.

However, higher prices for fish meal and fish oil on the local market were largely offset by higher production and fuel costs.

The group's rock lobster quotas were completed within the first months of the season and the chairman believes that the recovery in lobster resources may result in quotas being raised in time.

Pelagic catches in the first quarter of the financial year were disappointing. However, catches picked up later on and the factories landed their full quotas.

Furthermore, a higher percentage of quota-free species were hauled in than during the previous year.

The export and domestic trading divisions of Blue Continent performed well.

Blue Continent has commissioned the construction of a 7 000-ton cold storage complex in Durban harbour at a cost of R5m. The complex is expected to be operational by the first quarter of the new calendar year.

After disposing of its Chilean operations — because of the decline in the international price of fish meal — the group has realised R1,5m, resulting in a R274 000 surplus over book value.

The balance sheet has gone from strength to strength with gearing reduced from a low 29% to 14%, resulting in negligible interest charges of R526 000 (R661 000) and high interest cover.

Oceana is still awash with liquidity and the R22,2m cash on hand will easily finance this year's capital expenditure of R10m.

In spite of total assets rising by R4m — occasioned largely by additions to the fishing fleet — the return on total assets is up from 13% to 17% and the return on capital employed rose marginally to 41% (40%).

The share this year has almost doubled in price to 875c (cum dividend of 45c) and yesterday closed ex dividend at 850c to yield 8,2% on dividends and 14,8% on earnings.

One reason for the group's re-rating has been the appointment of Walter Lewis as chief executive 18 months ago. He is a self-styled entrepreneur who is highly regarded in the market place.

Oceana's relatively high dividend yield has helped the share advance.

However, the higher yield partly compensates for the risks attached to investing in the fishing industry, where profits can fluctuate sharply.

One analyst believes the share is close to its peak, but he does not rule out a rise to 950c in the short-term.

Cape Times 29/4/85 3 Fishing

Fishermen: LP attacks the govt

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. — The government's selfish obsession with power had disinherited the coloured fishermen of the West Coast, Mr Abe Williams (LP Mamre) said on Friday.

Speaking in the committee stage of the Environment Affairs and Fisheries vote, he said coloured people had been "chased out" of the industry as soon as it became viable.

This was a continuation of the process initiated by Jan van Riebeeck when he expelled the Strandlopers from the Peninsula and told them it was company land.

The negative, discriminatory economic policy of the National Party government, which preserved the privileges of whites, was largely responsible for the present condition of the West Coast fishermen.

Refugees

Refugees from Angola and Mozambique and poor whites from other countries had taken up quotas previously held by coloureds and had taken over their homes.

A system that gave political rights but not economic rights was valueless.

The large fishing companies should be forced to plough back a certain percentage of their profits into the communities in the area.

Mr Williams also appealed to the minister, Mr John Wiley, to review the "unreasonable prosecution" of fishermen who took home a "fry", or their share of a catch of kreef.

This was the "traditional right of every person", he said. The fines were so punitive that it was sometimes worse to catch kreef than to smuggle diamonds.

'Unjust'

Replying to the debate, Mr Wiley said he agreed with Mr Williams. It was "absolutely unjust" that a man who caught fish was not allowed to take his share home.

He promised to give his personal attention to the matter.

It was not possible to say how many coloureds were employed in the industry, but most skippers were coloureds.

The industry had for decades followed a policy of non-discrimination.

● Mr Wiley also announced that the cabinet had decided to appoint a commission of inquiry into the fishing industry, with a brief to investigate the allocation of quotas.

'Order'

The relevant notice appointing the five-man commission, to be led by Mr Justice M A Diemont, would appear soon in the Goverment Gazette, he said.

"It has become necessary to bring order into the exploitation of marine reserves and to investigate in depth the current unhealthy situation in the fishing industry in the interests of the industry itself," he said.

Besides the quotas, the commission would also make recommendations on the effectiveness of existing and proposed legislation on fishing matters.

Mr Wiley also announced that certain areas off the West Coast would be demarcated for small-boat and ring-net fishing only. — Sapa

officers around, or even handing

The law makes provision for

That is the theory.

Plundering Namibia's rich fish larder

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Africa
News Service

WINDHOEK — Western capitalist multinational mining giants are often accused by socialist activists of stripping Namibia of its mineral wealth.

However, in the heavy swells of the south Atlantic, close to Namibia's coastline, the vast fishing grounds of the nutrient-rich Benguela current are being systematically plundered by Soviet-bloc trawlers.

While the Soviets and East Europeans are the major culprits in over-exploiting a vital resource of a fairly poor Third World country, other countries also find the pickings easy off the arid coast of the sub-continent.

Trawlers from South Africa, Israel, Spain, Germany, Japan and Korea have been seen taking advantage of what is one of the world's richest fish larders.

At any given time, according to air and sea observations, there are between 120 and 180 foreign vessels off the Namibian coast.

COMPENSATION

A Namibian delegation will hammer home their feelings about the issue next month in Spain, when they take part in a meeting of the International Conference on Southeast Atlantic Fisheries (Icseaf). Windhoek's new Minister of Agriculture and Sea Fisheries, Mr Eben van Zijl, intends to put across strongly the case for preserving Namibia's fishing resources.

Mr van Zijl said this week the possibility of securing compensation for Namibia would also be discussed at the meeting. A fund to compensate the territory had been set up by Icseaf, but so far only South Africa had made any contributions to it, he said.

The Icseaf countries — with the exception of South Africa — refuse to recognise the 320-km economic zone along the Namibian coast, declared by the now-disbanded National Assembly in 1981.

In addition, the foreigners trawling off the Namibian coast are often no respecters of the 22-km nautical exclusion zone — Namibia's territorial waters.

At present there are two types of fishing, excluding lobster catching, off the Namibian coast. The pelagic industry — anchovies, pilchards and similar fish — is virtually monopolised by South African trawlers, which fish close inshore. Because the traditional fishing grounds of the pelagic industry are inside the territorial waters of Namibia and the South African enclave of Walvis Bay, strict control of catches and fishing methods is exercised.

There are controls on the length of the fishing season and on the size of catches.

However, the damage appears to have been done in the white fish trawling grounds, where hake, maasbanker and horse mackerel are caught.

QUOTA

A United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) study on fishing off the Namibian coast said that the catches of hake and maasbanker had begun to decline rapidly after the deployment of the modern international trawler fleet in the late 1960s. From a peak of around 600 000 tons in 1972, the catches of hake had dropped to around 100 000 tons annually, the report said.

Under the Icseaf quota system for hake, Namibia (through South African trawlers) gets allocated only 6,5 percent of the catch, or about 46 000 tons annually. This compares with 375 000 tons of fish hauled out each year by Soviet vessels and the 107 000 tons of hake and horse mackerel harvested by Polish trawlers.

In addition to over-fishing, foreign trawlers are also accused of contravening hake-fishing regulations by using nets of smaller than minimum size to catch smaller fish and boost harvests.

The waters off the Namibian coast are regularly patrolled by boats reporting to the Department of Economic Affairs in Windhoek. These patrol boats are empowered under the Icseaf agreements to ask vessels to stop and undergo examination. However, on a number of occasions, foreign trawlers have refused to heave to and have hauled in their nets and sailed away. Others fishing illegally within Namibian territorial waters have likewise hauled in their nets and fled out to sea at the approach of the patrol boats.

FORSDICKS
Cnr Main St & 5th St, 51 9161
Cnr Swartkop & Rifle Range Road
Ridgeway, 680 2410
Kempton Park
AUTOBAHN BMW
52 West Street, 970 3150
Linden
PAUL MAHER BMW
Cnr 3rd Ave & 6th St, 782 9911
Roodepoort
FORSDIC
Cnr Main Ro
766 1010

, Monday, October 28 1985

B. Day (3) Fishing

Study indicates recovery in stocks

Fishing industry pins hope on bigger quotas

THE fishing industry, after one of its better seasons for some time, is hoping for further improvements next year.

Early indications are that the authorities may grant increases in total allowable catches for offshore trawling and improve on total quotas for inshore fishing.

Scientific studies of fishing resources show there has been a further recovery in stocks, says Louis Botha of the marine development branch of the Department of Environmental Affairs.

A recommendation has been made to the Fisheries Advisory Council (FAC) that next year's quotas be increased.

The FAC is to meet next Friday to consider the recommendation before making proposals to government.

The total allowable catch in the 1985 season was 130 500 tons of

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

hake, an improvement of 7 500 tons over last year.

It is expected to bring in earnings of about R200m, according to estimates of the Deepsea Trawling Industry Association.

The industry, which has spent several million rands on refurbishing its offshore fleet, is hopeful 1986 will see at least a similar improvement in the total allowable catch.

If exchange rates remain constant, the aim is to surpass the 1985 season's earnings, a third of which were attributable to exports.

Prospects for the inshore fishery are less certain, though there, too, hopes of achieving better yields are rising.

Pelagic (deep sea) resources have always been unstable and can be subject to dramatic switches in mid-season.

It is normal for a quota decision taken at the beginning of a season to be changed midway, should monitoring of resources indicate either a deterioration or an improvement.

Over 1985, pilchard and anchovy quotas were increased from 220 000 tons to 270 000 tons, reflecting a two-year improvement in resources.

Since pilchard resources remain shaky, the initial decision on quotas could be for a standstill to maintain last season's levels.

Acoustic surveys carried out later next year could produce a different scenario, leading to a mid-year upward adjustment in quotas.

Anchovy resources, on the other hand, reflect considerable improvement.

It might well be that quotas will be higher at the start of 1986 than they were at the beginning of this year.

AGRICULTURE - OTHERS

FISHING — 1986

JAN. — DEC.

ARGUS 14/1/86 3 Fishing

Fish companies get Robben Island quota

Staff Reporter

TWO Hout Bay fishing companies have been given quotas to catch 80 tons of crayfish in the long-unfished waters off Robben Island and 20 tons in the Hout Bay-Melkbosstrand marine sanctuary.

Private lobster fishermen have strongly condemned "preferential treatment" of the big companies, but the Sea Fisheries Research Institute claims the catches will be part of an experiment to determine if lobster can be taken from sanctuaries regularly.

However, a UCT scientist specialising in marine population dynamics has questioned the scientific validity of the experiment.

Off Robben Island, closed to fishermen for about 20 years, catching is scheduled to start on January 20.

Hout Bay

The companies — Chapman's Peak Fisheries and SA Sea Products — have also been given quotas for the third successive year to fish lobsters from Oudeskip in the Hout Bay-Melkbosstrand reserve.

Two years ago they were given a combined quota of 50 tons for Oudeskip, last year 30 tons and this year 20.

Dr Dave Pollock, the Sea Fisheries Institute's head of invertebrate research, said the catches in the two reserves would be part of the companies' normal overall quotas.

They would not endanger the lobster stocks, he said. The 80-ton catch off Robben Island, in particular, represented a "very small proportion" of the estimated stock there.

"The overall object will be to examine the effectiveness of sanctuaries — what benefit they provide for the lobster and what for man."

Dr Douglas Butterworth, a UCT applied mathematician specialising in marine population dynamics, has cast some doubt on the research. Occasional experimental catches from a few reserves could be "a sound management policy" if the experiments were properly planned.

"However I am confused by the continuation of catches at Oudeskip which seem contradictory to the basic experimental management approach."

Robben Island lobster 'shock'

Argus 28/1/86

3 Fish

Staff Reporter

THE first day of the expected giant lobster catch off Robben Island was a huge disappointment.

The eight Hout Bay boats which set traps there yesterday returned with a total of only 410kg.

"This has been a great shock to the industry," said Mr Mike Hughes, quay skipper of Chapman's Peak Fishing, one of the two companies which have been given controversial quotas to take a total of 80 tons from the waters around the island.

The area has not been fished for about 15 years and rumours abounded that the lobsters there had grown to gigantic proportions and that the population was enormous.

Mr Hughes said that when the trap boats last fished there they caught up to three tons each, whereas yesterday his four boats fetched only 170kg.

EXPERIMENT

Mr Brian Higgo, fleet manager of SA Sea Products, the other quota-holder, said his four boats caught a total of 240kg.

"This is a lot less than expected. But there was a big swell and all the boats set their traps out on the edge of the two-mile limit.

"Today they will go inside the island's one-mile limit and they should do better."

The Sea Fisheries Institute of the Department of the Environment gave the 80-ton quota as part of an experiment to determine the size of the lobster stock off Robben Island and to see how fishing would affect growth rates.

Dr Dave Pollock said he was sure there were many lobsters off the island.

"I'm sure the catch will improve. Everyone likes to think there's a monster race out there but we weren't expecting it."

Need to increase pilchard quota

By AUDREY D'ANGELO

PILCHARDS have become so plentiful that the quota could safely be increased to enable local fishing companies to catch all this country's requirements, the chairman of South West African Fishing Industries (Swafish), Mr Robert Silverman, said yesterday.

Dividend

The group lifted after-tax profits in the year to December to R7,4m (R4,4m) and the final dividend to 110c (70c).

This made a total dividend for the year of 155c (100c) plus a special dividend of 200c paid in 1985.

Mr Silverman said in an interview that the low rand had helped export earnings, and improved methods including delivery in refrigerated vessels had resulted in a better yield of canned products.

The group's main export market for lobsters was Japan, and some were exported to the United States. There had been no difficulty in selling to either country.

The rising rand would not have any adverse effect on earnings in the current year because, "we have already covered our exports forward at a better rate than that arranged for our 1985 production".

Mr Silverman said that the group's entire production of canned fish and fish meal was sold in this country.

South Africa imported 25 percent of the pilchards consumed, mainly from South America.

Hopeful

"We are very hopeful that the authorities will appreciate this point and enlarge our pilchard quota for this amount so that we can provide South Africa's full requirements."

