

Inspection of fish and fish products to ensure a high standard of quality is carried out by the Inspection and Consumer Service and fish inspection laboratories are maintained on the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts. This Service also has a staff of home economists in Ottawa who operate a test kitchen and carry out demonstrations and lectures on methods of preparing and cooking fish and fish products. Other home economists are located in the field.

Through the medium of printed material, films, radio and exhibitions, the Information and Educational Service of the Department informs the public on the various aspects of the industry and the work of the fisheries service with the object of developing a better understanding of the resource and those engaged in its exploitation. This Service works closely with the Conservation and Development Service in matters concerning the conservation of fisheries and with the Inspection and Consumer Service toward encouraging increased consumption of Canadian fish products in the United States and other markets for Canadian exports.

The Economics Service has two related fields of responsibility: (a) to provide the government and the commercial fishing industry with current information, including statistical data, under the general heading of trade intelligence, and (b) to carry out studies and investigations in the primary fisheries and the processing and distribution of fish products. In the first field, the Service works in close co-operation with the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and the foreign trade branches of the Department of Trade and Commerce; in the second, there is similar collaboration with the Fisheries Research Board. In both, a necessary contribution is made to the formulation of policy for fisheries management, industrial development and market services.

In addition to providing these regular services the Department assists the commercial fishing industry in several special ways. For the purpose of promoting efficient primary fishing operations and improving the marketing of fishery products, assistance is provided for the construction of draggers and long-liners and for bait-freezing and storage facilities on the Atlantic coast. For each new trawler built in Canada the owner is eligible for a licence to operate a used trawler imported from either the United Kingdom or the United States and registered in Canada after payment of duty. An applicant wanting only one trawler may import a used one from the United Kingdom without having to lay down a new keel in Canada. This policy applies to ships purchased from any country entitled to most-favoured-nation treatment in accordance with Canada's obligations as a signatory of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The Fishermen's Indemnity Plan affords low cost protection from losses of boats and lobster traps through storms and other causes. The Plan, in operation since 1953, meets a long standing need on the part of small scale individual fishermen. Vessels valued at from \$250 to \$7,500 may be insured with payment of a premium of 1 p.c. of the appraised value. As at Mar. 31, 1955 a total of 2,359 fishing vessels with an appraised value of \$3,936,607 were issued insurance under the Plan.

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 their value for premiums ranging from 5 cents to 35 cents per trap, depending on the length of the season and on the value of the traps.

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 Fisheries Research Board of Canada was established in 1937 to succeed the Biological Board of Canada. The Board functions as the scientific arm of the Department of Fisheries and seeks to improve and expand Canadian fisheries through scientific research. It operates four biological research stations, two oceanographic groups, three technological research stations, an engineering service and a unit which devotes its activities to research on sea mammals and studies of fisheries in Canada's Arctic.