

price the product actually commands. The Board, however, has no power to control prices nor has it any jurisdiction over operations in the fishing industry or fish trade.

Money necessary for dealings in fishery products is available to the Board from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a maximum aggregate amount of \$25,000,000 but only on the recommendation of the Treasury Board and the authorization of the Governor in Council. Administrative expenses are met from a parliamentary appropriation voted for this purpose.

General economic conditions, particularly in the North American markets, were such, during the 1949-50 period, that the industry did not suffer any widespread loss of revenue and consequently there was no general demand for action by the Board. Nevertheless, the commodity and regional picture was spotty and required constant review. Depressed prices in the fish-oil market, both for marine oils and vitamin oils, called for much discussion and some indirect assistance from the Government in aiding the industry to market these products. The sealing industry of the Atlantic Coast region experienced a particularly difficult time with much lower prices prevailing for both oil and skins. At the close of the marketing year the problem of finding a satisfactory outlet for the 1949 salted cod production of Newfoundland was given detailed attention by the Board and the Government.

The generally low income position of many areas on the Atlantic Coast, due to causes other than price, gave rise to many individual requests for support action, but because of the nature of the problem the Board could do no more than to recommend action other than price support for the ultimate solution of such problems.

**International Agreements.**—Many of the grounds fished by Canadians are also frequented by fishermen from other nations, particularly from the United States. This problem and others, e.g., that of the migration of fish between Canadian waters and those outside the jurisdiction of the Government of Canada, are the subjects of international agreements.

Since 1933, under the *modus vivendi* which grew out of an unratified treaty of 1888, licences have been issued to United States fishing vessels permitting entry to Canadian Atlantic ports for purchases of bait and other supplies; an outline of the history of this development will be found on pp. 351-353 of the 1934-35 Year Book. Reciprocal privileges have also been extended on the Pacific Coast to United States vessels fishing for halibut. Canadian fishing vessels have been granted permission in United States and Alaskan ports. In 1950 these privileges were placed on a continuing basis by the Pacific Coast Port Privileges Treaty, which did away with the need for special annual legislation. Previous to 1950 Canadian halibut vessels received reciprocal privileges only in Alaskan ports. The privileges granted by Canada include permission to tranship catches, buy bait, ship crews, etc.

Two international Commissions, the membership and cost of which are shared equally between Canada and the United States, have been set up on the Pacific Coast to deal with the halibut and the Fraser River sockeye salmon fisheries, respectively. Investigations carried out under the Commissions' auspices, subsequent regulation and limitation of catches and, in the case of salmon, the construction of fishways, appear to have been successful in arresting and reversing an earlier trend towards depletion of these fisheries. Another case of restoring a depleted marine resource by international agreement and action is that of the Pacific fur