

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 and about 2,800 plant workers. The annual marketed value of fish products is about \$33,000,000.

New Brunswick fisheries, both tidal and inland, are under the legislative 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 make practical application of research data obtained from the Fisheries Research Board of Canada and other agencies, the New Brunswick Government created its own Department of Fisheries in 1963. The Fishermen's Loan Board of New Brunswick, formerly administered by the Department of Industry, was transferred to the new Department and three new Branches created—Administration Branch, Boatbuilding and Maintenance Branch, and Exploratory Fishing and Education Branch. The Department is also undertaking fish inspection control under authority of the Fish Inspection Act passed by the New Brunswick Legislature in 1964.

Since its inception in 1946, the Fishermen's Loan Board of New Brunswick has disbursed over \$9,000,000 for the construction of fishing vessels and the purchase of modern gear and equipment for the commercial fishermen of the province. Loans ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000 are made available to inshore fishermen for the purchase of lobster boats and marine engines, and amounts ranging from \$15,000 to \$225,000 are lent to offshore fishermen and companies for the construction of modern Danish seiners, purse seiners, draggers and trawlers. These amounts represent 70 p.c. of the total cost of each unit after deducting down payments and Federal Government subsidies. This long-term assistance program has been largely responsible for the doubling of the value of the fishing fleet during the past 15 years. Commercial fishermen now own a modern fleet of 90 groundfish draggers, seven steel stern trawlers, 27 Danish seiners, two steel tuna seiners, 30 herring purse seiners and more than 3,000 inshore boats.

New and improved designs of fishing vessels are under constant study by the technical staff of the Department in co-operation with naval architects, boatbuilders and fishermen. A certain pattern of standardization is followed to keep building and maintenance costs low because fishing has become very competitive with the influx of large foreign fishing vessels on Canadian east coast fishing grounds. Multi-purpose types have been successfully introduced in inshore fisheries of the Gulf of St. Lawrence area, capable of being converted easily into longliners, Danish seiners or scallop draggers. Modified versions of the 65-foot groundfish dragger, equipped with more powerful diesel engines and larger nets, have proved very efficient. Stern trawlers, the first to be built in North America, were added to the New Brunswick fleet in 1962, contributing in large measure to the expansion of the industry. The province has also taken the lead in the field of commercial tuna fishing—two ultra-modern tuna seiners, built in a New Brunswick shipyard, are operating successfully off the south shore of the province, making large catches of bluefin tuna and skipjack.

Exploratory projects conducted by the Department in co-operation with the Federal Government have led to the practical introduction of stern trawling, tuna purse seining, Danish seining, cod gillnetting, crab fishing, mechanical clam digging and the use of many other techniques and types of gear not generally in use by Atlantic Coast fishermen. And to educate the fishermen in the use of such modern vessels and gear, intensive training in navigation, motor mechanics, electronic devices, fishing gear technology, bacteriology, marine biology and other related subjects is being given at two new schools of fisheries erected in 1963; each school is equipped to give instruction to 50 students a year.

Sport fishing contributes substantially to the economy of the province, mainly through the tourist trade. Great Atlantic salmon rivers like the Miramichi, the Restigouche and the St. John are known around the world for their prolific production of this majestic game fish and attract many thousands of tourists to the province each year. Anglers catch as