



TOMCOD JIGGERS—In about a month the Eskimo women of the village of Point Hope will be going out on the ice on the Chukchi Sea off the village and jig for tomcod. This is an ancient and yearly event. Tomcod seem to congregate by the millions under the ice around the month of March. The women chop holes in the ice and use a special sinker with hooks and from which branch out four separate hooks on baleen shaved and polished thin lines. When tomcod is especially thick, all four hooks plus the sinker will have each a fish with one or two snagged on the sinker. When fishing is good, women can catch a sledload in two hours. The picture shows Point Hope women busily hooking for tomcod.

—Photograph by the late DON C. FOOTE