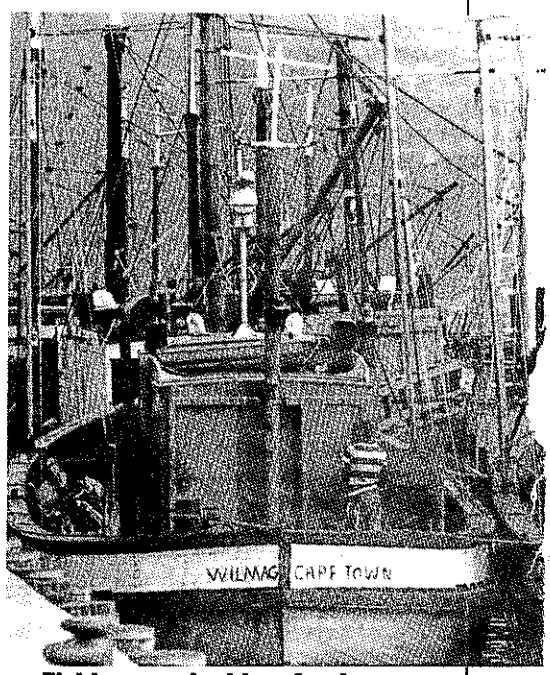
Mr Silverman said he was certain the pilchard resource had increased to such an extent that the quota could be enlarged with no danger to future supplies.

FISHING INDUSTRY (3) FISHING

Net gains FINANCE 14/3/86

The 1986 South African and Namibian pelagic fishing seasons have got off to a buoyant start, with the major groups reporting fair catches and good prices.

Sea management is generally regarded as the best in decades, a welcome development



Fishing ... looking for better catches

for which the industry gives Environment Affairs Minister John Wiley most of the credit.

The improvement in the rand is beneficial for the pelagic side since SA still has to import canned fish and fishmeal. But there are hopes that quota increases will soon make imports unnecessary and further benefits could be forthcoming from lower costs of fuel, which currently accounts for 20% of costs.

Last year the industry was locked into fishmeal prices and could not recover the fuel bill increase, so it is particularly happy about the current decline. Fishmeal is fetching about 9% more than last year, and the price of canned pilchards is up about 5%.

In South African waters, which opened to fishing on January 15, strong pilchard catches have already led to an intensified clamour for a bigger quota. It's still early days for a nod from government on that, but at the very least, industry morale has been boosted by the fact that the overall scenario should be conducive to a sympathetic report from the Diemont Commission on the possibility of more rigid quotas.

The lack of certainty on quotas and timing of the season has, of course, been the fishermen's main bugbear for years. And while there has been little indication of the line being taken by the commission, the industry appears well pleased with the thoroughness with which the inquiry is being conducted. The commission was orginally due to report before the opening of Parliament, but nobody is now expecting to hear anything before mid-year at the earliest.

Oceana GM Richard Ball says pilchard catches are cause for considerable optimism, as are hauls of red eye. Anchovy are only now putting in an appearance. This is in line with the traditional pattern which was broken by an early arrival of anchovy in the past couple of years.

Ball says the South African rock lobster resource is also showing encouraging signs of further growth. The market suffered initially in the new season because the Australians pitched their asking prices at "overly enthusiastic" levels last year, he maintains. This slowed down stock movement dramatically and left an overhang which inevitably led to price cutting at the November start of the season. Supply and demand has reached price-firming equilibrium in the last few days.

Oceana participates through Seaswa and Swafil in Namibian waters as United Fishing Enterprises which, in the first nine days of the season, had a 1 128 t catch of pilchards, more or less in line with last year. Oceana CE Walter Lewis says a greater proportion of pilchards is being canned (61 300 cases to date) because the fish are only three to 10 hours away from the factory, and they are larger and more uniform in size. Last year's mix of large and small fish reduced canning potential substantially. As a result: "We are feeling comfortable right now."

Bigger quotas

South West African Fishing Industries (Swafish) chairman Robert Silverman is adamant that pilchards are plentiful enough for a quota increase, and he is hoping for an improvement to the group's slightly diminished quota of 40 000 t as the season progresses.

Lobster catches, which began on January 1, are slightly down on last year at this stage but no problems are expected in filling quotas.

Silverman maintains unreasonably low quotas now cause SA to import about 30% of its fishmeal requirements (from Chile) and about 25% of canned pilchards (from Chile and Japan). "We should be able to supply the domestic market to the full," he opines.

Chris Venn, MD of Ovgroup's fishing arm John Ovenstone, says Namibian catches are more or less as expected, with reasonable catches of both maasbanker and pilchards — and the condition of the fish is good.

Down in South African waters the wind has made for rough going, and while pilchards are better than last year, anchovy catches are worse.

"You can't ask a fish to read the calendar," muses Venn, but he is confident that John Ovenstone will fill its quotas in what should be a "reasonable to good" season. Lobster quotas have already been filled. ■

Financial Mail March 14 1986

3 Fisheries

Where m

By JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

NOT many businessmen can sit in the comfort of their lounges and watch the next day's profits roll in on the tide.

Commander Henry Wicht who runs a seaweed "farm" at Blue Water Bay near Saldanha is one of the lucky ones — and he has a beautiful view as a bonus.

Unfortunately it's not as simple as it sounds and Commander Wicht's business entails much hard work and irregular hours.

Saldanha Bay is one of only two places in Southern Africa where the spaghetti-like seaweed *Gracilaria verrucosa* can be harvested for its agar content.

Agar is one of the most useful substances known to man and — more important as far as the "farmers" are concerned — no synthetic equivalent has been created.

Odourless

The name agar is derived from a Malaysian word meaning "viscous" and the substance is a clear transparent gel, tasteless and odourless, which retains its jelly-like property at high temperatures, unlike synthetic material.

It is a perfect medium for cultivating bacteria at human body temperature and has extensive medical applications, but it is also widely used in fields as diverse as photography, electrical engineering, dentistry, confectionery and food production, sculpting, cosmetic manufacture, instrument making and orchid growing.

"The seaweed grows right here in front of your eyes," said Commander Wicht, former head of the South African Naval Academy, pointing to the beautiful sweep of the placid bay.

But harvesting the seaweed is an arduous, labour-intensive task and the maxim "time and tide wait for no man" has particular application.

Washed up

The seaweed is washed on to the beach in certain weather and sea conditions and must be collected at low tide, irrespective of the hour.

The species rots and breaks up quickly and it has to be gathered before the next high tide.

Commander Wicht has been involved in harvesting the seaweed since 1958, when he bought a farm fronting the sea at Blue Water Bay.

Originally several concession holders collected the seaweed from the beach (in its natural state the seaweed offers protection to a multitude of marine organisms and harvesting from the sea is strictly forbidden).

Its heyday

The industry reached its heyday in the early 1970s, when several hundred workers were employed and thousands of tons were sent for processing. An agar extraction factory was established at Vredenburg, but the industry was hit by disaster and the Spanish backers lost heavily.

The construction of the vast iron-ore terminal at the end of the Sishen-Saldanha railway line with its breakwater changed the sea's movements in the bay and the amount of seaweed washed ashore plummeted.

"We were totally kiboshed by the iron-ore port," says Commander Wicht.

Now there is one concession holder licensed by the Department of Environment Affairs and Commander Wicht acts as agent. Employment is down to 30, although it can rise to 40 or 50 if rough weather brings in more seaweed.

Into piles

"It used to be largely a summer time phenomenon but now it is more a winter operation," Commander Wicht explains.

The seaweed is carefully raked into piles on the beach at low tide, mechanically gathered and taken to the farm.

"We gather it, spread it and wait for it to dry to a maximum of 14 percent moisture, otherwise it tends to rot," says Commander Wicht.

It is then cleaned and baled before being tested and exported to Japan, where the agar is removed.

At present the dried seaweed is fetching about R4 000 a ton, although the price fluctuates. Not bad for something that rolls in on the tide.

Commander Wicht agrees: "It is potentially a valuable asset to this part of the world."

CONTINUED

Closed shop
Union member employment first
Stop Order facilities for subs

5. Allowances
Shift allowance
Inconvenience allowance
Clothing allowance

Maximum hours o/t per week 10

Travel Allowance
Long Service Allowance
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276

A LE ROUX, Weekend Ar

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Miss Kerry-Lynne Kidson adds a touch of colour to the drab racks of drying seaweed at the Bluewater Bay seaweed "farm" near Saldanha.



Workers gather the seaweed into piles before it is mechanically removed from the beach.

Pictures: PETER STANFORD, Weekend Argus

Cape Times 87/4/86

De Hoop fishing 'possible'

Political Reporter

THE Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, yesterday said he would investigate the possibility of allowing controlled fishing by professional fishermen and local anglers in the De Hoop Marine Reserve.

In a statement, Mr Wiley said he held discussions with representatives of 12 bodies initiated by two MPs, Mr A Geldenhuys (NP Swellendam) and Mr N Padiachy (LP Genadendal), over the restrictions imposed on inhabitants of Bredasdorp, Struisbaai and Waenhuiskrans following the recent proclamation of the De Hoop Marine Reserve.

"It was pointed out to the deputation that the declaration of marine reserves is a conservation measure whereby all citizens of the country, and especially bona fide fishermen, would eventually benefit," Mr Wiley said.

He said he had undertaken to negotiate with the Provincial authorities to allow controlled fishing in the marine reserve especially for Waenhuiskrans fishermen by way of permit. Only professsional fishermen and local anglers who have traditionally fished in the area would be considered.

frequently, it is difficult to categorise cases with regard to Government Departments and Development Boards and the particulars are therefore not readily available.

Uitenhage: NP meeting

*5. Mr J H HOON asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether members of the South African Police arrested persons at a meeting of the National Party held in the Uitenhage town hall on 29 May 1986; if so, (a) how many (i) men and (ii) women, (b) what were the charges against these persons and (c) in terms of what statutory provisions were they arrested;

(2) whether any further action is to be taken against these persons; if so, (a) what action and (b) why;

(3) whether any incidents of violence occurred during the meeting; if so, what was the nature thereof?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes.

(a) (i) 21.

(ii) 3.

(b) None.

(c) Section 50 of the Internal Security Act, 1982 (Act 74 of 1982).

(2) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(3) No.

Note: All the persons were released again at the end of the meeting.

†Mr J H HOON: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, can he inform the House why the persons concerned were arrested if, according to him no incidents of violence occurred at this meeting? [Interjections.]

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the reply that I gave the hon member, did answer his question. His question read inter alia: "Whether members of the South African Police arrested persons . . .", and I said that persons were indeed arrested. He also asked how many persons were arrested and in my reply I said how many were arrested.

†Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Yes, but why did you arrest the people?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Sir, we arrested the people in terms of section 50 of the Internal Security Act. [Interjections.] I think the hon member should go and read section 50 of the Act. Then he will see what it is all about. [Interjections.]

Uitenhage: political meeting

*6. Mr J H HOON asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

(1) Whether members of the South African Police in (a) uniform and (b) plain clothes were on duty in and in the vicinity of the Uitenhage town hall during a political meeting on 29 May 1986; if so, (i) on whose instructions, (ii) how many policemen from (aa) Uitenhage and (bb) elsewhere were on duty in Uitenhage on that day and (iii)(aa) what is the rank of the most senior police officer who attended the meeting and (bb) why did he attend the meeting;

(2) whether it is the policy of the South African Police to attend all public political meetings; if not, what policy is followed in this regard?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) (a) and (b) Yes.

(i) The Divisional Commissioner of the South African Police, Eastern Province Division.

(ii) (aa) 62.

(bb) 93.

(iii) (aa) A Lieutenant-Colonel of the South African Police.

(bb) To be in command of the members on duty.

(2) No, only in cases where the organisers of political meetings request the police to perform duties and also in cases where a reasonable suspicion exists that the public order and peace may be disturbed.

Fisheries Development Corporation

*7. The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism:

(1) Whether the Cabinet has (a) considered, and (b) reached a decision on, the phasing out of the Fisheries Development Corporation of South Africa; if so, when;

(2) whether this Corporation is to be phased out; if so, (a) why, (b) what is the target date in this regard and (c)(i) in what manner and (ii) to whom will the (aa) assets and (bb) shares of the Corporation be transferred;

(3) whether any arrangements have been made for the continued employment of the staff; if so, what arrangements; if not, (a) why not and (b) what retrenchments have been made;

(4) (a) in what manner and (b) by whom is it proposed that the present functions of the Corporation will be carried out?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) 12 September 1985.

(2) Yes.

(a) Rationalisation.

(b) 30 June 1986.

(c) (i) Research functions to be transferred to the Sea Fisheries Research Institute of the Department of Environment Affairs;

finance functions to the Small Business Development Corporation; and

functions related to fishing harbour construction and maintenance to the Chief Directorate Marine Development of the Department of Environment Affairs.

(ii) (aa) A portion of the cash reserves to be transferred to the Small Business Development Corporation while the building in Cape Town and the construction equipment will be transferred to the State.

(bb) A decision on the transfer of the shares of the Corporation will only be taken after receipt and consideration of the recommendations contained in the Diemont Commission report.

(3) Yes. Certain staff members have been transferred to the small Business Development Corporation whilst the rest have been to the Department of Environment Affairs.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(4) Please refer to my reply to 2(c)(i) above.

3 Fishing

Cape Times 30/4/86

'Appalling' row over fishing licences

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Licences for the full quota of South Coast rock lobster are held by Cape Town-based fishing companies, the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, disclosed yesterday.

Replying to a written question from the MP for Port Elizabeth Central, Mr John Malcomess, Mr Wiley said six companies had been given licences for the quota of 450 000kg of South Coast rock lobster weighed in terms of tail mass.

All six were held by Cape Town concerns, he said, although three of the companies had permanent fish processing and packing factories in Port Elizabeth.

But the two major concerns, which accounted for 350 470kg, did not.

All the South Coast rock lobster is caught off the Port Elizabeth coast or adjacent areas.

