

Complete statistics are lacking respecting the prices realized for the quantities caught by motor and rowing boats; but assuming them to have been the same as for the fish landed by the decked vessels, the value (excl. curing costs) is as follow:

	Deck vessels 1000 kr.	Open boats 1000 kr.	Total 1000 kr.
1923 . . . . .	15 780	6 956	22 736
1924 . . . . .	35 199	12 258	47 457
1925 . . . . .	29 785	10 163	39 948
1926 . . . . .	15 128	5 338	20 466
1927 . . . . .	20 322	6 855	27 177

### THE PREPARATION AND SORTING OF FISH

Most of the fish is exported fully cured. The fully salted fish is washed and then dried in the open air (sun-dried). Of late, however, artificial curing has increased considerably, especially in the winter months, and a number of up-to-date fish-curing houses have been built in Reykjavík and elsewhere.

In 1910 a law (cp. also law of 1922) established compulsory sorting of all fish for export abroad. Under this law all fish cured for export and all salted fish (whether cured or not) which is to be sold in the Mediterranean markets, shall be sorted into standard grades by official fish sorters under the supervision of chief fish sorters, who, moreover, shall superintend the stowing of the fish in the hold. Every shipment of fish to the above mentioned markets must be furnished with a certificate written on the back of the B/L and signed by a chief fish sorter.

### FISH-OIL

Up to 1900 shark-fishing was extensively carried on, and train-oil constituted the chief portion of the oil export. Since the beginning of the present century, however, the catching of sharks has been gradually declining, until 1927 when only one vessel was engaged in this pursuit. The quantities of fish-liver landed have been as follows:

	Cod-liver	Shark-liver	Total
1897—1900 average . . . . .	7 006 Hl.	16 982 Hl.	23 988 Hl.
1901—1905 — . . . . .	10 683 —	13 070 —	23 753 —
1906—1910 — . . . . .	17 152 —	10 096 —	27 248 —
1911—1915 — . . . . .	26 108 —	4 818 —	30 926 —
1916—1920 — . . . . .	34 179 —	5 180 —	39 359 —
1921—1925 — . . . . .	84 282 —	1 164 —	85 446 —
1926 . . . . .	80 716 —	563 —	81 279 —
1927 . . . . .	132 472 —	126 —	132 598 —