

to 730,000,000 lb. with a gross landed value of \$36,000,000 and marketed value totalling \$75,000,000. A number of new long-liners and about thirty-six draggers of various sizes operated for the first time out of Atlantic mainland ports, six trawlers were added to the Nova Scotia fleet and eleven vessels were added to Newfoundland's offshore fleet. A new filleting plant was built on the mainland and operations were resumed at another. New freezing facilities were established in five localities in Newfoundland and construction of two more plants was well under way by the end of 1954. Existing processing capacity was expanded considerably throughout the area.

The most significant developments in the Canadian fishing industry in recent years have occurred in the sea-fisheries of the Atlantic coast. The widely dispersed character of the industry in this region and certain characteristic rigidities of a socio-economic nature have tended to retard development in some areas; although a fleet of larger sea-going vessels has grown steadily since World War II and processing capacity has expanded, nevertheless progress has been limited in geographic extent.

To encourage further development the Federal Government announced a policy of co-operation with provincial administrations in a positive program of modernization for the industry, since elaborated through study and experience. The plans and policies which have been developed vary among the several provinces and involve federal and provincial agencies as well as municipal agencies, private firms and individuals; they extend into the fields of education and social organization as well as industrialization proper. A number of projects have been started and others are in the planning stage.

In the Atlantic coast industry, direct forms of government activity include loan schemes, public works projects (for harbour improvement) and research and demonstration in the fields of marine biology and food processing technology. Much of the credit for the progress recorded to date should go to private enterprise—ranging from fishing skippers operating on a small scale to business and industrial firms representing relatively large aggregates of capital and management.

In the primary fisheries of the Atlantic coast region the inshore fishery has declined in most areas with the increasing emphasis on fresh-fishing operations on the offshore banks which has contributed to the expansion of the fleet of larger fishing craft. Each of the Atlantic coast provinces now has a program of fleet modernization, the new vessels being equipped with modern navigational and fish locating devices. An increasing proportion of the vessels are owned by the fishermen themselves. Moreover the trend toward concentration of fishermen in ports with fresh fish processing facilities is providing at least a partial solution to the obstinate problem of isolation.

The fish processing industry in the Atlantic region has also made impressive advances. Fresh fish processing capacity has expanded rapidly with the addition of new filleting and freezing plants in the Maritime Provinces, Quebec and Newfoundland. Existing plants have been adapted to turn out new products such as blocks of frozen filets which are used in the manufacture of 'fish-sticks' in raw and precooked forms. Increasing emphasis is being placed on the quality of product and greater care is being taken to ensure sanitary conditions throughout the various processing stages.

Although production, to a considerable extent, has been shifted from the cured to the fresh product, salt fish production continues to be a major part of the industry in Newfoundland. The traditional home curing of fish is now giving way to mechanized operation, which gives promise of a standardized form of product. This in turn will enable the Newfoundland industry to compete more successfully with other salt fish producing countries and with the industry on the Canadian mainland.

There has also been considerable improvement in the method of transporting fish products and in their distribution through the wholesale and retail trade. New refrigerated storages provide inland centres with continuous supplies of nearly all species and products.