

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release JULY 14, 1948.

## STUDY IN U.S. TO RESULT IN ARGENTINE FISHERY EXPANSION

Plans for the expansion of Argentina's relatively minor fishing industry will be formulated soon, Dr. Carlos Gonzalez, of the Argentine Ministry of Agriculture, stated today in Washington.

The expansion will be the result of a year's study of U. S. fishery economics, just completed here by Dr. Gonzalez. On the request of the Argentine Government, he had been awarded a training grant by Albert M. Day, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, under the United States program for cooperation with the American republics. Dr. Gonzalez will return to his country on August 5, sailing from New Orleans to Buenos Aires.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials supervised Dr. Gonzalez's intensive training program, which included visits to fishery centers in Massachusetts, Maine, Virginia, New York, Louisiana, California, Oregon, Washington, and Illinois.

His study emphasized the fishery problem from the government's point of view, rather than private industry's. It included: (1) fish inspection techniques; (2) preparation and distribution of fishery statistics and market news; (3) sanitation methods in commercial fisheries; and (4) government conservation of fishery resources.

In the course of his year of study in the United States, Dr. Gonzalez tabulated fishery statistics in Washington, D. C.; prepared fishery market bulletins in Gloucester, Mass.; and inspected sea foods in Boston.

He studied canning processes in New Orleans and fish marketing in San Pedro, Calif. In Astoria, Oreg. he tagged migratory salmon, and at the Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams in the Columbia River Basin, he observed the functioning of artificial fish-ladders and fish-ways.

The knowledge that he has acquired in the United States will be applied to government operations in the Argentine fishery industry, Dr. Gonzalez explained. He hopes to see the Ministry of Agriculture's Division of Commercial Fisheries, of which he is a member, develop into an organization similar to the Fish and Wildlife Service, the Federal agency which manages the fishery resources of the United States.

Because Argentina produces so much meat so cheaply, he explained, his country has never developed its vast fishery resources fully. But his government plans to double its annual fish production of 130 million pounds.

Beef can be bought for 20 cents a pound in Argentina. "But," Dr. Gonzalez said, "our cattle live the year round on pastures which will eventually approach over-grazed conditions. And the price of beef will soon go much higher."

The expanded fishery industry will then be able to supplement the Argentine diet, Dr. Gonzalez said. In line with this, his country is now also encouraging fisherman-immigrants all over the world to come to Argentina.

Dr. Gonzalez is one of the first Argentine government representatives to visit this country under the program designed to show other nations of the world "how the United States does it."

x x x