Commenting on the minister's reply, Mr Malcomess said it revealed an "appalling situation of deprivation for Port Elizabeth".

Mr Wiley also said a further 13 companies had long-line fishing licences, which are not subject to quotas. None of them were Port Elizabeth-based concerns.

He said a total catch of 136 500 tonnes of hake a year was approved by his department, of which 119 356 was for deepsea hake and the balance for inshore hake.

Seven licences for deepsea hake were awarded — all to Cape Town-based companies, while 21 licences were given for inshore hake, 14 to companies based at Mossel Bay, three in Port Elizabeth, three in Cape Town and one in East London.

Mr Wiley said all 42 licences issued for the 3 809-tonne quota of West Coast rock lobster were allocated to either Cape Town or West Coast companies.

Mr Malcomess said that "out of thousands of licences that have been granted only three have been granted to people in Port Elizabeth".

"Secondly, although all 450 000kg of the a South Coast lobster quota is apparently caught off Port Elizabeth, not one Port Elizabeth-owned company has been given any licence whatsoever," he said.

Mr Malcomess said the licences were "almost a licence to print money they are so valuable".

He said it was a matter of urgency that the Minister investigate granting licences to Port Elizabeth companies.

Mr Malcomess said there was an opportunity here to create "desperately needed jobs and to bring in desperately needed funds to Port Elizabeth". He appealled to the Minister to rectify the situation.

Namibians fish for rights

BUS. DAY. (3) FISHING. 25/3/86.

DAVID FURLONGER

NAMIBIAN fishing interests are stepping up their campaign to force SA fishing companies to take a smaller share of in-shore catches off the Namibian coast.

SA-Namibian talks on territorial fishing rights have been taking place since early this year when SA companies' in-shore concessions lapsed.

They were provisionally extended for the 1986 season.

Namibian fishing industry officials say SA companies control 11 of the 12 pelagic concessions, all three crayfish quotas and 92% of the hake quota off the Namibian coast.

They want a drastic redistribution to give Namibian fishing companies 80% of the concessions between the Orange and Cunene rivers, and SA companies 20%.

Representatives of Flag — the Fishing Licence Action Group — visited Johannesburg this week for talks with lawyers before possible legal action. They are due to travel to Cape Town this weekend for more talks.

They say Namibian fishing companies net only $50m of the $250m resale value of in-shore catches. They have already made respresentations to the transitional Namibian government for a full-scale overhaul of fishing rights.

They say the advantages SA companies enjoy has forced much of the local fishing industry out of business, with the loss of hundreds of jobs. While they are prepared for SA companies to continue operating in Namibia, they say it must be as junior partners in local fishing concerns.

High earnings at stake in fishing dispute

By AUDREY D'ANGELO
Assistant Financial Editor

INTENSIVE lobbying, and delicate negotiations, are in progress as fishing companies registered in South West Africa/Namibia but with head offices in Cape Town fight to retain lucrative quotas.

The quotas giving inshore fishing rights in SWA/Namibian territorial waters expired last December, after 25 years, and were renewed for only one year.

Now the transitional administration in SWA/Namibia is preparing to make a decision about them, and fishing interests there are stepping up a campaign for a smaller share to be allocated to companies regarded as being controlled from SA.

The stakes are high, particularly as the quotas include those for lobsters which are exported to the US and Japan and paid for in dollars, as well as for pelagic fish.

Alex Römer, financial director of the Cape Town-based Oceana Fishing Group (Ocfish), which is part of the Barlow Rand conglomerate, said yesterday: "We have been involved in discussions."

Ocfish owns 54% of Sea Products (Seaswas), registered in Luderitz.

In the interim report for the six months to March, the Ocfish directors forecast earnings of 130c a share for the current year, ending in September.

Of this, 35% is expected to come from Seaswas, which is forecast to earn 180c a share in the current year.

Römer stressed that Seaswas paid its full taxes in SWA/Namibia and provided employment there.

"It is only money paid in dividends which finds its way into SA."

Taxes

The same point was made by the chairman of two SWA/Namibian-registered companies, South West Africa Fishing Industries (Swafish), registered in Luderitz, and Willem Barendsz (Willbarz), registered in Windhoek, Robert Silverman.

"They are registered in SWA/Namibia and pay their taxes there," he said.

"They are listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and anyone can buy their shares, including people who live in SWA/Namibia as well as people living in SA."

The joint chairman of Suiderland Development Corporation, registered in Cape Town and with major interests in fishing, Dr P Neethling, said that the ball was in the court of SWA/Namibian officials, who were in the course of deciding about the allocation of quotas at the end of the season.

"They have been having discussions with the SA authorities. I imagine there has been a fair amount of lobbying."

● Our Johannesburg correspondent writes that representatives of Flag — the Fishing Licence Action Group — visited Johannesburg this week for talks with lawyers.

It was planned to hold further talks in Cape Town today and tomorrow.

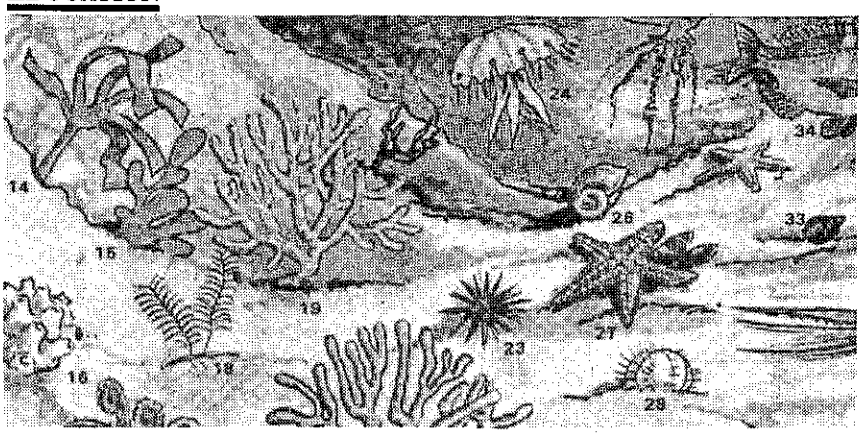
SWA/ Namibian fishing industry officials say SA-controlled companies control 11 of 12 pelagic concessions, all three crayfish quotas and 92% of the hake quota off their coast.

They want a drastic redistribution giving SWA/Namibian fishing companies 80% of concessions between the Orange and Cunene rivers, and SA companies 20%.

They claim that the advantages enjoyed by SA-controlled companies has forced much of the local fishing industry out of business, with the loss of hundreds of jobs.

While they are prepared for SA-controlled companies to continue operating in Namibia, they insist it must be as junior partners in local fishing concerns.

EDUCATION



Copies of The Argus/SEASHORE colour wall chart — published in English and Afrikaans in The Argus on Friday, June 13 — are available at the front counter of The Argus at 122 St George's Street, Cape Town, at the cover price of 40c. Bulk orders (10 or more copies) can be made by contacting the circulation department on 23 1163 ext 224 or 381.

LEGISLATION

ARGUS 19/6/86

Private divers no longer need licences to get perlemoen



Mr John Wiley

Environment Reporter

PRIVATE divers no longer need licences for collecting perlemoen.

The Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley, announced in Parliament recently that the licence system for private crayfish and perlemoen fishing was being scrapped.

The licence requirement had already fallen away and perlemoen divers would not need permits for the rest of the 1986 season, Mr Wiley said yesterday.

He emphasised, however, that all the regulations, including closed seasons, bag limits and catching methods, remained in force.

These included:

- A maximum of five of each species a person a day;
- No one may possess more than 20 of each species;
- Catches are for private consumption and may not be sold;
- No artificial diving apparatus (other than a snorkel) may be used;
- The closed season for perlemoen is from August 1 to October 31; and
- The closed season for crayfish is from May 16 to November 14.

"I trust that I may, as in the past, rely on the public to exploit the resource in a responsible way and to conserve it for future generations," Mr Wiley said.

Riches from the deep

(3) FISHING 8/8/86 FIN MAIL

The development of aquaculture — the enhanced production of aquatic organisms for commercial gain — could mean important foreign exchange earnings for SA, and the creation of employment opportunities.

Already, the export of crocodile products is worth R8m and this is expected to rise to R25m in the next 10 years. Local sales of trout are worth some R4m a year to producers, while oysters fetch about R5m a year.

The CSIR's Foundation for Research Development co-ordinates a national programme for aquaculture, established to overcome the limitations of local environmental conditions, human resources, and economic factors.

A major problem, says programme co-ordinator Danny Walmsley, is the lack of recognition of the industry by the government, and confusion on jurisdiction between various government and provincial departments. He cites the example of a farmer wishing to produce marron, or freshwater crayfish, who has spent three years untangling red tape to acquire the necessary permits.

What is needed, Walmsley says, is a clear public policy statement on the status of aquaculture and financial incentives such as sponsorship for pilot scale testing of technologies. Aquaculture products — including food, fodder, hides and ornamental fish — are likely to become important in import replacement to meet local demand as well as for exports.

Producers, he says, need to become involved in an overall market awareness development. First, however, they require training in technical and business management of aquaculture projects because many ventures have failed through deficiences in both areas.

Aquaculture has considerable potential. The development and application of local technologies is beginning to hold promise for farmer entrepreneurs; and many of the processes, such as the harvesting of oysters, are labour-intensive.

It offers the advantages of continuous production rather than seasonal harvesting, and better utilisation of natural resources, especially water, as well as the possibility of using environmental pollutants such as thermal effluents and sewage wastes for food production.

There is wide scope for import replacement. For example, the decline in marine catches in recent years has meant that the import of fish, molluscs and crustaceans has risen to more than R100m a year.

And there is room for export development. The aquarium fish trade, for example, is worth about US$1,8 billion at the retail level worldwide. At present, Africa accounts for only 2% of international trade.

SA has many indigenous marine and freshwater fish suitable for the aquarium trade and many alien species could be bred here for resale, applying principles of warm water hatchery and pond management for food fish.

In world terms, the contribution of aquaculture to food supply increased by more than 50% between 1975 (6 Mt) and 1984 (10 Mt) and could be as much as 50 Mt by the year 2000.

Fin Mail 8/8/86

CRAYFISH EXPORTS

A fishy tale (3) Fishing

Sophistry, dare it be said, is not unknown when it comes to fishing tales. However, the West Coast crayfish industry is not taking lightly claims which link its export sales with apartheid (*World* August 1).

SA Frozen Rock Lobster Packers Association (Safroc) GM, Steve Malherbe, hotly disputes the view reportedly espoused by New York attorney, Carl Soller, that crayfish export quotas are the preserve of a few white-owned fishing companies. Soller was complaining about the recent seizure of a US$220 000 shipment of crayfish tails by US customs at the request of Pretoria. He maintained that the exporter, alleged to be Durban-based dominion Distributors, was being picked on because it was run by "non-whites" who had been effectively barred from obtaining export quotas by the white-orientated Sea Fisheries Development Corporation (FDC).

"Nonsense," declares Malherbe, who points out that aside from the fact that the FDC is no longer in the picture, there are plenty of coloured fishing quota holders among nearly 40 operators making up the crayfish fleet.

None of the operators holds export quotas as such. They are, instead, required to sell at least 25% of their permitted catch locally (at about half the export price) to ensure that South Africans retain a taste of their heritage.

Safroc and its sister organisation, the Cape Lobster Exporters' Association (Clea), comprise all the fishing quota holders and handle exports for all members.

Everyone associated with the industry knows it is possible to make a killing by buying crayfish at local prices for shipment abroad. That would require a false declaration of a shipment's contents to get out of SA (say whitefish) and presumably stating a fraction of true value to boot — so there should be no surprise that the US customs co-operated so smartly. All this is quite illegal by any standard, and a slip in quality control could jeopardise the good reputation of South African lobsters, with obvious implications. Exports to the US are worth about R40m a year from an industry that is the mainstay of several west coast villages and employs some 2 000 people.

In addition, of course, the odds do not favour repatriation of such illicit earnings.

Malherbe says Safroc tipped off the South African authorities to the scam and the US customs did the rest.

"We have been trying to catch up with this kind of thing for years," says Safroc chairman, Dirk Cloete. ■

Chokka in Algoa Bay could be huge fish industry

WG Rpt 9/8/86 (3) Fish

By JACK DEWES

THERE is so much chokka in Algoa Bay that it could support a multi-million rand industry comparable to the giant pilchard industry on the West Coast which earned fabulous sums for the processing firms.

Some commercial fishermen in Algoa Bay go so far as to say that chokka — far from being threatened by overfishing — could, by sheer force of increasing numbers, threaten the existence in the bay of several other species of fish.

"They're like vermin out there, hogging the environment," says one skipper.

"We no longer get the big fish like the yellowtail. Huge shoals of chokka (squid) are attacking the smaller species of fish, otherwise how could they remain alive?"

The reason for this, it is said among scientific researchers, is that the pressure of commercial fishing in the past five years has reduced the populations of the larger species of fish — among them those which feed on chokka — to such an extent that competition for space has tipped sharply in favour of chokka.

Added to this is the fact that intensified exploitation of chokka began only a year ago. Today it is a feverish industry. The small-boat section of the harbour in Port Elizabeth teems night and day with arrivals from and departures to the fishing grounds.

Almost every night now, for weeks on end, the lights of the fishing fleet have twinkled on the horizon. Fishing goes on round the clock, but now and then a party of haggard and bearded fishermen gather in the pubs.

All the competent fishermen — that is to say most of them — are earning good money and together they are spending large sums in Port Elizabeth, Humansdorp, Jeffreys Bay and elsewhere.

The questions arise: Why this sudden emergence of the chokka industry? Why was the resource not exploited five or 10 years ago? Did the chokka suddenly arrive from somewhere else?

