

County, capable of producing 500,000 smolts each year, as well as a system of trout-rearing ponds on the Moser River in Halifax County with an annual capacity of 1,000,000 fingerlings. A full-time fisheries biologist is employed by the Division.

New Brunswick.—Commercial fishing is one of the most important basic industries of New Brunswick, employing more than 6,500 fishermen with annual earnings of over \$9,000,000, as well as about 2,800 plant workers. The annual marketed value of fish products is about \$32,000,000.

The fisheries of New Brunswick, both tidal and inland, are under the jurisdiction of the federal Department of Fisheries and angling in Crown waters is under the jurisdiction of the provincial Department of Lands and Mines. To supplement the activities of the federal Department of Fisheries and to establish closer liaison between the fishing industry and various government departments and agencies, both federal and provincial, the New Brunswick Government created in 1946 a Fisheries Branch and a Fishermen's Loan Board within its Department of Industry and Development.

Since its inception, the Fishermen's Loan Board has disbursed more than \$7,500,000 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 the federal Department of Fisheries, 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. A prototype 84-foot steel stern trawler of Norwegian design, with a reinforced hull permitting winter operation in ice, was launched at Bathurst in June 1962 and two larger units of Dutch design were built at Saint John. A second unit of the same design as the prototype was put in service later in the year and contracts were awarded for the construction of two 92-foot steel stern trawler/purse seiners, basically of the same design, which will operate as tuna seiners during the summer months on the first commercial tuna fishing operation in Eastern Canada. All these vessels are eligible for the 50-p.c. subsidy on trawlers granted by the Canadian Maritime Commission.

Exploratory projects aimed at improving fishing boats and gear are carried out by the Fisheries Branch with the financial and technical assistance 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 at Caraquet since 1959 which conducts a three-year course (November to April). More than 30 young fishermen from 17 to 30 years of age attend each year.

Quebec.—The Quebec Government, through its Department of Industry and Commerce, gives much consideration to the administration of the commercial 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.