

The lobster trap protection plan provides that, generally speaking, any lobster fisherman having 32 or more traps may obtain protection up to approximately 50 p.c. of the value of his traps for premiums ranging from five cents to 25 cents per trap depending on the length of the season and on the value of the traps. Although the plan did not come into effect in some areas until the spring of 1954, 234 fishermen with 44,927 traps were insured as at Mar. 31, 1954.

A study is being made of the possibility of extending the program to include other types of fishing equipment that are subject to periodic loss or damage and for which no commercial insurance is available.

The Department also provides assistance in the education of fishermen by making payments to educational institutions that have agreed to carry out educational work among them.

**The Fisheries Research Board.**—The functions of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, which was established in 1937, cover a wide field in the interests of conservation, development and management of the fishery resources of the country. In 1953 the membership of the Board was increased from 15 to 19 to allow for wider regional representation and a permanent chairman was appointed.

The work of the Board is, generally, biological and technological in character and is carried out at seven stations: the Biological Station at St. Andrews, N.B., with its substation at Ellerslie, P.E.I.; the Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, B.C.; the Central Fisheries Research Station, Winnipeg, Man.; the Newfoundland Fisheries Research Station, St. John's, Nfld.; the Atlantic Fisheries Experimental Station, Halifax, N.S.; the Pacific Fisheries Experimental Station, Vancouver, B.C.; and the Gaspé Fisheries Experimental Station at Grande Rivière, Que.

Scientific investigations are an important part of the development of the commercial fishing industry and provide the basis for conservation measures put into effect by the Department. Almost all the principal stocks of commercial fish are under observation by the Board's biologists. Many species, such as Pacific salmon, Atlantic salmon, Atlantic groundfish, lobster, herring, albacore, whitefish, whales, oysters and clams, are being studied intensively. The studies provide knowledge of the life history, growth rate, reproduction, distribution, enemies, diseases, etc., of the fishes, shellfish and sea mammals. Special investigations are undertaken as problems arise. The Board has completed a survey of the fisheries resources of the Northwest Territories and is exploring the fisheries resources of Canada's Eastern Arctic.

Fundamentally, the objective of the Board's technological investigations is to eliminate waste through the utilization of all fishery products that come out of the waters and the putting of those products to the best possible use in the light of current knowledge. The Board's knowledge is continually expanding through basic and applied research and this is helping to bring about a wider distribution of fishery products, a higher level of quality in the products marketed, a better understanding of the use of fish in general nutrition and of fish by-products for food, medicinal and industrial purposes.

**The Fisheries Prices Support Board.**—Under the Fisheries Prices Support Act, passed in 1944, this Board was set up in July 1947 to recommend to the Government price-support measures when severe price declines occur. The Board functions under the direction of the Minister of Fisheries and consists of a chairman, who is