

for the management of north Pacific fur seals was begun in Washington in November 1955, with representatives present from the four countries which had been signatory to the 1911 treaty. A new settlement was signed by the original four countries on Feb. 9, 1957.

In 1949 the Government of Canada became a signatory, along with nine other countries, to the International Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention which came into force in 1950. The Commission established under this Convention, with headquarters at Halifax, N.S., makes scientific investigations of the fishery resources of the northwest Atlantic. The Commission has no regulatory powers but can make recommendations to the respective governments regarding measures that may be necessary for maintaining the stocks of fish that support the international fisheries in the Convention area. Treaty signatories are: Canada, Denmark, Iceland, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Norway, Portugal and the Federal Republic of Germany.

A step towards international action in regulating the high seas fisheries of the northern Pacific Ocean was achieved in December 1951 when Canada, the United States and Japan conferred at Tokyo. The resulting Convention was ratified by the three contracting governments and instruments of ratification were deposited at Tokyo in June 1953. The treaty is known as the International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean and aims at providing the maximum sustained yield of the fishery resources of the northern Pacific non-territorial waters with each of the parties assuming obligations to encourage conservation measures. The Commission established under this Convention is studying the northern Pacific fisheries and will determine the application of the treaty principles and promote and co-ordinate the scientific studies necessary for ascertaining conservation programs.

The seventh, and latest, international fisheries agreement to which Canada is a signatory is the Great Lakes Fisheries Convention, which provides for joint action by Canada and the United States in Great Lakes fishery research and in a program for the control of the predator lamprey in these waters. This Convention came into force in October 1955. (See also p. 586.)

Canada is a member of the International Whaling Commission and is obligated to collect biological data on whales caught by Canadian vessels. Whaling operations are conducted off the coasts of Newfoundland and British Columbia.

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 direction of the Minister of Fisheries and consists of a chairman, who is a senior officer of the Department of Fisheries, and five members chosen from private and co-operative firms in the industry, representative of the various fish-producing regions of Canada.

The Board has authority to buy quality fishery products under prescribed conditions and to dispose of them by sale or otherwise, or to pay to producers the difference between a price prescribed by the Board and the average price the product actually commands. The Board has no power to control prices nor has it any jurisdiction over operations in the fishing industry or the fish trade. Money necessary for dealings in fishery products is available to the Board from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a maximum amount of \$25,000,000 but only on recommendation of the Federal Treasury Board and authorization of the Governor in Council.

The Board maintains a small staff for administrative activities. The work is closely integrated with that of the Department's Economics Service and, where possible, services required by the Board are carried out by Department personnel. The Board has carried out field surveys on market conditions and possibilities and on factors affecting the income of fishermen in the various producing areas. The financial position of fishermen is kept under continuous review and recommendations are made to the Government on the basis of the findings. Special investigations are made when serious problems arise in particular areas.