

DISCUSSION

Economic Session

Discussion Leader: FRANCIS TAYLOR

Discussion Panel: GORDON O'BRIEN, FRANK W. WILKISSON, CHARLES BEVIS,
GEORGE E. STEELE

Studies on Marine Insurance on Commercial Fishing Vessels

WARNER C. DANFORTH

- Q. Wilkinson: Do the insurance companies give out any information which would enable the fishing industry to make improvements and changes in their vessels which would bring about lower insurance rates?
- A. Kahn: It is difficult to extract information from the insurance firms since they are often reluctant to divulge what they consider secret information. On the other hand, payment is often asked for information. In many cases insurance is held by foreign companies represented by big law firms and no information can be gained there. But, Dr. Danforth expects to provide such information as part of his study.
- Q. O'Brien: Is consideration given by insurance companies in computing rates, as to the qualifications of fishermen, particularly of skippers and mates?
- A. Van Sciver: The agent makes the decision on the past record of the persons involved and is usually the final judge of what constitutes a good or poor risk.