

Because of the general world-wide unrest, there is a great deal of interest in the nativity of the fishermen operating in our coastal waters. But the presentation of this record in the accompanying chart and tables has not been motivated by foreign wars, State legislation proposed in connection with foreign born fishermen, and exaggerations in current magazine articles of the number of Orientals fishing in California. Nativity records have been routine for years, since only one-third of the commercial fishermen give the United States as their birthplace and it happens that the type of gear and the place of birth go hand in hand with some fishing practices.

Citizenship as well as nativity is of interest, but in the past we have not had a record suitable to use in official reports. We know that the number of fishermen who report that they have taken out first and second citizenship papers increases each year. For the 1939-1940 license year the percentage of citizens among the foreign born fishermen was high; the detailed citizenship record is shown in table 2.

TABLE 2
1939-1940 Licensed Commercial Fishermen

Nativity or race	Citizenship not stated	Alien	First papers	Full citizenship	Total fishermen
United States (less Orientals).....				3,748	3,748
Italy.....	115	273	536	577 (38%)	1,501
Japan.....		807		213 (21%)	1,020
Jugoslavia.....	45	21	219	663 (70%)	948
Norway.....	5	5	104	433 (79%)	547
Portugal.....	14	140	46	126 (39%)	326
China.....		1		38	39
All other foreign born.....	52	101	134	308 (52%)	595
Total fishermen.....	231	1,348	1,039	6,106	8,724

TABLE 2
1939-1940 Licensed Commercial Fishermen

In figure 9 and tables 3 and 4, fishermen born in the United States of Oriental parents are included under the United States classification, as this is the country of their nativity and by reason of their birth here they have attained full citizenship rights. To complete the picture, we list the American fishermen with Oriental parents:

<i>Fishermen born in the United States of</i>			
<i>Chinese parentage</i>			<i>Japanese parentage</i>
1936-1937	46	111	
1937-1938	39	131	
1938-1939	43	177	
1939-1940	38	213	

Each year fishermen come south from Alaska, Washington and Oregon to fish commercially in California waters. These men have been included in the nativity tables and in figure 9, and the segregation by place of residence for the four-year period is:

	<i>Alaska</i>	<i>Washington</i>	<i>Oregon</i>	<i>Total out-of-state fishermen</i>
1936-1937	10	426	30	466
1937-1938	5	469	53	527
1938-1939	4	293	12	309
1939-1940	18	383	31	432

The commercial fishing license year runs from April 1 of one year through March 31 of the next, and for that reason the records are given