

New maps of Arctic bathymetry recently released by the Canadian Hydrographic Service show that over 110,000 square miles of ocean off the Queen Elizabeth Islands have depths of less than 600 feet, which is suitable for marine drilling. The sedimentary belt in the Arctic islands and the adjacent offshore areas will, it is hoped, someday add its proportionate share of hydrocarbons to the oil and gas reserves of the world.

Mr. Laing said that a combination of recent developments such as the successful trial of the ice-breaker *Alexbow* (which uses a new technique), and the new technology in offshore drilling in icebound areas now being developed in Cook Inlet, Alaska, will lead to the eventual winning and economic production of the resources of the Canadian Arctic.

"Almost year-round shipping access to the Arctic islands may be possible within the next decade," Mr. Laing said. "This will place the Arctic islands in a strategic position to supply mineral wealth not only to industries on the east and west coasts of North America but to Western Europe and Far Eastern Asia as well."

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## NEW FISHERIES EXPORT RECORD

In 1966, the value of Canadian fisheries exports set a new record for the fifth consecutive year. Exports were worth \$219.1 million, about 3 per cent more than in 1965, and were shipped to markets in 76 countries.

Exports of fresh or frozen, whole or dressed seafood totalled 181.7 million pounds worth \$34.6 million, compared to 151.4 million pounds worth \$30 million in 1965. Fresh and frozen Atlantic and Pacific salmon did particularly well. Fresh and frozen seafood and fresh-water fillets, smoked fish, and canned fish all made gains. However, Canada exported less of other fish products, namely, fresh or frozen, whole or dressed freshwater fish; frozen seafood blocks; salted groundfish; pickled and dry-salted fish; molluscs and crustaceans; fish and whale meals; and marine oils.

## SALES PROMOTION

The Department of Trade and Commerce, in cooperation with the federal and provincial fisheries departments and the trade across Canada, began a systematic examination in 1962 of fisheries production and markets in the principal producing and consuming countries of the world. As part of this programme, Canadian fisheries reconnaissance missions visited New Zealand and Australia in 1966 and recently toured Austria, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Hungary, and Yugoslavia. On-the-spot examinations in 1966 were also made in Hawaii, Ceylon, Singapore, Malaysia, India, Britain and France. Trade commissioners throughout the world report periodically on fisheries production and potential consumption in their respective areas; this information is used by the federal and provincial government fisheries officials and the Canadian fisheries industry.

A new venture in 1966 was the fisheries display at the International Food Fair in Paris. Some 40 Canadian exporters of fisheries products exhibited and samples of various species of freshwater fish were cooked by a chef at the display and were sampled by potential French importers. Some Canadian fisheries exporters also exhibited their products in British, West German and United States food fairs.

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## EAST BLOCK OPEN TO TOURISTS

The East Block of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa will be open to visitors for the first time in Canada's history during the August weekends of the centennial year. Visitors will be able to see such historic rooms as the Privy Council Chamber and the Prime Minister's office.

The "Eastern Departmental Building", built between 1859 and 1865, was one of the three original structures erected on Parliament Hill to house the government and administration of the Province of Canada, and is the only one still remaining largely intact. The east wing was added in 1910-11.

From Confederation in 1867 until 1942, the Governors-General had their offices in the East Block which has also housed 14 of Canada's 15 Prime Ministers. Thirteen government departments occupied the original building. The office of the Prime Minister, the Privy Council Office and the Department of External Affairs now occupy the building.

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## INTERNATIONAL FAMILY CONFERENCE

Reuben C. Baetz, Executive Director of the Canadian Welfare Council, will deliver the opening address at the eighteenth International Conference on the Family, which will be held at Laval University from August 27 to September 2. His subject will be "The Place of New Families in Canadian Society."

Among those taking part in subsequent sessions will be: Dr. Joseph W. Willard, Deputy Minister of Welfare, Department of National Health and Welfare; Roger Marier, Deputy Minister of the Department of Family and Social Welfare, Province of Quebec; Charles E. Hendry, Director of the University of Toronto School of Social Work; Dr. Philippe Garigue, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Montreal; Dr. Gerald Fortin, Director of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in Laval University; F.R. MacKinnon, Deputy Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of Public Welfare; and Dr. Alan M. Thomas, Executive Director of the Canadian Association for Adult Education.

## CONFERENCE THEME

The subject of the conference, "New Families in Society", includes topics such as consumer credit and financial assistance for young families, housing for new families in both industrialized and developing