Scientists say they know little about the species. The Sea Fisheries Research Institute of the Department of Environment Affairs has appointed a scientist, Mr Johan Augustyn, to do research exclusively on chokka.

"We are beginning to think there is no chokka season as such," he said this week. "They don't appear at a certain time and go at a certain time.

"It seems that if they move at all it is from the deeper

● Turn to Page 2

9/8/86

Chokka fishing boom could turn into huge industry

WG Rpt (3) Fish

● From Page 1

parts of the bay to the sandy shallows near Jeffreys Bay and Port Elizabeth to spawn."

He said the volume of chokka was so vast that the amount being caught was a tiny fraction of the whole.

Spokesmen for the large fishing companies are reluctant to give figures of the number of ships and men working in the area for fear of "tipping off" rivals, but it is obvious the industry is thriving.

The boom began a year ago when companies more or less stumbled on this new source of income.

Previously boats went out only when pockets of chokka were found, usually near the mouth of the Kromme River, but the skippers, reluctant to waste fuel, insisted on firm reports before moving.

There would be two or three days of hectic fishing until the chokka went off the bite.

A year ago commercial companies began to take the job more seriously and decided that chokka should be hunted down, and today the larger boats can be seen from Port Elizabeth, Cape Recife, Seaview and Maitland River Mouth, prowling in all directions. Soon enough the shoals are found and the trawlers and ski-boats home in.

Not a week goes by without more boats arriving, some from as far afield as Walvis Bay.

How all this bustle and money-making *ought* to benefit the Eastern Cape has already been the subject of considerable controversy. It seems that the answer lies with the Government, which effectively controls the industry.

Hands off, say angry fishermen

3 Fishing

W/E Argus 26/7/86

From KEN VERNON, Weekend Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — The tiny Port Elizabeth fishing industry is in danger of being gutted by an influx of Cape Town and Durban-based trawlers plundering shoals of squid off the Eastern Cape coast, say angry local fishermen.

"This rape of our natural resources is in danger of getting out of hand," says Mr Johan Stander, a former parliamentary candidate who recently dropped his pants in front of the town hall in protest.

He claimed that a Cape Town-based factory ship arrived off Port Elizabeth equipped with a huge pelagic pump capable of sucking "vast amounts" of chokka, as the squid is known, straight from the water. He said he was planning legal action to try to stop the operation.

Trial unsuccessful

However, a director of Atlantic Fishing Enterprises in Cape Town, Mr Brian Flanagan, says the pump was used only once, in a trial that was unsuccessful, and the practice has been discontinued.

The director of the Marine Development division of the Department of Environmental Affairs, Mr Andy le Roux, says his department "heard rumours" about the pump and was investigating.

"Fishermen need a licence to catch chokka, but this is a 'line' licence as the chokka are considered part of the line-fishing industry catch. I am not aware of any special licence to pump chokka," he said.

The seemingly endless shoals of chokka which appeared earlier than usual off Port Elizabeth have attracted more than 200 boats with about 3 000 fishermen from all parts of the South African coast who have been fishing around the clock in what locals complain is a "total onslaught" against chokka they feel should be rightfully theirs.

The fishing industry is tightly controlled by a quota system which limits the catch of different types of fish, but there are no limits on how much chokka can be dredged, and boats have flocked to what seems to be developing into a quotaless bonanza.

The chairman of the Southern Cape Commercial Line Fishermen's Association, Mr Don Christie, says they have made urgent representations to the Government for some form of control on chokka fishing, "before we end up being sucked dry like South West Africa was".

Rough end of rod

But the great chokka slaughter is only one aspect of what local anglers feel is a fishy story in which they are getting the rough end of the rod.

It was recently disclosed in Parliament that of a total hake quota of 136 500 tons caught between Port Elizabeth and Cape Town, Port Elizabeth-based fishermen were awarded only 0,36 percent.

In reply to a question from the MP for Port Elizabeth Central, Mr John Malcomess, the Minister for Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley, also said the entire quota of 450 tons of crayfish tails caught off Port Elizabeth was allocated to Cape Town-based companies.



Fisherman Michael Landt holding the chokka that have attracted trawlers from all over the South African coastline.

Mr Stander says: "If the Eastern Cape is allowed to catch its own fish and crayfish, then we can easily build an industry big enough to replace the loss of Ford. But the Government just won't let us do it."

The other side of the coin is provided by Mr Flanagan, who says the Cape-based companies have historically invested a large amount of money, at high risk, to build their industry and are now asking why they should be penalised to support latecomers.

Mr Av

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Commission fishes for best quotas for the future

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

(3) FISHING SUNDAY 12/8/86.

THE Diemont Commission, vested with the task of determining how best fishing quotas should be allocated in future, has completed its report and submitted it to President P W Botha.

It is understood a White Paper outlining government's response is already being prepared and it, with the commission's report, is expected to be tabled in Parliament during the next session.

Commercial fishing companies are eagerly awaiting its publication. They are hopeful the commission's recommendations will bring an end to the uncertainties of the past with quotas issued on a yearly basis only.

The system has been a thorn in the side of the companies, their major complaint being that it made it difficult to carry out any satisfactory long-term planning and investments.

A source said: "The commission was a blue-chip body with all the right sort of people acting on it."

It also exhaustively researched the subject, apparently canvassing the views of hundreds of interested individuals and groups.

An Ocean Fishing spokesman said: "We are decidedly hopeful, therefore, that it will come up with a set of recommendations that will provide long-term security and stability on the issuing of quotas."

Sectors of the fishing industry are also concerned about how their interests will be affected in Namibia. Quotas giving inshore fishing rights in Namibia's waters expired at the end of last year and there is no certainty they will be reallocated to SA companies that have traditionally fished those waters.

...a reassessed

CHERILYN IRETON

to Energy Resources — a company owned by Joe Berado's Egoli Consolidated Mines, Waverley Gold Mines and Carrig Diamonds.

Egoli director Tony Netto says preparations for drilling will begin as soon as the oil traps are confirmed.

Some boreholes have already been drilled.

Netto says world oil prices will have a bearing on any development of the fields.

Fishermen call for urgent talks with Minister on squid

FISH (3) Eve Post 15/8/86

By JACK DEWES

A TELEGRAM asking for a face-to-face meeting has been sent to the the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, by a spokesman for all the major chokka-processors in the Eastern Cape.

The telegram, sent on August 8 by Mr Don Christy, chairman of the South Cape Line Fishermen's Association, urges suspension of the proposed closed season on chokka.

There has been no reply so far.

Mr Wiley was being "badly advised by the officials of his department", Mr Christy said in an interview in Port Elizabeth yesterday.

The officials wanted to limit the catching of chokka because they believed too much of this resource was being taken, Mr Christy said.

"But that's utter rubbish. The real problem is that we are being smothered by boats and fishermen from Cape Town and elsewhere.

"They are snatching our livelihood and threatening to throw thousands of our people out of work.

"Their fishing grounds are closed to us because of the system of quotas. Our fishing grounds are free for all. There is nothing to prevent anybody in Cape Town sending 200 more boats here."

On August 5 Mr Christy, who runs a processing factory in Port Elizabeth, received a letter from the marine development division of the department confirming that controls over squid fishing were to be introduced.

The letter says: "The closed season of 1986 will come into effect on the date the regulation is published.

"The reason for this step is to ensure that the first spawning of squid for the season takes place before fishing commences."

Mr Christy said: "But the chokka are spawning. The only reason why we are able to catch them is that they come here to spawn."

Later Mr Christy was told to ignore the letter.

"We have never been against control efforts. We want controls and told Mr Wiley so long ago," said Mr Christy.

Properly controlled, chokka could become a colossal industry, Mr Christy said. Economically it could revitalise Port Elizabeth "better than the whole motor industry".

Namibia acts on fishing rights

11/9/86
BUSDAY
(3) FISHING

DOMINIQUE GILBERT

FISHING concessions within Namibian territorial waters are due for total reorganisation. And the Namibian government is being urged to make urgent representations internationally against the foreign vessels who commit "daylight robbery" just 12 nautical miles off-shore.

Director of Namibian Sea Fisheries Dr Jan Jurgens, also chairman of a recent investigation into the Namibian fishing industry, this week sent a report to the Interim Government's cabinet.

The proposals — accepted in principle by cabinet three weeks ago and due to be sent to the National Assembly in two weeks — include:

☐ Guidelines for larger participation from the Namibian public in the catching and processing industry, leaving about a 30% share of the industry to SA companies;

☐ New concessions, extended by the year end, will differentiate between future rights to catch and rights to process;

☐ Product marketing from within Namibia; and

☐ Prevention of cartels and monopolies in a bid to involve the small businessman.

The concessions, which expired — after 25 years — last year, are being closely watched by Namibian and local investors on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange in the fishing sector. Applications for concessions will be accepted from the end of this week and probably granted on certain conditions by the end of the year.

Discussions are also underway for Namibia to make use of Walvis Bay's fishing activities, Jurgens disclosed, and recommendations are being made in this respect.

"We need to be in possession of our own fishing industry," he said, adding that alternatives would be considered if no agreement is reached with SA.

The 300-page report also takes into consideration the "helplessness" of the Namibian authorities to deal with plundering of off-shore resources by foreign vessels, which Jurgens believes rightfully belong to Namibians.

Jurgens accused the 17-member Madrid-based International Commission for the South East Atlantic Fisheries (ICSEAF) of plundering. ICSEAF, the recognised authority of the fisheries zone outside the 12-mile limit, include SA, Spain, Russia, Portugal, both Germanys, France, Italy, South Korea, Japan, Bulgaria, Rumania, Poland and Cuba.

"What's happening is nothing short of daylight robbery," Jurgens charged. However, the ICSEAF has "no teeth," cannot and does not act against its members, who are expected to act against their own vessels, Jurgens said.

"It is impossible for us to patrol offshore fishing. We have no effective control and there is no way to check infringements." As a result, certain fishing resources are now in a poor state. However, infringements — mainly by SA vessels — within the 12-mile limit had decreased over the past few years.

According to Jurgens, a recent delegation to Swapo leader Sam Nujomo was told Nujoma is concerned about the presence of foreign vessels off Namibia's coastline.

16/9/86
BUSDAY

A good run for Swafish

LIZ ROUSE

FISH have been running in South West Africa Fishing Industries' (Swafish) favour. (3 FISHING.

Interim earnings were up 53,8% to 180c a share (117c) and the interim dividend has been raised to 75c (45c).

Earnings for the year to December were estimated at 245c a share (probably a conservative figure) compared with 238c a share earned in 1985. Last year's ordinary dividend total was 155c and a special dividend of 200c was paid for the interim period.

Swafish's turnover shot up 65,3% to more than R25m (R15,2m) and operating income jumped 69,3% to more than R10m (R5,9m). Pelagic fish catches increased to 45 554 tons (39 925 tons) and canned fish production improved to 1,11-million cartons (1,01-million cartons).

Swafish's balance sheet is healthy with the current asset ratio at 2,3.

Willem Barendsz' (Wilbarz) interim earnings were unchanged at 20c a share and the interim dividend was the same at 7c. Estimated year-end earnings were 28c a share, which also seem conservative, although updated from chairman Robert Silverman's previous estimate of 18c a share.

Wilbarz's turnover shot up 72,4% to R4,7m (R2,7m) in the six months to June but income before dividends received, was a shade lower at R2,05m (R2,2m). The company's 1985 interim dividend income was boosted by the 200c special dividend from Swafish to R1,4m. Dividend income therefore fell to R799 129 in the past six months.

Sanctions bite Cape lobster trade

CAPE TOWN — South Africa's multimillion-rand rock lobster industry is one of the major victims of the sanctions Bill passed by the United States Senate.

Two-thirds of the R120-million "red gold" industry is geared for export to the US.

Leaders in the industry said this week that sanctions could put many Cape people out of work.

QUOTA INCREASED

The Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mr John Wiley, increased lobster quotas this year.

However, only a fraction of workers employed in previous years will still have work when the season opens next month, a highly placed source in Cape Town said.

Thousands of Cape families rely on the eight-month "crayfish season."

11/10/86 W/E Post
(3) Fishing

Chokka fishermen may get showers in harbour

Weekend Post Reporter

ATTEMPTS would be made during the current chokka closed season to improve facilities for fishermen in the Port Elizabeth harbour, the regional manager of South African Transport Services, Mr George Engelbrecht, said this week.

He said the fishing jetty area, about which complaints were made in Weekend Post last Saturday, was the responsibility of the Department of Environment Affairs and Fisheries and not of SATS.

"We will be approaching the Department of Environment Affairs to see what can be done," said Mr Engelbrecht.

"We have been faced here with an abnormal situation. The major companies look after their own people with showers, toilets and so on, but the visiting chokka fishermen have no facilities.

"Our facilities at the harbour are intended for our own workers, and we could have banned the fishermen from using them, but we realised they had a problem, living on their boats, and did not do so.

"These facilities have now been abused. We will fix them up, and see what can be done about preventing a recurrence, and improving matters."

