

more, and of those which seek to restrict any extension of a coastal state's jurisdiction over its adjacent seas. In suggesting a territorial sea of six miles, the Canadian proposal recognizes the concern of all states with the principle of the freedom of the high seas; and, by allowing a state a further six miles of exclusive fisheries jurisdiction, it grants to all coastal states the same measure of control over the economic resources of their adjacent seas as they would have under a twelve-mile territorial limit.

This proposal profoundly affected the course of the discussions when it was put forward at the 1958 Conference; in fact, it formed the principal content of several other plans at the Conference which rivalled the Canadian solution. At the 1960 Conference, it may be expected that once again there will be two fundamental approaches to the questions before the Conference: that of extending the territorial sea, and that of distinguishing between the fisheries interests of a coastal state and the territorial sea.

Second Conference on the Law of the Sea

The Second Conference is likely to be the last opportunity for many years to reach agreement on the questions of the breadth of the territorial sea and of a coastal state's fishing rights. It will thus be presented with a choice between the orderly development of international law and the chaos which could result from a failure to meet this challenge to create new principles for the law of the sea.

The Second Conference will no doubt begin its deliberations at the point where the 1958 Conference left off. It may be expected that there will be placed before the Conference, possibly at its outset, proposals on the territorial sea and on fishing limits substantially similar to those advanced during the First Conference. It may be assumed that the Conference will have before it proposals for the recognition of a three-to-twelve-mile territorial