

Extension of Canada-U.S. fishing agreement recommended

Fisheries delegations from Canada and the United States have recommended to their respective governments that a 1970 agreement on reciprocal fishing privileges be extended for a further year, subject to certain modifications.

A decision to recommend extension of the agreement from June 15, 1973, to April 24, 1974, was reached following a four-day meeting in Ottawa recently. Discussions held earlier this year in Washington, D.C., were inconclusive and resulted only in a decision to extend the agreement for a brief period pending the outcome of negotiations on the Pacific salmon fisheries of Canada and the U.S.

Referring to the year-long agreement, Fisheries Minister Jack Davis said: "It is a step, but only a very short step, in the right direction. U.S. fishermen will be getting a few more of their own fish and we will be getting a few more of our own — but we aren't off the Columbia runs and they aren't off the Fraser."

Mr. Davis added: "We have another 12 months in which to negotiate a lasting agreement in which each country looks after its own waters and claims its own fish."

Salmon fishery

A principal amendment in the new agreement relates to fishing for Pacific salmon within the reciprocal fishing areas off Vancouver Island and off the coast of the State of Washington (reciprocal fishing areas are located between the three-mile and 12-mile limits off the coasts).

It was agreed that Canadian salmon-fishing privileges off the Washington coast should be reduced to the area between Carroll Island (about 48 degrees N. latitude) and Cape Flattery, while U.S. salmon-fishing privileges off Vancouver Island for commercial troll vessels should be limited to a small area near the entrance to the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Until now, Canadians could fish salmon from approximately the mouth of the Columbia River to Cape Flattery, while U.S. salmon trollers were permitted to fish off the entire west coast of Vancouver Island.

These changes will not affect vessels

engaged in salmon sport-fishing in Canadian areas, but such vessels continue to be subject to Canadian licensing and other regulations.

It was also agreed to co-ordinate salmon-fishing regulations of the two countries in the Strait of Juan de Fuca and northern Puget Sound, relating to the catch of coho, chinook and chum.

In addition, arrangements will be made to co-ordinate and equalize U.S.-Canada weekly fishing periods on the Fraser River and at Point Roberts during the chinook season in the spring and the chum-salmon season in autumn.

In view of the successful outcome of the discussions, the Canadian delegation spokesman withdrew an earlier notice that Canada would take unilateral action to extend its net and troll fisheries off the west coast of Vancouver Island, aimed primarily at increasing the harvest of Fraser River salmon.

Provision for limited fisheries for black cod in the reciprocal areas of both countries off the Pacific coast was also included in the new agreement.

On the Atlantic coast, modifications allow for a limited Canadian fishery for tuna within the U.S. reciprocal area, and for regulation of the larger U.S. trawlers in areas off Canada, where similar Canadian trawlers are prohibited from operating. Provisions regarding herring fishing will continue relatively unchanged.

A Canada-U.S. meeting is slated for the autumn to consider further questions of mutual concern relating to the Pacific salmon fisheries.

Changing the Guard summer attraction

Scarlet tunics, bearskin headdresses and precision drill are essential features of this summer's Changing-the-Guard ceremony on Parliament Hill.

The centuries-old ceremony will be performed by the Canadian Forces militia from June 24 through Labour Day, September 3, the fifteenth consecutive year that the ceremony has taken place on Parliament Hill.

Again this year, 120 guardsmen from Ottawa's Governor General's Foot



Canadian Government Travel Bureau photo

Pomp and ceremony mark the historic Changing-the-Guard ceremony, performed each summer morning on the sweeping lawns of Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

Guards and the Canadian Grenadier Guards from Montreal will perform daily at 10 a.m.

Most of the reservists are university students who spend a one-month training period at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa, Ontario, before moving to their summer quarters in Ottawa.

The bands of the Royal Canadian Regiment, from CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick, and the Royal Canadian Artillery, Montreal and the Central Band of the Canadian Forces, Ottawa, will provide musical accompaniment to the rousing military pageantry on "the Hill".

Record year for agricultural exports

Canada exported a record \$2,135-million worth of agricultural products in 1972, exceeding \$2 billion for the first time.

Expanded sales of wheat and, to a lesser extent, barley, pork, cattle hides and furs, were primarily responsible for the \$151-million increase over the previous export record of \$1,984 million set in 1971.

Agricultural imports rose sharply in 1972 to \$1,538 million from \$1,299 mil-