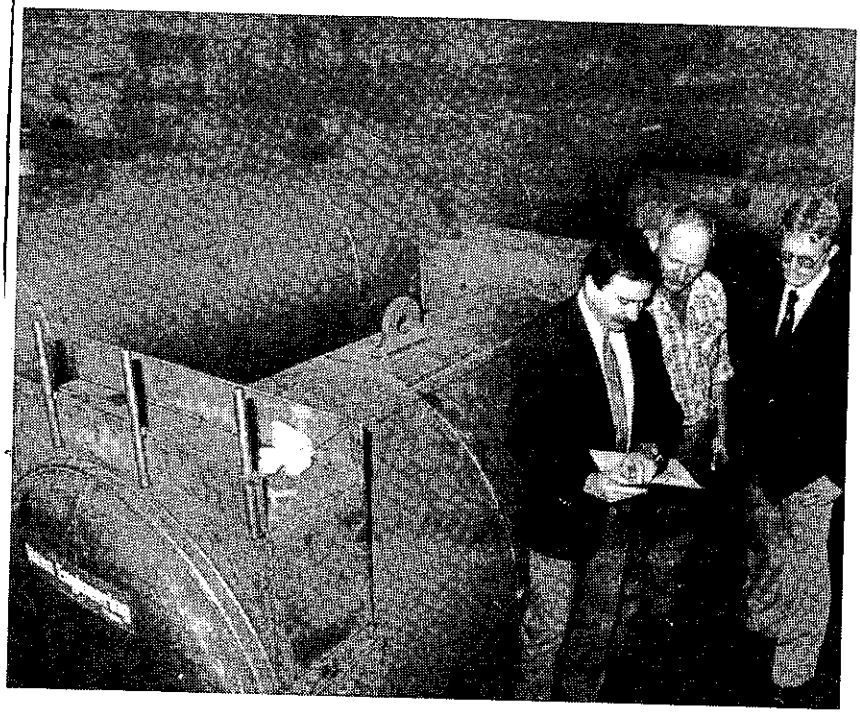
The senior engineer of the Department of Environment Affairs and Fisheries in Cape Town, Mr Barry du Plessis, said he knew nothing about the matter and expected SATS to discuss it with him.

The fishing harbour in PE is a commercial harbour and Mr Du Plessis's department is only responsible for private harbours such as those at Hout Bay, Lambert's Bay and Kalk Bay.

Mr Du Plessis described the PE harbour as a "grey" area and said it would have to be decided which department was responsible for providing toilets there for fishermen.

Massive raft due to become mussel farm

(3) fishing



Nearing completion in Port Elizabeth are these massive floats for a platform to be installed soon near the harbour. It will be used to cultivate black mussels. Checking progress today were Mr DAVE ALLEN (left) and Mr BRIAN WEBB (right) of Atlas Sea Farming. With them is the engineer in charge of contruction, Mr LEON NEL.

A HUGE raft costing R160 000 will become a landmark near Port Elizabeth's harbour within a fortnight.

This is part of a business venture by Mr Dave Allen, who plans to cultivate black mussels and create a labour-intensive industry.

"This is only the first float," he said today at the engineering firm in the city where the floats for the raft are being constructed.

"I plan to have 20 floats, each of which will have ropes suspended in the sea on which the mussels will be cultivated.

"Each float will have about 10km of rope, which gives a good idea what a huge mass of mussels which can be cultivated."

Asked if he had enough capital to ensure success, he said Atlas Sea Farming, of which he was managing director, had access to "between R80 million and R100 million over the next 10 years".

The first harvest of mussels is expected within six months.

"I foresee a whole new industry thriving here in Port Elizabeth and creating jobs for many hundreds of people."

In charge will be Mr Brian Webb, an aquaculturist who has run mussel farms on the West Coast.

The type of mussel produced here would be as good as mussels cultivated anywhere in the world, Mr Allen said.

Plans were being made for a factory where the mussels would be processed and canned.

Mr Allen said that when the industry was in full swing, it could produce 230 000 tons of mussels a year.

"Marketing them will be no problem. On that score I have no worries at all."

Fish-farming project seen as moneyspinner for Cape west coast

Finance Staff

THE farming of fish, particularly trout, is a potentially massive industry on the Cape west coast providing high quality smoked fish to satisfy the discriminating palates of Western Europe and America.

Salmon trout, a close cousin of the freshwater rainbow trout, are bred in virgin fresh water and transferred to specially oxygenated ponds at Pater Noster where the consistently cold and protein rich Benguela current provides optimum conditions for fast growth.

The salmon trout industry, pioneered by Mr Robin Pittard, is now in the hands of Pater Noster Vissery with a current production of 20 tons a month — with a potential of increasing that tenfold within the next five years.

EXPORT ORDERS

Salmon trout, also known as sea trout, has a firm textured, succulent and delicate pink flesh which makes it a popular item on the seafood menus of South African chefs and is regarded by gourmets as being as good if not better than salmon.

Already export orders are substantial and indications are that the quality is equal to the traditional "Scotch" salmon produced in Scotland, the Baltic and Norway.

Mr Pittard maintains that the South African product has many distinct advantages, not least of which is that the Benguela current has a consistent temperature between 9 and 17 deg C which means that production can continue on a year round basis whereas in the Northern Hemisphere, that trout producing season is confined to about eight months a year.

A key factor in the production process is the oxygenation of the seawater ponds in which the fish reach their harvesting size in 15 months.

Extensive development work has been done by the company in co-operation with Afrox which has provided liquid oxygen storage facilities at the site and has developed a system for the high pressure oxygenation of the seawater ponds.

The earlier use of oxygen was to overcome the problem caused by the oxygen-starved waters welling up from deep below the ocean surface, with a dissolved oxygen content in summer (when wind action dispersed surface water) of four parts per million.

This is too low even for fish to survive. Saturation of dissolved oxygen in seawater under normal conditions is at the level of eight parts per million.

RAND DIFFERENTIAL

However, experiments have proved that "super saturation" of oxygen under pressure means that the fish thrive dramatically.

At present, salmon trout are marketed in a variety of methods ranging from relatively low priced canned fish to gourmet quality smoked, sliced salmon.

Mr Pittard believes that regardless of price fluctuations on the world market, the South African product will always hold significant advantages in terms of the extended growing season, low production costs and the rand differential.

Diemont report on fish quota system accepted

By JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

THE Government has accepted the major recommendations of the Diemont commission of inquiry into the allocation of fish quotas "with delight" and will implement these as soon as possible, the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley, has announced.

Mr Wiley released draft copies of a Government White Paper in response to the commission's report, *Enquiry into the Allocation of Quotas for the Exploitation of Living Marine Resources on a Firm Basis* to the media yesterday.

The five-man commission, chaired by former judge Mr Marius Diemont, met for the first time in June 1985 and heard evidence from 196 witnesses before submitting its report a year later.

Over-exploited

The report said South African waters were rich in marine resources but that these had been "generally over-exploited" in the past 40 years and some fishing companies had acted "irresponsibly".

With "very few exceptions" those giving evidence to the commission had accepted control of marine resources as "essential".

Major recommendations of the commission included:

- Quota allocations should not be made according to past performances;
- A five-man quota board should be appointed with a three-year term of office;
- No members of this board should take part or have financial ties in the fishing industry;
- An official register of quotas be kept, open to public scrutiny;
- The rock lobster industry should not be permanently closed but "for practical purposes" should remain a "limited access industry"; and
- Twenty-five percent of the rock lobster catch and 10 percent of perlemoen catch should still be sold locally.

Research fund

The Government did not accept the commission's recommendations on specific levies payable by quota-holders to a research fund, although it accepted the principle.

A recomendation likely to prove controversial is that supporting seal-culling.

Mr Wiley described the commission's recommendations regarding minor sectors of the fishing industry such as squid, tunny, linefish, prawns, mussels and oysters as "disappointing".

"There is not much detail. For example, the catching of squid in the Eastern Cape is a burning issue and the report doesn't help in finding solutions," he said.

'Conflict of philosophy' in the fishing industry

Environment Reporter

THE fishing industry is "colour-blind" and there are no bars against members of any population group becoming entrepreneurs, according to the Diemont commission.

Reporting on its brief to look at coastal fishing communities, the commission said there was a "conflict of philosophies" between fishermen and the fishing corporations and that a balance had to be struck.

"It is important that the fishing corporations should prosper.

"It is equally important that the men who catch the fish should be able to provide for their families and live in decent houses.

"If the big corporations must have security it must not be at the expense of the small communities," the report said.

Issue shares

Recommendations in this regard — most of which were accepted by the Government — included:

- Companies should make better provision for housing, pension and medical services and should be encouraged to issue shares to staff;
- Wages for fishermen in the West Coast rock-lobster industry were too low and should be increased and made uniform; and
- A pelagic quota of 1 000 tons of anchovy a boat should be allocated to each private boat-owner and his crew.

The Government accepted this last recommendation in principle but set the quota at 500 tons, escalating to 1 000 tons as the resource recovered.

However, a recommendation that rock-lobster catchers who decided not to take the permitted five-a-day for their own consumption be allocated a 200kg annual quota was turned down by the Government because it would be "exceedingly difficult, if not impossible", to control.

Similarly, a recommendation that bait-catching permits in False Bay be allocated to a limited number of Kalk Bay and Simon's Town fishermen on an experimental basis was "flatly" rejected.

Independent board to decide marine quotas

By DIANE CASSERE
Environment Reporter

THE Minister of Environment Affairs will no longer make decisions concerning individual marine resource quotas — in future this will be done by an independent quota board.

This was one of the significant recommendations of the Diemont Commission into the allocation of quotas, accepted by the government.

At a press conference yesterday the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, released details of the Diemont report. The full report and the government "white paper", however, will be released to the industry only in November.

Mr Wiley said the Diemont Commission, under the chairmanship of Justice M A Diemont, was the first commission asked to investigate the principles whereby allocation of quotas are governed. There had been two other inquiries into the state of marine resources.

The quota board will have a membership of five and the chairman will have had judicial experience. Members will be appointed by the minister for three years and none of them will be a participant in the fishing industry or have financial ties with it.

Other significant recommendations of the report, to be implemented by the government, are:

☐ The establishment of a Fisheries Advisory Committee which will consist of the chief director of the Marine Directorate, assisted by four others;

☐ The plight of the coastal communities which are mainly dependent on the sea for their living was considered and they should be given assistance;

☐ The principle of apportioning quotas by calling for tenders or by negotiation should be rejected;

☐ Quotas must no longer be vested permanently in existing, past or future quota holders. They could, however, be sold or transferred, provided the purchaser did not exceed by his purchase 30 percent of the fishery sector concerned;

☐ The marketing of rock lobster in South Africa should be placed on a more competitive basis.

☐ The control and reduction of the "huge" seal herds had become issues of major importance to the fishing industry and culling should be undertaken by the State; and

☐ The law barring the sale of fish by amateurs should be strictly enforced.

Viskor, a body set up in 1944 to help the "little man" in the industry, was being phased out, Mr Wiley said, as its role as a financier was no longer viable and its research function was being fulfilled elsewhere.

Mr Wiley said he was "delighted" with the report and that almost all its recommendations would be implemented. Suggested levies payable for fish were among the few to be rejected.

He added that all our fishing resources were recovering as the result of controls and reserved areas.

BUSINESS DAY, Monday, October 27 1986

(3) Fish

New guidelines for fishing industry

Govt reels in big changes

GOVERNMENT has decided to make fundamental and significant changes to the way it manages SA's marine resources and allocates quotas to the country's fishing industry.

Details of the proposed changes are contained in a White Paper released in Cape Town at the weekend by Environmental Affairs and Tourism Minister John Wiley.

They set out the Cabinet's response to the report and lkrecommendations of the Diemont Commission whose brief was to inquire into and make specific proposals for the establishment of a firm set of principles for the allocation of fishing quotas.

Wiley described the commission's report as an admirable, penetrating and objective document, providing fundamental guidelines for the effective management of the country's marine resources.

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

He said the 1 commendations had been acceptec almost in their entirety, and legislative steps would now be taken to implement all the necessary changes as soon as possible — most of them in 1987.

The changes include:

☐ The allocation of quotas is no longer to be decided at ministerial level. Instead, this will be done by a Quota Board appointed by the Minister;

☐ Government has no intention of acceding to requests to close the industry to new entrants, although future access will be carefully controlled;

☐ It has been decided as a matter of policy that quotas should not be vested permanently in existing, past or future quota holders;

☐ Hake and sole quotas of individual companies in the deep-sea and inshore sectors are to be awarded for 10 years;

☐ A similar, extended 10-year quota period has been granted for pelagic fishing;

☐ Companies involved in rock lobster fishing are to be granted a seven-year quota period for south coast lobsters, and a five-year quota period for the west coast;

● Government has promised to reinforce its efforts to ensure SA fishing companies obtain the maximum quota rights to fish off Namibia.

Prochem aims for early new year listing

PROTEA Chemicals (Prochem), a member of the Malbak group, is aiming for a listing early in the new year.

The listing will be achieved by a closed offer, offering shareholders in Malbak and, in turn, its parent company Malcor, a rights issue and shares in Prochem.

Investment Staff

Prochem, one of the gems in the Protea Holdings stable when Malbak acquired control of Protea in 1984, has two main thrusts to its operations — chemicals trading and manufacturing.

Prochem estimates that its turnover for the year to August 1987 will be around R215m. On the chemicals trading side of the operation, the group has five divisions which contribute about 60% of turnover.

Argus 27/10/86

COMPANIES

Ovenstone pays R11-million for seafood company

By TOM HOOD
Finance Staff

OVENSTONE group is set to revert to its original business as a Cape fishing company but on a bigger scale.

It is paying R11-million to take over an important seafood company, Southern Sea Fishing Enterprises (SSFE), to be financed by a loan until cash is raised from a rights issue of shares, and shedding its large construction and property interests.

SSFE will increase Ovenstone's fishing interests sharply, possessing a bigger anchovy quota and having rock lobster and pilchard quotas.

20 PERCENT STAKE

Another 10 percent of SSFE is owned by Premier group, which effectively controls Ovenstone.

The takeover will give Ovenstone a 20 percent stake in one of the largest trawler groups, Sea Harvest, which is controlled by Imperial Cold Storage.

The takeover is believed to involve a disinvestment by large Dutch shareholders.

SSFE processes and markets fish and meat paste under the Redro, Peck's Anchovette and Iona brands and distributes King Solomon smoked salmon.

The acquisition will have a minimal effect on earnings in the year ending March 31, says the company.

Ultimately, Ovenstone Investments (Oil) will buy out the minority shareholders of Ovenstone Group (Ovgroup) so that Ovgroup becomes wholly owned by Oil.

