

condensed fish solubles, its content of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> is larger and this makes it especially valuable for promoting growth of animals (15).

Recently, in an address before the Institute of Food Technologists, G. A. Reay emphasized the increase possible through improvement of techniques applied to the fishing industry as it exists today. He expressed the opinion that existing production might be quadrupled by the culturing of fresh and brackish water fish in natural waters and special ponds. Annual yields as high as 8000 pounds per acre have been achieved commercially. This compares very favorably with natural yields of 445 to 1780 pounds per acre per year. Another great source of food, according to Dr. Reay is whale meat. Only about 30,000 tons of the present catch of 1.3 million tons of whale meat is being used for food at present. Dr. Reay estimated that doubling of whale meat output for human consumption and development of fish farming could add 15 million tons a year to the world food supply.

There is no question that many more foodstuffs could be extracted from the vast expanses of the oceans to meet the steadily growing requirements for protein and other protective nutrients of an expanding world population. There is also no question that presently used raw materials of marine origin could be processed with less waste and better preservation of their nutrient value. And it is obvious that a greater utilization of fish and fish waste product for agricultural purposes, the improvement of the soil, and the growth of plants and animals will be of mutual benefit to farmers, fishermen, and consumers.

But the most pressing problem at the present time is that of distribution, which is greatly accentuated by the perishability of marine products. Only by way of nutritional education, by changing ingrained but inadequate food habits, by improving the purchasing power and living standard of backward nations, and by facilitating the free flow of commodities will it be possible to achieve a fuller and economically justifiable utilization of the large food resources of the oceans.

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**Francis Joseph Weiss**, a native of Vienna, Austria, obtained his Ph.D. in chemistry in 1922 at Vienna University and subsequently got an Sc.D. in economics and statistics in 1928 from the same university. Combining his background in natural and social sciences, Dr. Weiss devoted most of his research work to the exploration of natural resources for the benefit of mankind. He worked for the National Planning Association, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, the Office of Technical Information, and the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior, as well as for the Sugar Research Foundation. He is now a scientific consultant on food and nutrition.

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