

and cured fish, improved methods of handling and preparing fish, and numerous other practical problems have been taken up and papers dealing with them issued by the Board. Instructional courses for fishermen are given at some of the stations and information brought out by the station research is made available without charge to interested branches of the fishing industry.

International Problems.—Fisheries problems of international importance have arisen from time to time on both coasts of the Dominion, as well as in the Great Lakes area where problems are complicated by the number of State governments concerned. A major international problem has been the question of United States privileges in Atlantic fisheries of Canada. An outline of the history of this question may be found on pp. 351-352 of the 1934-35 Year Book. Since 1933, under the former *modus vivendi* plan, which grew out of the unratified treaty of 1888, United States fishing vessels have again been permitted to enter Canadian ports to buy bait and other fishing supplies.

Joint steps to deal with two important Pacific Coast fisheries problems have been taken in recent years by Canada and the United States—one problem the preservation of the halibut fishery of the Northern Pacific Ocean and Bering Sea, the other the protection, preservation, and extension of the sockeye salmon fisheries in the Fraser River system.

The first treaty relating to the halibut fishery was signed on Mar. 2, 1923. Under this treaty a close season for halibut fishing in each year was provided for and an international commission was set up to conduct an investigation into the fishery and the life history of the halibut. A further convention, signed at Ottawa on May 9, 1930, and ratified by the respective Governments on May 9, 1931, provided for the regulation of the fishery by the commission through the division of the convention waters into fishing areas, changing of dates for close seasons, and so on. A new convention was signed at Ottawa on Jan. 29, 1937, extending the regulatory powers of the commission. Steps taken by the international commission under the several conventions have resulted in steady improvement in the state of the halibut fishery in the waters concerned.

The Sockeye Salmon Fisheries Convention was signed at Washington on May 26, 1930, but exchange of ratifications did not take place until July 28, 1937, although the Canadian Parliament had given approval to the treaty several years before that time. The convention waters include not only the Fraser River watershed in British Columbia but also certain Canadian, United States, and international waters making up the Fraser approach and through which the Fraser River sockeye pass.

Under the sockeye treaty the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission was set up in 1937, consisting of three members appointed by Canada and a like number appointed by the United States. The Commission, which has established its headquarters at New Westminster, B.C., is empowered by the Convention to make "a thorough investigation into the natural history of the Fraser River sockeye salmon, into the hatchery methods, spawning ground conditions, and other related matters", to conduct the sockeye salmon fish cultural operations in treaty waters, and to make recommendations to the Governments on matters concerning "removing or overcoming obstructions to the ascent of sockeye salmon, that may now exist or may from time to time occur, in any of the waters covered by this convention . . .".