

Seeking Cause of Sponge Diseases

Sponge fishermen here received news last week that the survey of sponge beds in local waters by Dr. Paul S. Galtsoff, senior biologist of the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, showed that the two species of yellow and grass sponges have suffered a mortality of 100 per cent. The more valuable wood sponges are depleted at least 70 per cent by the disease which has infected the beds.

After inspecting the sponge beds here, Dr. Galtsoff continued his inspection of beds on the gulf coast with the assistance of conservation officers. He then discussed the

Approximately 175 sponge fishermen in Key West will be unable to play their trade for at least three years, according to a local newspaper. It was reported that planting project sponsored by the government to equal at least the loss which would be suffered by local fishermen during this time. Supervisor Dowling stated that he will place a sponge

rehabilitation program berde government officials in Washington immediately.

When a similar epidemic infected sponge beds in Bahamas last year, Dr. Galtsoff inspected the beds and succeeded in identifying the germ which forms the sponge killing fungus. He is positive that the disease is not caused by "black water," described as an overflow from the Everglades, and said that there has been no evidence of polluted waters in the Key West area.

Seek Keep Control Of Dairy Industry

Tallahassee, May 5 (FNS) — Retention of some form of state control over Florida's day-care industry was forecast here as legislators spent their fourth weekend recess studying testimony delivered last week before a joint session of the public health committees.

Many daydreamers from all parts of the state urged the committee either to renege the present milk control board or to pass a new bill, which would make the board a permanent part of state government.

Witnesses, representing consumers, also were heard, most of them advocating abolition of the

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