

The conservation program of the Department is carried out by the Conservation and Development Service. Protection officers not only enforce regulations pertaining to restricted areas, close seasons, limitations in location and types of gear, but they inspect spawning streams and keep them clear of obstructions. Engineers of this Service construct fishways to enable fish to by-pass dams. Hatcheries are maintained to restock waters where the fisheries are under federal administration.

To ensure a high standard of quality, inspection of fish and fish products is carried out by the Inspection and Consumer Service. Fish inspection laboratories are maintained on the Atlantic and the Pacific Coasts. The Service also has a staff of home economists at Ottawa who operate a test kitchen and carry out demonstrations and lectures on methods of preparing and cooking fish and fish products.

Through the mediums of printed material, films, radio and exhibitions, the Information and Educational Service informs the public on the various aspects of the industry and the work of the fisheries service with the object of developing a better understanding of the resource and those engaged in its exploitation. The Service works closely with the Conservation and Development Service in matters concerning conservation of fisheries, and with the Inspection and Consumer Service toward encouraging increased consumption of Canadian fish products in both North American and export markets.

The Markets and Economics Service, which has a staff of economists and market analysts, is responsible for bringing together a fund of factual information, through surveys and other means, on the primary fisheries and on the processing, transportation and distribution of fishery products. Such facts and their interpretation form the basis for development and for other programs of the Department. In the marketing field continual study and interpretation is carried out on market trends in the foreign and the domestic fields. In co-operation with the Department of Trade and Commerce and its Trade Commissioner Service, work is being done on the development and extension of export markets for Canadian fish.

In addition to providing these regular services, the Department assists the commercial fishing industry in several special ways. For the purpose of promoting efficient primary fishing operations and improving the marketing of fishery products, assistance is provided for the construction of dragnets and long-liners and for bait-freezing and storage facilities on the Atlantic Coast. For each new trawler built in Canada, the owner is eligible for a licence to operate a used trawler imported from either the United Kingdom or the United States and registered in Canada after payment of duty. An applicant wanting only one trawler may import a used one from the United Kingdom without having to lay down a new keel in Canada. This policy applies to ships purchased from any country entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment in accordance with Canada's obligations as a signatory of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

In 1953 an additional service to fishermen was provided through the establishment by the Government of the Fishermen's Indemnity Fund which affords low-cost protection from losses of boats and lobster traps through storms and other causes. The Fund, which is administered as a regular service within the Department, meets a long-standing need on the part of the small-scale individual fishermen. Vessels valued at from \$250 to \$7,500 may be insured with payment of a premium of 1 p.c. of the appraised value. By Mar. 31, 1954, a total of 1,515 fishing vessels with an appraised value of \$2,109,637 were covered under the Fund.