

The report proposes that the suggested Freshwater Fish Marketing Board should be the sole buyer of freshwater fish from the fishermen, but that the services of present exporters, packers and processors be utilized under contract with the Board.

The report is being studied by the Government, which will consult with provincial governments and with representatives of the trade before decisions are made regarding its recommendations.

The Royal Commission's inquiry arose from recommendations made by the Federal-Provincial Prairie Fisheries Committee which had been studying instability of prices and demand in freshwater fisheries products and the means for improving returns to primary producers by more efficient marketing.

MANITOBA'S IMMIGRATION DRIVE

The Manitoba Government is taking vigorous steps to ensure that it gets a good share of the workers being brought to Canada under Federal and provincial immigration programmes.

The programme began in August and has already started to show results. After a survey of more than 125 Manitoba manufacturers and service industries, a Manitoba representative went overseas for a preliminary investigation of labour pools in Britain and on the Continent. At the same time, four Manitoba companies took advantage of the opportunity to participate in the programme and sent representatives overseas to recruit workers. As a result of this first excursion, more than 130 skilled workers, technicians and professional engineers were hired to fill specific employment gaps.

MISSION OVERSEAS

With the preliminary groundwork done in Europe and all indications encouraging, recruiting action was stepped up. In November, Mr. Sidney Spivak, Manitoba's Minister of Industry and Commerce, led a major immigration mission overseas. The mission included 20 Manitoba businessmen and provided a good cross-section of industrial employment needs in telecommunications, mining, the garment trade, education, the printing trade, diesel mechanics and the civil service. Personnel was recruited in Britain, Holland, France and Italy.

Some 1,400 replies were received from advertisements placed on behalf of the participating employers before the mission arrived in Europe. When interviews were completed, more than 200 firm offers of employment had been made. Early in December, the first recruit hired as a result of the mission arrived with his family in Winnipeg.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The incentive comes from Government and industry-assisted programmes. An immigrant to Canada, under the Federal immigration programme, may be eligible for an interest-free loan to cover his transportation costs. Under the Manitoba plan, the Manitoba Government will enter into a shared-cost arrangement with

the employer to repay such Federal transportation loans on behalf of an immigrant over a two-year period. In other words, transportation costs are written off in full for a worker, provided he remains with the recruiting firm for two years. As a pre-condition for assistance, employers must undertake to provide immigrants, recruited under the plan, with relocation loans of \$240 for a family and \$120 for a single person.

FIRST POWER FROM NEW A-PLANT

The first electricity was fed into the Ontario Hydro network from the Douglas Point Nuclear Power Station on January 7. The output of the station will now be gradually increased while a series of tests is carried out. Full power output of 200,000 kilowatts, enough to serve a city the size of Ottawa, will be attained at the end of these tests which were expected to last about a week.

The Douglas Point Nuclear Power Station was built at a cost of \$85 million by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited with the co-operation of Ontario Hydro. The station, Canada's first full-scale nuclear-electric generating plant, is situated on the eastern shore of Lake Huron half way between Kincardine and Port Elgin, Ontario.

The Douglas Point reactor went into operation on November 15. This was the first step in bringing the whole station into operation, following which a series of physics tests took place to check the performance of the reactor systems. After the tests were finished, the reactor heat output was increased gradually until enough heat was being produced to generate steam for the turbine.

After a period of trials, the station will be operated as a base-load plant on Ontario Hydro's east system. When the plant has proved itself a dependable generating unit, Ontario Hydro will buy it from AECL at a price calculated to make the cost of energy produced equal to that from a comparable coal-burning station.

DEVELOPMENT AID TO MEXICO

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, announced recently that Canada would assist Mexico in a series of studies designed to improve agricultural and industrial development.

Up to \$540,000 in special development loan funds from Canada's external aid programme will be included in an overall loan from the Inter-American Development Bank to NAFIN (Nacional Financiera, S.A.) the financial agent of the Government of the United States of Mexico. The funds, which carry three-quarters of 1 per cent service charge but are otherwise free of interest, have 50-year maturity with a grace period of ten years. They are part of a \$30-million loan fund administered by the Bank on Canada's behalf, and will be used to pay for Can-