

Since its inception, the Fishermen's Loan Board has disbursed more than \$6,000,000 for the construction of fishing vessels and the purchase of modern equipment and diesel motors for fishermen of the province. Loans of \$1,500 to \$2,500 are made available to inshore fishermen for the purchase of lobster boats and engines, and amounts of \$10,000 to \$60,000 to offshore fishermen for the building and equipping of modern longliners, Danish seiners and draggers. These amounts represent the net amount lent to fishermen, which is about 70 p.c. of the total cost of the vessels after deducting the required down-payment and the Federal Government subsidy of \$225 per gross ton. New Brunswick now has a fleet of 92 groundfish draggers and 25 longliners and Danish seiners.

New designs of fishing vessels are under continuing study by the technical staff of the Fisheries Branch in co-operation with naval architects, boatbuilders and fishermen. A certain pattern of standardization is followed to keep building and maintenance costs at the lowest level, because fishing in New Brunswick is generally a marginal operation. Multi-purpose types have been successfully introduced in the inshore fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence area. Modified versions of the 65-foot groundfish dragger equipped with more powerful diesel engines and bigger equipment have proven to be more efficient than the original type. The building of a prototype steel stern dragger has been under study for the past two years and arrangements are being made for the construction of three units at a cost of approximately \$250,000 each. It is expected that the federal subsidy will cover half the cost of these vessels.

Exploratory projects aimed at improving fishing boats and gear are carried out by the Fisheries Branch with the financial and technical assistance of the Industrial Development Service of the federal Department of Fisheries. After a few years of experimental fishing and demonstrations with cod gillnets, Danish seines, mid-water trawls, mechanical clam diggers, etc., these new types of gear are being used by commercial fishermen along the New Brunswick coast. Practical training is made available by the Fisheries Branch to dragger operators and inshore fishermen during the winter season in various parts of the province. A permanent school of fisheries has been in operation, under the auspices of the Caraquet School Board, since the autumn of 1959. Over 30 young fishermen, 17 to 30 years of age, attend the three-year course from November to April each year.

To co-ordinate the efforts of the Atlantic Provinces and the Federal Government in the promotion of fisheries, the federal Department of Fisheries formed a Provincial-Federal Atlantic Fisheries Committee of which the Province of New Brunswick is a member.

Quebec.—From 1941 to early 1962, Quebec's commercial fisheries were administered by the Department of Fisheries and its inland fisheries by the Department of Game and Fisheries (Sport). At the 1962 session of the provincial legislature the two departments were merged into a Department of Game and Fisheries comprising a Division of Commercial Fisheries and a Division of Game and Sport Fisheries.

Commercial Fisheries.—The Quebec Government, through its Department of Game and Fisheries, gives much consideration to the administration of the fisheries of the province. For the benefit of producers and fishermen, it operates a network of cold storage plants for the freezing and preservation of fish. The network comprises 60 plants, together having a daily freezing capacity of 500 tons and a storage capacity of 25,000,000 lb. of fish. These plants also perform a valuable service to fishermen by providing them with frozen bait and ice. In addition, the Ministry owns and maintains 123 stations in small fishing ports where fish is kept under proper conditions while awaiting collecting trucks or boats, and also operates an artificial drying plant with a processing capacity of 3,000,000 lb. of fish annually.

The Department maintains a staff of fish wardens, technicians and technologists to administer fishery legislation and to assist in the application of new techniques for the expansion of the industry. The central administration is located at Quebec City with an office at Gaspé for the administration of cold storage plants. Fish inspection is carried out by federal inspectors who are vested with additional powers by the provincial government with respect to local sales.