Ovenstone also announced today it will sell off its property and construction companies through management buy-outs — a move that will turn it into a slimmed-down group.

These interests include Ovcon, which handles multi-million construction projects and Bellandia, one of the largest home builders in the Cape, and developers Ovland and Ovdeco Properties.

All the transactions are subject to the approval of the JSE and of shareholders, who are advised to exercise caution in their share dealings.

In its last financial year, Ovgroup's turnover fell by R43-million to R161-million. Fishing contributed R15-million, up by R3,5-million, and earned 31 percent (R4,5-million) of group profits.

Turnover from property, home building and construction dropped sharply by R26-million to R108-million but this group provided 50 percent (R10,5-million) of profits.

DIVIDENDS CUT

Manufacturing and trading, mainly the former Diroyal companies, also had a big drop in turnover, down by R21-million to R37-million, and earnings dipped to R2,8-million from R3,5-million.

Ovenstone was forced to cut its dividends last year after profits plunged to R4,5-million from R6,2-million after tax.

The current year, warned the chairman, Mr Andrew Ovenstone in his annual report, would be a difficult one for the group with all its diversified local businesses being affected by tight economic conditions and its international fishing business suffering from dramatically lower fishmeal prices.

Management buys out part of Ovenstone Group

Assistant Financial Editor

THE executive chairman of the Ovenstone Group (Ovgroup) and Ovenstone Investments (Oil), Andrew Ovenstone, said yesterday that construction and property companies to be sold off would "basically stay together" and jobs in them would be retained.

He said he would have a substantial stake in a new company, which would include Ovgroup's construction and property interests.

The deal amounts to a partial management buy-out.

Ovenstone was commenting on a statement issued by Rand Merchant Bank yesterday that Oil had reached agreement to acquire the entire issued share capital of Southern Sea Fishing Enterprises (Pty) (SSFE) for about R11m, and that negotiations for the disposal of the property and construction interests had reached an advanced stage.

Rand Merchant Bank said the purchase of SSFE would be financed initially by a loan, pending a rights offer.

The bank said it was intended that management of some of the group's subsidiaries to be sold off should "participate financially in the transaction".

The takeover of SSFE will increase Ovenstone's fishing interests and is effectively a disinvestment by Dutch shareholders.

Ovenstone said yesterday that Oil, which intended to buy out the minority shareholding in Ovgroup, had decided to focus its interests on fishing.

"We believe that is the right thing to do. We started as a fishing company.

But he emphasized: "We have not lost confidence in the future of the building and construction industries.

"There will be two separate companies and although Oil will have no interest in building and construction, I, personally, will have a substantial stake.

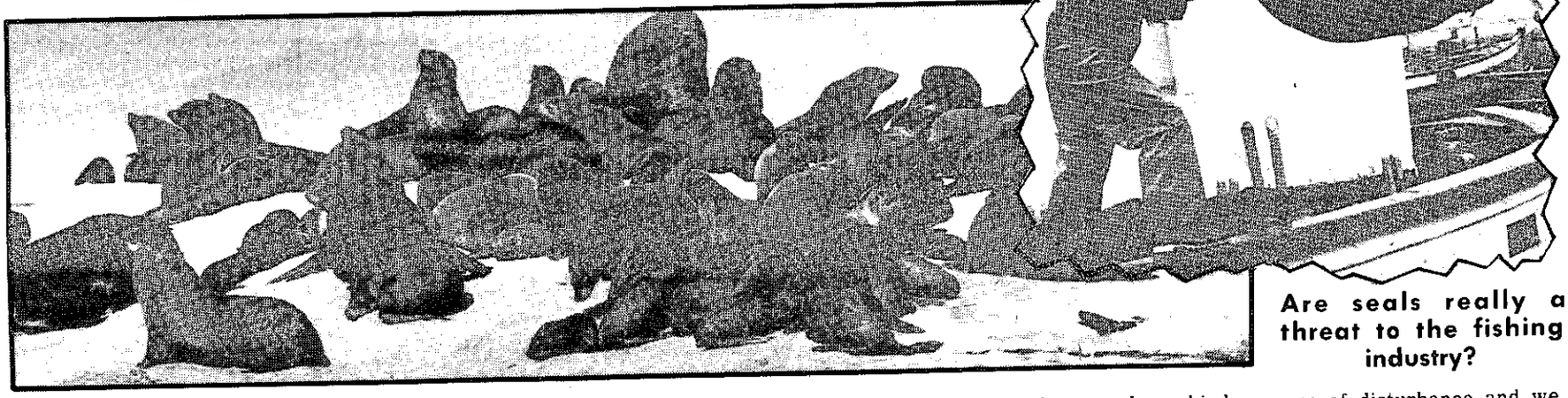
"The sale of the building and construction interests will not be completely a management buy-out. Management will have a share and there will be other investors."

Ovenstone said the saving of jobs was important. "We employ 4 000 people in the group."

"The Government agrees that there should be consultation but wishes to record that the policy objectives of a seal reduction programme and the objectives of scientists and conservationists are not necessarily reconcilable." — Government White Paper. Environmental Reporter JOHN YELD reveals that the plan to man Seal Island and physically interfere with the seals' mating season has come under fire from both conservationists and scientists.

ARGUS 28/10/86

Singling out the seals



Are seals really a threat to the fishing industry?

THE controversy raging over the experiment to drive seals from Seal Island in False Bay to inhibit breeding and help reduce the seal population is likely to be fueled by the report of the Diemont commission of inquiry into fish quotas.

The commission recommended that seal culling be continued and this was readily accepted by the Government as a clear vindication of its policy of reducing seal numbers.

As Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism Mr John Wiley put it somewhat humorously at a Press conference, seals also have to "contribute" to the conservation effort.

However, a supplementary Diemont commission recommendation — that seal culling be undertaken in liaison with scientists and conservationists — was not greeted with the same enthusiasm.

"The Government agrees that there should be consultation but wishes to record that the policy objectives of a seal reduction programme and the objectives of scientists and conservationists are not necessarily reconcilable," said the Government White Paper.

The plan to man Seal Island and physically interfere with the seals' mating season is an experimental attempt to solve in a cheap, effective way what the fishing industry claims to be a serious problem — a burgeoning seal population — particularly because there is no longer a culling has become economically unviable.

But the new plan has come under fire from both conservationists and scientists.

Conservationists say human disturbance in the seals' mating/breeding ground is unnecessarily cruel.

Because seals calve and mate within a week, there will be an inevitable mortality of new-born seal pups by drowning, being eaten by sharks or by starvation after being abandoned before proper bonding if the normal pattern is disrupted.

MOST seal research takes place directly or indirectly under the auspices of the Department of Environment Affairs and scientists are understandably reluctant — or sometimes specifically forbidden — to discuss their findings and recommendations in public.

Senior Government officials — including Dr J Serfontein, chief director of the Marine Development branch of the Department of Environment Affairs — have made it clear in television interviews that the False Bay plan was neither hatched nor approved by department scientists.

A respected scientist at the University of Cape Town, who asked not to be named because of his links with the department, has disputed claims that the seal population on Seal Island is increasing every year.

"The actual data shows that the number of seals has gone down by four percent a year and that the number of pups is decreasing without any outside help," he said.

The scientist also debunked the popular belief — referred to in the Diemont Commission's report — that seals eat their own weight in fish every day, and pointed out that in fact seals took less than 10 percent of their body weight a day.

At the recent CSIR-sponsored Benguela ecosystem research programme symposium at UCT, scientists calculated that if the entire seal population was reduced by half — a logistic and economic impossibility — the result would be an annual saving of about 10 000 tons of pelagic fish, or less than four percent of the total 1985 pelagic catch.

MR John Comrie-Greig, former editor of *African Wildlife* who has questioned the rationale behind seal culling on several occasions, believes there is no scientific justification for the experiment in False Bay and said it contained definite elements of cruelty.

"It is essentially a misbegotten plan," he says.

One of the simplest questions posed by Mr Comrie-Greig and other scientists — "why single out seals?" — has not been answered either by the fishing industry or the management of the marine development branch.

Other species which eat substantial quantities of fish include Bryde's whales and dolphins — up to three times as much as seals — birds such as penguins, gannets and cormorants and, particularly, squid.

"If you really want to do something effective about pelagic fish stocks wipe squid out," one scientist remarked flippantly.

The marine development branch and the SPCA intend monitoring the Seal island experiment, but with most of the potential consequences destined to take place in the water and over a wide area, there are serious doubts about how effective that monitoring will be.

Because seals take several years to mature and become sexually active (*not* only two years as claimed in the Diemont commission report) long-term monitoring will be necessary.

ACCORDING to Mr Andy le Roux, director (marine control) of the marine development branch, the Seal Island plan is "in a very experimental phase".

"We are looking ... cess of disturbance and we will decide afterwards if it is feasible or viable," he said.

Mr le Roux added: "People criticise whatever you do about seals."

At the moment there are no guarantees that successfully chasing the seal population from Seal Island will not simply lead to its being re-established elsewhere — possibly even on the mainland coast of False Bay — and that nothing will have changed.

"That is one of the imponderables," Dr Jeremy David, the Sea Fisheries Research Institute scientist, told a television interviewer.

To pragmatic conservationists who approve animal culling on a sustainable yield basis, it is equally imponderable why the Marine Development branch, which in recent years has set such store by accurate scientific data in its careful and highly successful regulation of the fishing industry, continues to bow to the unscientific anti-seal prejudices of

Cape Times 1/11/86
3 Today

Kreef for all now, says Wiley

By DIANE CASSERE
Environment Reporter

"CRAYFISH for everyone!" is the message from the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, at today's start of the 1986/87 rock lobster (crayfish) season.

Mr Wiley announced late yesterday afternoon that four outlets in the Western Cape will be able to sell whole crayfish at about R5 for an average-size whole crayfish "as soon as is reasonably practical".

This would be at least by the start of the December holiday season.

Awareness campaign

The general public would be able to buy them at this price through certain existing outlets at Hout Bay and Cape Town as well as a new outlet to be established, Mr Wiley said. The outlets were still to be announced.

The local demand for crayfish would be monitored by the Department of Environment Affairs and the fishing industry in conjunction with a firm of management consultants which had assisted in the developing of the new marketing arrangements.

"In order to make the improved availability of rock lobster known to the general public, the industry has agreed to fund a promotion and awareness campaign," Mr Wiley said.

"Details of this are being finalized by a working group which includes representatives of the industry, consumer bodies, the department and the management consultants."

Mr Wiley added that these arrangements did not affect existing sources of supply, such as restaurants and other retail outlets, but were supplementary to them. He appealed to hotels and restaurants to co-operate in keeping prices down.

"I hope that these new arrangements will make rock lobster more freely available to the consumer, especially in the Western Cape, and will assist in promoting tourism."

Two more weeks for kreef divers

By PETER DENNEHY

NON-COMMERCIAL rock-lobster divers have another two weeks to wait before they can dive for kreef, Mr John Wiley warned yesterday.

"The commercial season in the northern areas around Saldanha Bay started on Saturday, but the season for the public, both in the north and in the Peninsula, begins on November 15," Mr Wiley said.

Mr Andy le Roux, director of marine control, confirmed that the commercial season had started in the area from 11km north of Yzerfontein right up to Port Nolloth.

When the public season started in two weeks' time, he said, crayfish enthusiasts would not need a licence, as this system had been discontinued.

Mr Wiley said the permit system, which he had started about three years ago, had been abandoned because it was ineffective and administratively difficult to handle.

"The only ones who took out permits were the honest people," he said.

Mr Le Roux warned that divers could still not take out more than five crayfish each, and that size restrictions were still in force.

Crayfish must not be less than 8,89cm in length from the "centre of the posterior edge of the carapace to the tip of the rostrum, or the middle anterior spine", he said.

They were measured along the middle of the shell from a noticeable point on the head to where the tail starts, he explained.

Female crayfish bearing "berry", or eggs, could also not be taken, he said.

"Divers must also remember that there is a sanctuary in the Peninsula from Die Josie, just the other side of Hout Bay, to Melkbos Point. This area is clearly demarcated with beacons."

Ocfish nets 28% higher income

By AUDREY D'ANGELO
Assistant Financial Editor

HIGH rand prices for exports of rock lobster helped push up profits made by the Cape Town-based Oceana fishing group (Ocfish) in the year to September.

The group lifted turnover by 46% to R147,2m (R100,8m). Net operating income rose by 41% to R21,6m (R15,3m) and net income before tax by 28% to R26,3m (R20,5m).

But the group was hit by a 27% increase in the tax bill, to R10m (R7,9m).

Increased investment income

This limited the rise in earnings a share to 17% at 147,1c (125,7c) a share, although this was higher than the 130c a share forecast in the interim report.

The directors say the better-than-expected result was due to increased investment income in the second half, better results achieved by the Blue Continent and Sea Products (Seaswa) groups "and to increased rock lobster sales at higher than expected realizations due to favourable exchange rates".

The final dividend rose to 52,5c (45c) a share, making a total of 80c (70c) for the year.

□ Sea Products (Seaswa), the group's investment holding company in Namibia, almost trebled net operating income to R9,4m (R3,3m) on a turnover of R20,7m (R11m) and its income from investments rose to R2,2m (R1,7m).

Income attributable to ordinary shareholders rose to R8,7m (R3,4m) and earnings rose to 207,5c (82,2c) a share.

The dividend soared to 100c (35c) a share making a total for the year of 150c (60c).

These results do not include further proceeds of R116 000 from the disposal of the group's Chilean venture.

Two question marks hanging over Oceana and Seaswas make it difficult to forecast how the current financial year's results will compare with those just released.

The lucrative Namibian off-shore fishing rights are to be re-allocated and there has been strong pressure from people living in the country to be given a major share of these in preference to companies with head offices in SA.

MD Walter Lewis told shareholders yesterday that applications for exploitation and processing concessions had been lodged and "we are awaiting the outcome from the Namibian authorities".

