

The Department of Fisheries.—The chief responsibilities of the Department of Fisheries throughout Canada are, in brief: to conserve and develop Canada's primary fishery resources; to encourage the development of the fishing industry in the national economy; to inspect fish products, establish standards of quality and promote the optimum utilization of the resource; and to develop a proper public understanding of the resource and the industry.

The larger part of the staff of the Department is stationed in the field and is composed mainly of protection and inspection officers. The protection officers, including those on the Department's 82 patrol and protection vessels, are concerned with the enforcement of the conservation regulations under the Fisheries Act and other Acts designed to ensure a continuing maximum yield of fish, and are also responsible for the inspection of fish products and processing plants under the Fish Inspection Act and relevant section of the Meat and Canned Foods Act.

A conservation program is carried out by the Conservation and Development Service of the Department. Protection officers enforce regulations pertaining to restricted areas, close seasons, limitations in location and types of gear, and also inspect spawning streams and keep them clear of obstructions. Biologists investigate such problems as pollution and water supply, and engineers construct fishways to enable fish to bypass obstructions of all kinds. Hatcheries are maintained to restock waters where the fisheries are under federal administration.

For the past few years a bounty has been paid for the killing of the parasite-carrying harbour seals along the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts at a rate of \$10 for adult and \$5 for young seals. Total payments for the year ended Mar. 31, 1963 amounted to \$20,620.

Inspection of fish and fish products to ensure a high standard of quality is carried out by the Inspection Service, and fish inspection laboratories are maintained on the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts and in Toronto and Winnipeg. A staff of home economists operates test kitchens in Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal, Halifax, Edmonton and Winnipeg, and conducts demonstrations and lectures on methods of preparing and cooking fish and fish products.

Through the medium of printed material, films, radio, television and exhibitions, the Information and Consumer Service of the Department informs the public on the various aspects of the industry and the work of the fisheries services, with the object of developing a better understanding of the resource and those engaged in its exploitation. This Service works closely with the Conservation and Development Service in matters concerning the conservation of fisheries and with the Inspection Service toward encouraging increased consumption of Canadian fish products in the domestic, United States and other markets.

The Economics Service has two related fields of responsibility: (1) to provide the government and the commercial fishing industry with current information, including statistical data, under the general heading of trade intelligence, and (2) to carry out studies and investigations in the primary fisheries and in the processing and distribution of fish products. In the first field, the Service works in close co-operation with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the Foreign Trade Division of the Economics Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce; in the second, there is similar collaboration with the Fisheries Research Board. In both, a necessary contribution is made to the formulation of policy for fisheries management, industrial development and market services.

In addition to these regular services, the Department assists the commercial fishing industry in several special ways. To promote efficient primary fishing operations and improve the marketing of fishery products, assistance is provided for the construction of draggers and longliners and for bait-freezing and storage facilities on the Atlantic Coast. 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 \$10,000 may be insured with payment of a premium of 1 p.c. of the appraised