

physical and biological structure of large ocean areas including the ocean bottom where concentrations of fish and other aquatic life occur. Ocean climate and ocean weather as they affect the distribution of fish and other living organisms as well as the vertical and horizontal distribution of nutrient matter and the cycle of energy and life in the seas are regularly observed and correlated. These studies, as well as special studies of interest to the Royal Canadian Navy, the Department of Transport and the international fishery commissions, are carried out by the Board's two oceanographic groups operating from Dartmouth, N.S., and Nanaimo, B.C., with strong ship support from the Navy and the Department of Transport, and co-operation from the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Technology.—Investigations are conducted toward improving methods of preserving, processing, storing and distributing fish products, as well as of utilizing all parts of the fish. These include developments in refrigeration and the use of antibiotics as fish preservatives, improvements in canning, smoking and salting of fish as well as the development of new products for the utilization of abundant species that are not now used for food. Fundamental studies of the structure and composition of fish proteins, fish oils and fish hormones, of the energy expenditure of migrating salmon and of the nutrition of marine bacteria are under way.

Technological investigations on the Atlantic Coast are carried out at research laboratories situated in Halifax, N.S., and Grande Rivière, Que., and applied work for Newfoundland is carried out at a Technological Unit in St. John's. For inland areas technological work is centred at Winnipeg, Man., and a research laboratory in Vancouver, B.C., undertakes investigation of Pacific Coast problems.

The Fisheries Prices Support Board.—Established under the Fisheries Prices Support Act of 1944 (RSC 1952, c. 120), the Fisheries Prices Support Board is responsible for investigating and, where appropriate, recommending government action to support prices of fishery products where declines are experienced. The basic principle of the legislation is to protect fishermen against sharp declines in prices and consequent loss of income. The Board is responsible to the Minister of Fisheries and consists of a chairman, who is a senior officer of the Department of Fisheries, and five members chosen from the fishing industry in the various fishing regions of Canada.

The Board has authority to buy quality fishery products under prescribed conditions and to dispose of them by sale or otherwise, or to pay to producers the difference between a price prescribed by the Board and the average price the product actually commands. The Board has no power to control prices other than its purchase policy nor has it any jurisdiction over operations in the fishing industry or the fish trade. Money necessary for dealings in fishery products is available to the Board from the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a maximum amount of \$25,000,000 annually on recommendation of the federal Treasury Board and authorization of the Governor in Council.

In order to stabilize the price of Lake Erie yellow perch, which had been subject to drastic decline due to heavy spring production, the Board in 1966 purchased \$184,000 worth of perch from the summer and fall fishery and re-sold it to the processing trade. From the 1967 spring fishery, a further \$544,000 worth was purchased and held in storage for re-sale in 1967-68. The Board also purchased 23,000 cases of canned mackerel from Northumberland Strait packers to meet requirements of the World Food Program. Close review was maintained of the market for frozen groundfish blocks following price declines but no price support action was recommended.

The Board co-operates with the Economics Service of the Department of Fisheries in the collection and analysis of costs of fishing operations and, in co-operation with the Department of Trade and Commerce, maintains a continuous review of the markets for various fishery products. A small staff is maintained for administrative activities at headquarters of the Board in Ottawa.