His report also mentions that Seaswa "has committed itself to an ongoing programme of employee housing and training projects".

"Upgrading of staff facilities and continuous education programmes ensure upward mobility for all staff within the group."

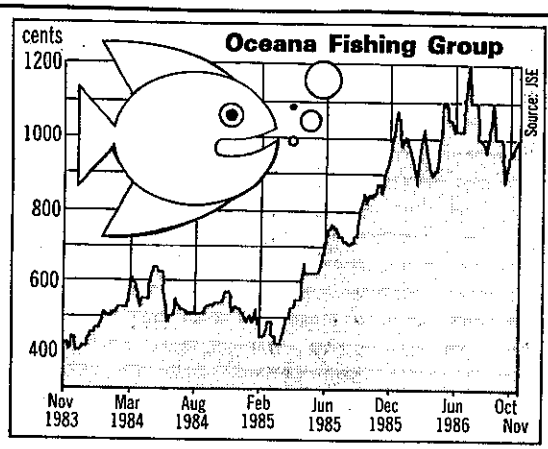
Diversified product range

A spokesman said: "I understand that the Namibian fishing interests who have applied for quotas have no infrastructure to process the fish, but are purely concerned with catching it." However, he admitted that profits would be affected severely if the off-shore fishing concessions were lost to the group even though it would continue to process the catch.

Lewis said Seaswa was "confident that results similar to those achieved this year can be maintained" in the New Year — "unless major quota changes are introduced".

Discussing sanctions, Lewis said they would not affect Seaswa export orders in 1987. "The group already has firm commitments to export the Namibian lobster production at satisfactory prices." He said Oceana had anticipated the possibility of sanctions and had diversified its lobster product range.

(3) FISHING



BRIAN ZLOTNICK

Ocfish's earnings beat year's forecast

OCEANA FISHING has lifted earnings by 17% to 147,1c (125,7c) to beat the directors' interim forecast of 130c for the full year to September.

The final dividend has been raised by 7,5c to 52,5c a share to make a total of 80c (70c) for the year.

Share prices of fishing companies have been under a cloud on news of US sanctions blocking crayfish exports from SA (the US is the largest market) and the proposals of the Diemont Commission regarding SA fishing quotas.

MD Walter Lewis says the group had anticipated the possibility of sanctions and had been diversifying the lobster range.

Despite the loss of the US market, Lewis remains cautiously optimistic about exports.

It is estimated that about 25% of Ocfish's profits are earned from lobster exports.

In terms of the Diemont Commissions' proposals, Lewis says, Ocfish's quota will effectively remain unchanged and entrenched for about seven years.

The improvement in Ocfish's results was achieved because 53%-held listed Sea Products's (Seaswa) earnings more than doubled to R8,7m from R3,5m and a better performance from wholly-owned subsidiary Blue Continent.

With Seaswa's earnings leaping from 98,3c to 211,6c a share, the final dividend was hiked 65c to 100c to total 150c (60c) for the year.

(3) Fishing

WE Post 8/11/84

Fishermen up in arms

Weekend Post Reporter

FISHERMEN in Jeffreys Bay are upset about a municipal regulation compelling them to have permits to launch their boats from a special area.

The permit system became compulsory a year ago because the municipality wanted to control the number of vessels using the tiny launching area.

The Town Clerk, Mr Jan Hugo, said this week that the system was a success although there had been grievances among the fishermen.

Mr Hugo said the town had an influx of fishermen from as far afield as Durban and Cape Town during last year's chokka season.

The municipality later decided to control the number of boats using the area — only 80 are allowed there — and owners were required to apply for permits.

Forty permits a year are issued to professional fishermen and 40 to amateurs.

But the chairman of the Jeffreys Bay Coloured Management Committee, Mr William Faulkner, has complained that fishermen were being inconvenienced because of the permit system.

He said fishermen without permits were forced to travel to Oyster Bay, about 30 kilometres from the town.

He also complained about being summonsed by the municipality recently for launching his boat from the special area without a permit.

Mr Faulkner subsequently received a permit.

He said local boat owners had used the launching area without permits for many years and the whole system was unnecessary.

Fishing crew were upset because they now had to leave home between 3am and 4am for Oyster Bay and return late at night.

They blamed permit restrictions.

The Town Clerk said he was unaware of any inconvenience being caused to the fishermen and was prepared to discuss the matter with the committee.

individual tuition, showing you how to

Sanctions could paralyse E Cape lobster industry

Post Reporters

SANCTIONS are threatening to paralyse the R15-million rock lobster industry of the Eastern Cape.

Lusitania, the only PE-based fishing company that exports lobsters, yesterday recalled its two boats fishing for lobsters since the new season started on November 1.

The company's managing director, Mr Carlos Simal, left for Cape Town today to hold talks about the chokka industry with the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley.

Mr Simal said Lusitania had stopped fishing lobsters "because of sanctions and because our market is in the United States".

Lusitania had no other market "for this sort of product", which earned Lusitania R10 million a year.

The general manager

● Turn to Page 2

Kalk Bay fishermen 'to get crayfish quotas'

Environment Reporter

KALK Bay's professional fishermen are to be allowed to catch crayfish commercially in False Bay.

The fishermen are to be given their own quotas and a special area is to be demarcated — probably between Cape Point and Buffels Bay — where a limited number of boats will be allowed to catch rock lobster for the local market using ring nets.

This was announced by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley, at a social meeting of the Kalk Bay and District Ratepayers' Association last night.

Asked to comment today, Mr Wiley gave the assurance that the present marine reserves in False Bay would remain inviolate.

Benefit

He said the local fishing community should be able to participate in the rock lobster quota system, "not just as catchers for quota holders but as quota holders themselves."

He said all the professional fisherfolk in Kalk Bay, apart from the few existing rock lobster quota holders, would benefit from the scheme, although only some of them would be involved in actual catching.

The catch would be landed at Kalk Bay and processed there. The lobsters could be sold on the live market or processed as tails, whole-cooked or whole-fozen, depending on the facilities available.

"Kalk Bay linefishermen are among the best in the world," Mr Wiley said.

"I want to help them supplement their income from line fishing, which these days is much smaller than it used to be because of over-fishing of the reef fish species, by catching rock lobster for the local market."

Scientists

Mr Wiley said details of the tonnage of rock lobster, the actual area where the fishermen would be allowed to operate and the number of boats involved were being worked out in consultation with scientists and would be announced early next year.

The fishermen would have to use ring-nets, he said.

'Worried' over son

(Cont. from Page 1)

"She said she had succeeded in raising two daughters well and asked where she had failed with the third child."

Under cross-examination Mrs Nothnagel said she agreed to give evidence after being asked to do so by Mr Retief's mother.

Another former neighbour of the Du Toit family, Mr Schalk Engelbrecht, said he was also asked to testify by Mrs Retief.

GREETED

He said that on the day of the killing, he went to the Du Toit home in Horak Street, Kraaifontein "out of curiosity" about 9.30pm.

He said Mr Francois du Toit greeted him.

He did not appear to be heartsore or upset.

When a policeman called him from the house he said: "Hell, what do they want now?". Mr Engelbrecht thought he seemed irritated.

Later that day Mr Engelbrecht saw Mr du Toit again. Mr du Toit told him his father had been murdered and stabbed in the neck.

"He said: 'They were really looking for me.'"

When Mr Engelbrecht asked what he meant Mr du Toit did not answer.

Under cross-examination Mr Engelbrecht said he concluded that Mr du Toit was not upset because he was not crying.

He said he had suspected that Mr du Toit might have been involved in the killing but had been afraid to believe it.

(Proceeding)

Gunmen kill five

NEW DELHI — Sikh gunmen entered a police constable's home and shot dead five members of his family shortly after the murder of the son of a leading Punjab police official. — Sapa-AP.



Picture: DANA le ROUX, The Arg

DEADLY BUSINESS: Cornatzschia-Lindal Schlechter, 5, with her f ther's controversial letterbox.

Letterbox at the dead centre of controversy

Tygerberg Bureau

A MAN has his neighbours in an uproar over his letterbox — a miniature imbuia coffin adorned with a wreath of plastic flowers.

But Mr Juan Schlechter of Elterman Street, Kraaifontein, is ignoring protests and plans to add a tombstone engraved with the words "accounts rest in peace".

Mr Schlechter, who has had threatening calls from irate neighbours, is wondering why people are making such a fuss about a "pretty little letterbox".

He said today: "One man called me and said he would kill me and put me in my own letterbox.

"As far as I'm concerned, it is a letterbox, nothing more.

"I have a flower business and cently delivered flowers to a fun parlour in Malmesbury where I these coffins being made. I thoug was a very good idea and had this made."

The polished coffin has minia handles and a plaque on the lid. lined with mock silk.

Mr Schlechter said: "Several pe have threatened to destroy the One of my neighbours told me it unchristian and threatened to se alight."

Another complained that his was on the border and it made morbid to have to look at a coffi

Kalk Bay abuzz over kreef quotas

By TONY WEAVER

KALK BAY harbour was yesterday abuzz with only one bit of news: "The government has given us a kreef quota."

From the man who took our money at the gate, to the hawker waiting for the boats to come in — and of course the fishermen themselves — the word was the same: "About blerrie time."

The granting of a rock lobster quota to the Kalk Bay professional fishermen was announced on Monday night by the Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr John Wiley.

Mr Charles Johnson, 56, who has been fishing out of Kalk Bay since 1962, beamed: "That is very good news, that is very happy news.

"Times have been hard, the fishing has been poor and we are not making any money. With this crayfish quota, maybe we will be able to make money."

Times were so hard, he said, "the government cannot even tax many of us, we don't get enough. I think it will be nice to earn so much money I have to pay taxes."

Only one fisherman was sceptical. Saying he was "too embarrassed" to be named, he maintained that "crayfishing costs lots of money, the equipment, all the trips you have to make, it won't change my life".

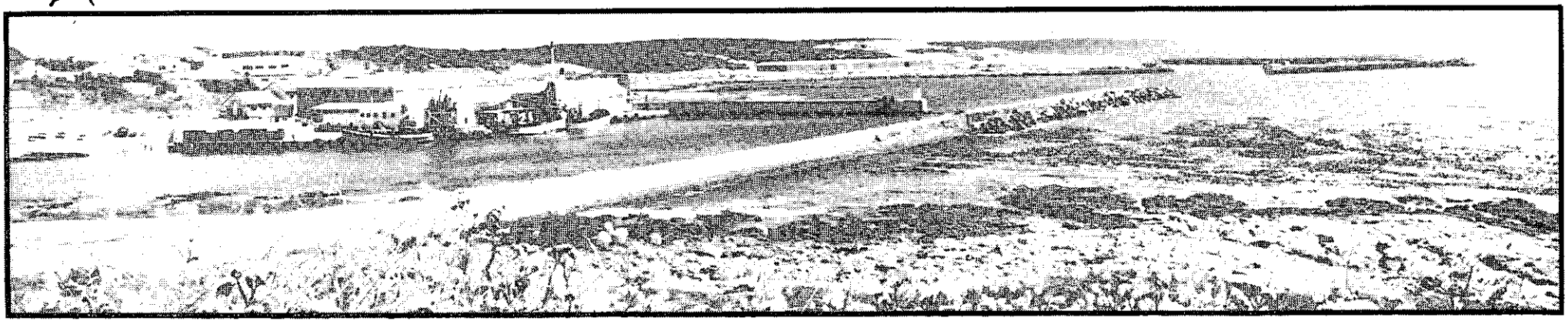
Mr Wiley said the local fishermen would be permitted to become quota-holders.

"Kalk Bay fishermen are among the best in the world. I want to help them to supplement their income from line fishing which these days is much smaller than it used to be because of over-fishing of the reef fish species."

He has not yet announced the size of the quotas, which will be implemented in the new year.

ARGUS 27/11/86

SOUTH Africa's second nuclear power station could be built at Gansbaai. Villagers are "holding thumbs" that Escom will choose their town — and rescue it from the fishing doldrums . . .



The hub of Gansbaai's activity, the harbour, hibernates in the sun.

Waiting for the switch-on!

By PETER FABRICIUS, Staff Reporter
Pictures: DION TROMP, The Argus

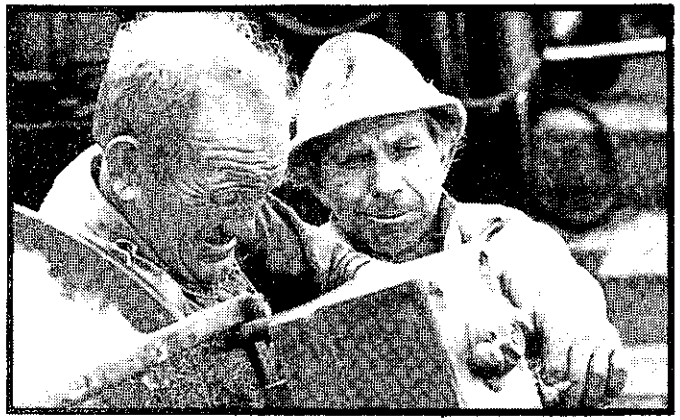
GANSBAAI town clerk Johan Pieterse positively radiates glee at the possible prospect of having South Africa's second nuclear power station near his town.

"We are in favour of it," he says from behind his desk in the humble municipal offices. "I haven't heard any negative response, except for one farmer who fears that the power station will steal his labour from him.

"The first thing I said when I heard the news was: 'Where's my new office going to be?' "

The town clerk's sentiments seem to be shared by most of Gansbaai.

Like him they are "holding thumbs" that Escom will choose Gansbaai from among the 19 possible sites, and set off the chain reaction that will rescue this [illegible]



"Babsie" Dahl, left, with a helper



"Living in injury time", Ben and Dina Otto.

"Gansbaai is just about an old age home already. All the young people go away because there is no work.

