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An agreement to provide for the establishment of a commission to help conserve fishery resources of the Northwest Atlantic was signed recently (Feb. 8, 1948) in Washington, D.C., capital of the United States, by ten maritime countries. Signatories to the agreement were Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Newfoundland, Norway, Portugal, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States. The convention will go into force upon deposit of ratification by four of the signatories. The main purpose of the commission will be to collect scientific information on fisheries for the benefit of all countries concerned. It will not have direct regulatory powers over fishing but will be permitted to recommend steps toward maintenance of fisheries by the governments involved. All nations represented at the Washington conference are interested in maintaining resources of haddock, rosefish, halibut, cod and other fish of the North Atlantic. Some of the fishery areas there have become depleted to such an extent that they produce only a fraction of their former output.

Gervan Barriber, Minister and Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Spanish Embassy in Washington, and chairman of the Spanish delegation to the conference, affixes his signature to the agreement as other members of the delegation look on. (SD-80808)

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SPAIN - AGREEMENTS