Brunswick increased the total catch in that province by 45,000,000 lb. to 335,000,000 lb. and, although the value of shellfish landings declined, the total value to fishermen of all species rose by $447,000 to $10,900,000. In Prince Edward Island increases in groundfish and mackerel landings exceeded decreases in shellfish landings and the total catch was 58,000,000 lb. compared with 46,000,000 lb. in 1965 but the value to fishermen declined $820,000 to $6,000,000. In Quebec, lower cod and herring landings were just about offset by higher redfish and flounder landings and there was a drop of less than 1 p.c. in total volume; on the other hand, the landed value of all species was slightly higher than in 1965.

The value of output of the Canadian fishing industry has been rising steadily during the past few years, particularly since 1960. The increase during the 1960-66 period in the value of processed fish was from $200,000,000 to an estimated $340,000,000, the rise reflecting in part higher product prices and in part an increased output of some major products, notably those from the groundfish and scallop fisheries. In the same period, the value of Canadian fishery exports to all countries increased from $138,000,000 to $219,000,000. Thus, the value of products increased 70 p.c. and the value of exports increased 60 p.c.

The United States has always been the main outlet for the products of the Canadian fishing industry. In 1966 about 69 p.c. of the total exports moved to that market, a slightly lower proportion than in 1965, although the total value of those exports, at $150,600,000, was slightly above that of the previous year. Sales to Britain, at $21,400,000, were at the same level as in 1965; more frozen salmon and cod blocks went to that market but less canned salmon. There was an increase of nearly 60 p.c. in exports to France, which amounted to $6,200,000 in 1966, the main products responsible for the advance being frozen and canned salmon and frozen scallops. Jamaica and Puerto Rico are the other important markets for Canadian fishery products and sales to these countries in 1966 were, respectively, 27 p.c. and 36 p.c. higher than in 1965. The four countries mentioned took about 86 p.c. of the total Canadian exports, the remaining 14 p.c.—approximately $30,000,000—going to many countries in all parts of the world.

Nearly 70 p.c. of total exports, by value, are in the form of fresh and frozen fish and shellfish, of which 88 p.c. goes to the United States and the remainder mainly to Western European countries. There was a serious price decline in the United States market for some products in the fall of 1966, particularly for Atlantic groundfish products; this was caused by larger than usual supplies of groundfish fillets and blocks available in that country, coupled with what may be a slackening in the rate of growth of consumption of fish sticks and portions.

Most of the freshwater fish (dressed and filleted), a good proportion of the Pacific halibut and salmon, and all the swordfish are also sold to the United States. The market for these products, with the exception of British Columbia halibut, was firm during 1966 and the prices were generally higher than in 1965. Small quantities of lobster in shell continue to be sold in France, Britain and Belgium but most of it goes to the United States. As a result of the small supply available in 1966, the total quantity exported was about 12 p.c. lower than in 1965 although the average price remained the same. Supplies of scallops were abundant in the United States market during 1966. Cold storage holdings had risen late in 1965 and imports from Canada were about 3,000,000 lb. heavier than in 1965, resulting in large inventories that kept prices depressed until late in the year. The average annual price fell from 68 cents a pound in 1965 to 50 cents in 1966. The main European markets for frozen fish are Britain and France and exports of Pacific halibut and salmon (coho) to those markets increased in terms of both quantity and value during the year.

The downward trend in the Canadian production of salted fish continued in 1966. The situation has been similar in the other main exporting countries—Norway and Iceland—although Norway reported an increase in production in 1966. On the whole, the demand