"If the fishing carries on going downhill, it will become a ghost town."

THAT is not hard to believe. The town already looks as if it is about to give up the ghost.

Its bland little box houses on tiny treeless plots bask lazily in the sun and little moves.

It is out of both the fishing and holiday seasons and, so even the little harbour is quiet. Boats are being recaulked, the fish factory is being refurbished and one or two skiboats are bringing in small catches.

"In the old days the boats sometimes used to bring in two or three catches a day," said Mr De Waal.

"Now they sometimes go for days without a catch. Only the fish factory is keeping Gansbaai alive and if the fish go further down, it will die out."

Mr Barend Geldenhuys, head of the Fishing Co-operative and chairman of the local *sakekamer*, was reluctant to discuss the issue until the town had had its scheduled meeting with Escom today.

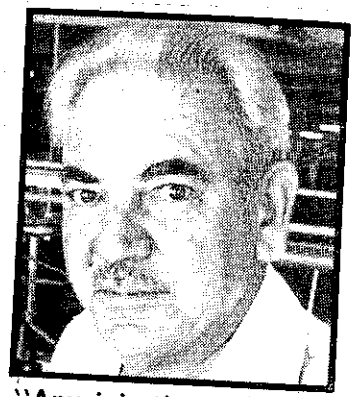
But he also complained bitterly about the decline of the catch and the crippling effect of small quotas.

Fishing is Gansbaai's lifeblood and the resource seems to be dwindling. This season the boats had to abandon Walker Bay to seek their quotas up the West Coast which made the town even quieter than usual.

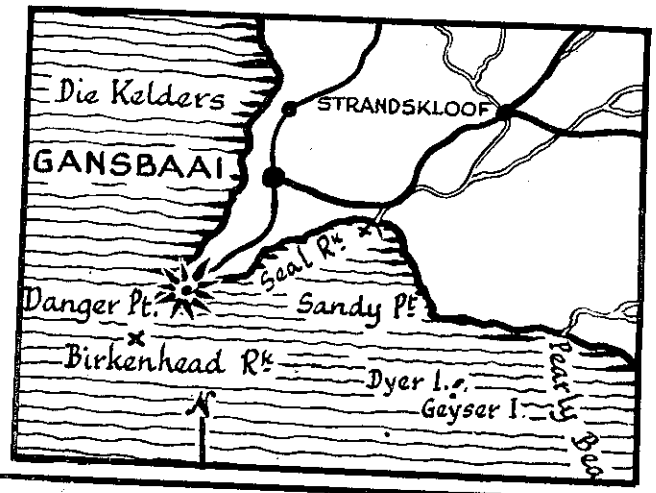
Town clerk Mr Pieterse said that at least half the town's 1 000 white and 1 000 coloured people worked in the fishing industry, mostly in one of three big companies in the harbour.



Holding thumbs for the boom is Gansbaai town clerk Johan Pieterse.



"Any injection will be a good injection," says Mr "Bokkie" Botes.



MOST of the rest were retired or unemployed. He had heard that 6 000 people would be needed to build a nuclear power station — tripling the population and taking up the unemployed slack.

And about 2 000 would be required to operate the plant — thus permanently doubling Gansbaai's numbers.

"It will change the face of Gansbaai and the composition of the community," he said approvingly.

The municipality is poor because of the low income of most of its ratepayers and the poor profit margins of its handful of businesses.

But it has plenty of space to accommodate the hoped-for nuclear boom.

Neither the town clerk nor anyone else seems terribly concerned about the danger of radiation.

"I don't think they would put in something unless it was absolutely safe," Mr Pieterse said.

More fatalistic, fisherman Mr Babsie Dahl grunted as he wrestled with a stubborn hydraulic boat pump: "You can't get away from progress.

"But in any case you are more likely to get hit in the head with a brick going to town."

NOT everyone is in favour of the reactor, of course. Fisherman Mr Page Groenewald saids gruffly: "It will spoil the fishing, we are against it"

Others believe the likely effect on the fishing is unknown and wish to question Escom further before giving their opinions.

Some conjecture that by warming the seawater at its outlets, the reactor will boost fish numbers.

For the many pensioners and casual weekend visitors, there would appear to be no advantage to be gained from a boom.

"A few people want Gansbaai to remain the little town it is," said Mr "Bokkie" Botes, manager of the fish factory.

"I'm not one of those."

"The older people won't like this at all," said Mr De Waal. "Gansbaai is the sort of place where you don't have to lock your front door.

"That will change and they will kick against it."

Purchase price R14m less than book value

Ovgroup to sell property, building interests for R23m

By AUDREY D'ANGELO
Deputy Financial Editor

THE Ovenstone group (Ovgroup) will sell all its property, homebuilding and construction interests for R23m in a partial management buy-out, provided shareholders agree.

This is about R14m less than the book value of these interests at the end of Ovgroup's last financial year in March.

But property and construction have been among industries most badly affected by the recession.

Sliding profit

Ovgroup's trading profit fell to R16m, compared with R18m on an annualized basis, in the year to March and attributable income to R4,4m (5,7m).

The total value of its assets fell to R144,9m (R147,2m) and its total liabilities rose to R86,7m (R81,6m).

The results for the six months to September will not be announced until mid-December.

In an announcement that negotiations for the disposal of the property and construction interests had been concluded successfully, Rand Merchant Bank said last night that "the transaction will enable Oil and Ovgroup substantially to reduce borrowings and concentrate on the fishing industry".

It was announced in October that Oil had reached agreement to acquire the entire issue share capital of Southern Sea Fishing Enterprises for about R11m and was negotiating to sell the property and construction interests.

Chairman Andrew Ovenstone said the construction and property companies "would basically stay together" and jobs retained.

Last night's announcement said it was proposed that Ovdeco, the holding company of all Ovgroup's property and construction interests, would be sold to Ovbel "in which certain directors of Oil and Ovgroup and certain management members of the operating companies of Ovdeco will hold approximately 30% of the issued share capital".

The directors are Andrew Ovenstone, A U Barnetson, J R S Clark, J R Millar, N M Ovenstone and B M Sender.

Rand Merchant Bank said "directors interested in the transaction recused themselves from the decision by Ovgroup to dispose of Ovdeco".

According to the announcement, the disposal of Ovdeco will reduce the net asset value of Oil to 53,2c (77,8c) and of Ovgroup to 49,8c (69,8c).

Earnings boost

It will lift earnings a share to 7,4c for Oil and 6,7c for Ovgroup compared with 7,1c for Oil and 6,4c for Ovgroup if Ovdeco is not disposed of.

Share dealings in Oil and Ovgroup were suspended on November 21. Rand Merchant Bank said negotiations which could result in a major reconstruction of Oil were continuing "and an announcement cannot be expected to be made before mid-December".

Total shareholders' funds of R37m

Ovbel expects to see R3m profits

By AUDREY D'ANGELO
Deputy Financial Editor

A NEW company — Ovbel Holdings — formed to take over the building and property interests of the Cape Town-based Ovenstone group (Ovgroup), has total shareholders' funds of more than R37m and is expected to make an after-tax profit of R3m in its first year of operation.

This was disclosed in a statement issued by the Board of Executors last night.

The statement also disclosed that the company had been formed after a private placing by the Board to raise R12m.

Apply for listing

The chairman of Ovgroup, Andrew Ovenstone, is chairman of Ovbel. Other directors will be A U Barnetson, J R S Clark, J W S Kaminski, J R Millar, N M Ovenstone and B M Sender.

The directors hold 25% of the 16m preferred ordinary shares and 30,8% of the 13m ordinary shares.

Andrew Ovenstone said it was intended to apply for a listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange but "not immediately".

He said the MDs of companies in the group would retain their positions.

There has been keen interest in the future of major companies in the group since an announcement in October that Ovgroup planned to sell off its property and construction interests in a partial management buy-out and concentrate on the fishing industry.

Chairman Andrew Ovenstone said at the time that it had been decided that fishing, construction and property did not go well together.

It had been decided that Ovgroup should focus its interests on fishing, since it had started out as a fishing company.

Last weekend the Rand Merchant Bank announced that Ovgroup would sell the property and construction interests for R23m, provided shareholders agreed.

The statement issued by the Board of Executors last night said: "The Ovbel group has total assets of more than R85m, total shareholders' funds of more than R37m and is expected to make profits, after taxation, of approximately R3m in its first full year of operation, which will end in March, 1988.

Development field

"The Ovbel group comprises: Ovland, which operates in the property development field, Ovcon Holdings, a civil engineering and construction company operating throughout SA, Bellandia Homes, which is involved in housing and the building of low rise structures, and Sun Trail Resorts and Ovdeco Properties, which syndicate resort developments in SA.

"The Ovbel group's management have worked together for 10 to 15 years and have a thorough knowledge of each of the industry sectors in which they operate."



Foreman Brian Webb (left), managing director David Allen and marine biologist Chris Heinecken with a mussel rope that is suspended in the sea.

Food giants take a look at mussel farms

21/12/84
SUN TIMES
(3) First

By Udo Rypstra

ATLAS Sea Farms mussel-farming venture off the Port Elizabeth coast has interested food-manufacturing giants which realise there is money to be made out of the little creatures.

Ever since they launched their platform into the Indian Ocean amid much publicity a few months ago, seafood entrepreneurs David Allen and Hans Beneke (whose family started the Everite conglomerate) have been approached by people who wish to get in on the act.

But the two are playing their cards close to their chests. They admit that "sensitive" negotiations are going on, but they will disclose little else about how they will finance their project.

4 000 jobs

Mr Allen and Mr Beneke plan to harvest mussels from thousands of ropes hanging from floating structures. Their initial forecast is for 100 tons of mussels. Their long-term ambition is to have sea "farms" off the Eastern Cape and Saldanha Bay coast, representing an investment of between R80-million and R100-million.

They believe they will be able to offer jobs to 4 000 people.

but similar projects work successfully in America, Northern Europe and Russia. Spain, for instance, produces 230 000 tons of mussels a year to keep its paella pans going.

The snag, says Mr Allen, is that pollution is damaging the foreign industry.

South Africa relies mostly on mussel imports at R13/kg, amounting to R12-million a year. Mr Allen believes Atlas Sea Farms will be able to produce Mussels at half that price.

Mr Allen, a deep-sea diver who has been working shipwrecks for 15 years, tells Business Times that several major food-processing companies have approached Atlas Sea Farms for advice or with a view to taking part in the venture. Some have applied for permits to "work the sea".

The idea may sound weird,

COMPANIES

ARGUS 22/12/86 3 Feb 1987

Ovenstone chief quits

MR ANDREW Ovenstone has resigned as chairman of Ovenstone Investments (Oil) and Ovenstone Group (Ovgroup) and Mr Tony Bloom, chairman of Premier Group, is taking over.

This is disclosed today in the interim report, which also says no dividends are being paid because of heavy losses in the half-year to September 30.

Ovenstone Investments (Oil) and Ovenstone Group (Ovgroup) both experienced losses after showing a respectable profit in the corresponding period last year.

Writing off the Chilean fishing operations and other losses brought losses of R30-million for Oil and R35-million for Ovgroup. Before the write-off, Oil had a net loss of R2,3-million compared to a R2,1-million profit, equal to a loss of 4,7c a share against previous earnings of 4,4c.

Ovgroup had a net loss of R2,4-million against an attributable profit of R2,7-million.

Trading profit of the group fell by more than R6-million to R2,5-million.

The directors blame the poor results on the operating loss of R1-million which Premier Wire experienced and the loss of R1,7-million experienced by its offshore fishing companies in the nine months prior to September.

The directors say it is unlikely that the group will be paying a dividend in the current financial year but preliminary estimates for the year ending March 31, 1988 indicate a return to profitability.

Hint of a possible rights issue of shares to raise cash is given in the interim report and shareholders will be told of the steps "as soon as possible".

"Clearly steps need to be taken to raise finance to place Oil on a sound financial footing generally and to proceed with the acquision of Southern Sea Fishing Enterprises, as previously announced."

The proposed Ovdeco Holdings sell-off will reduce Oil's borrowings by R38-million and avoid the need to provide future working capital, it is disclosed.

If the deal is not concluded, total borrowings, including offshore liabilities, would exceed R100-million — "an amount clearly beyond the capacity of the group to finance".

Ovdeco, holding company of the property, homebuilding and construction interests, holds assets with a total book value of R84-million and liabilities of R42-million, including R18-million of borrowings.

Maggie Rowley

ARGUS 30/12/86 3 Fishing

Squid fishing rules and licences issued

Staff Reporter

SQUID fishing licences and regulations have been issued in the Cape for the first time and will come into effect on January 16.

There would be a closed season from December 1 to January 15 every year, the Minister of Environment Affairs and of Water Affairs, Mr John Wiley, said in a statement today.

Licences had been issued to give support to the South East coast fishermen, and to protect squid from overfishing.

"THE AREA"

To qualify for licences:

● Privately-owned boats registered in ports between Cape St Blaize and the Great Fish River ("the area") must have caught more than 1 000kg of squid between September 1 1985 and August 31 1986;

● Privately-owned boats registered at ports outside the area, must have caught more than 3 000kg in the same period;

● Company-owned boats, wherever registered, must have caught more than 1 000kg during the same period.

Only boats registered in "the area" would be allowed to catch squid during the closed season. Others would have to leave the area.

Sport fishermen would be allowed to catch 20 squid a person a day all year but would not be allowed to sell them.

Only catching by the jigging method would be allowed.

A limited number of factory licences would be issued to vessels to receive, process and pack at sea.

The names of boats which have been issued licences can be obtained from Sea Fisheries inspectors. In Cape Town, telephone Mr J Franken or Miss S le Sueur at ☎ 21 6290.

Objections to the issuing of licences should be addressed to The Secretary, Interim Quota Board, Private Bag X2, Roggebaai 8012.