

The recommendations of this Committee are being considered and followed up by the Survival Service Commission and the Fauna Preservation Society.

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## OIL POLLUTION CONFERENCE

An Inter-Governmental Conference on the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil was held by the International Maritime Consultative Organization in London in March and April, 1962. It resulted in considerable extensions to the 1954 Convention. The most important were described in the closing address by the President of the Conference, Sir Gilmour Jenkins. They will come into effect after ratification by the nineteen member countries.

(1) The Convention will cover smaller ships including all tankers down to 150 gross tonnage.

(2) Naval vessels will be included.

(3) The principle that there should be no discharge whatever of persistent oil into the sea was accepted for the future and will be applied to all new vessels of 20,000 tons or more.

(4) The requirements for the reception of waste oil have been extended.

(5) The zones of the sea in which no oil may be discharged have been greatly enlarged. The North Sea, the Baltic Sea and a very large area in the North-East Atlantic out to 40° W. will be closed to oil discharge. Other extended zones will come into effect, as far as the coasts of their countries are concerned, when the Governments accept the Convention. These prohibited zones will include new areas along the Spanish and Portuguese coasts, and off the coasts of the countries surrounding the Mediterranean, the Adriatic, the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf. Existing zones will be increased from 60 to 100 miles when each country concerned accepts the Convention. Somewhat similar provisions have been made in respect of the sea areas around India and Madagascar.