

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.

The Fishermen's Indemnity Plan affords low-cost protection from losses of boats and lobster traps through storms and other causes. The Plan, in operation since 1953, meets a long-standing need on the part of 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 per annum. Up to Mar. 31, 1956, a total of 2,999 fishing vessels with an appraised value of \$6,062,140 had been insured under the Plan. In response to considerable demand for a similar type of protection against unusual losses of fishing gear and equipment other than vessels, a first step was taken by the introduction of regulations giving a measure of compensation to lobster fishermen suffering abnormal losses of lobster traps, provided that a small premium has been paid by the fisherman. The premium rate varies in accordance with conditions in the various fishing areas of the Atlantic Provinces and Quebec but is generally about 4 p.c. of the value of the traps. Indemnity is provided at about 50 p.c. of the value on losses in excess of the 20 to 25 p.c. normal annual disappearance.

The Department also provides financial assistance to educational institutions agreeing to carry out specialized educational work among fishermen.

**The Fisheries Research Board.**—The Fisheries Research Board of Canada was established in 1937 to succeed the Biological Board of Canada. The Board functions as the scientific arm of the Department of Fisheries and seeks to improve and expand Canadian fisheries through scientific research. It operates four biological research stations, two oceanographic groups, three technological research stations, an engineering service and a unit which devotes its activities to research on sea mammals and studies of fisheries in the Canadian Arctic. The Board consists of a full-time chairman and up to 18 members appointed by the Minister of Fisheries; the members include Canadian scientists in fields related to the Board's work and businessmen acquainted with fishing and the fish trade.

The biological work of the Board is designed primarily to provide a general scientific basis for the conservation and wise management of Canada's vast marine and freshwater fishery resources. Investigations include the life histories of the various species of commercial importance, their population dynamics, their diseases and enemies. Also investigated are positive cultural methods in areas where some control of the environment is possible, new fishing grounds are sought and experiments in improvement in fishing methods undertaken. The biological work on the Atlantic Coast is conducted by stations at St. Andrews, N.B., and St. John's, Nfld.; Arctic work is directed from Montreal, Que.; work on freshwater fish is directed from a station at Winnipeg, Man.; and Pacific Coast work is directed from a station at Nanaimo, B.C.

Oceanography includes the study of the biological, chemical and physical aspects of the marine and freshwater environments of fish and other aquatic organisms of importance. This information is necessary to understand the occurrence and distribution of the fish and is carried out by the Board's two oceanographic groups, one on each coast.

The technological studies are aimed at making the best use of Canada's fish catches. Investigations are conducted towards improving methods of preserving and processing and in the utilization of fish wastes. In recent years considerable work has been done on mechanization to further develop higher efficiency in the industry. The technological work on the Atlantic Coast is done at stations at Halifax, N.S., and Grand River, Que., and applied engineering work for Newfoundland is under the supervision of a unit at St. John's, Nfld. A station at Vancouver, B.C., undertakes Pacific Coast studies.

**The Fisheries Prices Support Board.**—Under the Fisheries Prices Support Act, passed in 1944, this Board was set up in July 1947 to recommend to the Government price-support measures when severe price declines occur. The Board functions under the