

species found in our marine waters. Very little has been done in this field despite its importance to manipulation of the resource and to the finished product. Unless the effort is expanded considerably it may be decades before we know as much about commercial fish as we now know about rats, rabbits, guinea pigs and farm animals. Studies on nutritional and environmental requirements of even the most important species have had to be neglected, and metabolic studies where they are carried on are of limited scope. Only in very recent years have FRB scientists been able to devote a little attention to projects which have provided basic knowledge essential to the intelligent manipulation of the resource. The reasons for this are pertinent to future planning : (1) support tends to go first to projects related to present industrial practices, and these are based on a hunting economy; (2) field work, which costs about three times as much per scientist as, over the years, substantially exceeded laboratory work. Future plans will not neglect present industrial practices but will also allow for fundamental research to form a firm base for the industry of the future.

Canada should make a thorough study of its freshwater and marine environments even if it did not do any commercial fishing. In addition the FRB has an obligation to make itself an authority on the aquatic environment with the expectation that this knowledge and experience will allow a successful exploitation of all resources. It should be recognized that the oceans are not an inexhaustible source of economically recoverable food. International competition for marine resources grows more intense each year and more effort is required to catch a unit of fish in those waters close to our shores which have traditionally been fished by Canada. Improvements in present day harvesting techniques are not enough. We must also assist our existing industry to adapt to the exploitation of currently under-utilized stocks and species. Good management of resources such as salmon, lobsters, and certain less valuable species under Canadian control is absolutely necessary. Moreover there is a growing body of evidence and international recognition that fish farming and domestication of