

1956. With larger supplies of construction materials available, and some increase in manpower, physical pressures may not be as widespread as last year. However, the increased emphasis on heavy engineering construction will probably mean that some steel items and certain skilled trades will continue to be in short supply this year. Little improvement is expected in the available supplies of heavy structurals and steel plate, and demand is likely to increase. On the labour side, some difficulties may be encountered in obtaining sufficient numbers of steel workers and heavy equipment operators.

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SEA YIELD UP: Canada's sea-fishermen landed 14 per cent more fish in 1956 than in the preceding year and the value of the catch rose 15 per cent, according to preliminary figures released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The year's landings weighed 2,023,237,000 pounds and were valued at \$89,679,000 versus 1,780,034,000 pounds valued at \$77,688,000 in 1955. December's landings rose to 162,110,000 pounds from 154,307,000 and the value to \$5,593,000 from \$5,185,000.

Landings on the Atlantic coast rose in 1956 to 1,354,612,000 pounds from 1,282,690,000 and the value to \$54,502,000 from \$49,980,000. Landings of cod increased to 621,069,000 pounds from 582,966,000, haddock to 158,752,000 pounds from 133,771,000, and lobster to 51,222,000 pounds from 48,960,000, but the catch of herring declined to 160,217,000 pounds from 186,214,000 and plaice and greysole to 57,298,000 pounds from 66,843,000. Values were: cod, \$15,622,000 (\$14,206,000 in 1955); haddock \$4,953,000 (\$4,260,000); lobster, \$17,764,000 (\$16,596,000); herring, \$1,689,000 (\$1,784,000); and plaice and greysole, \$1,718,000 (\$2,062,000).

Pacific-coast landings in 1956 weighed 668,625,000 pounds valued at \$35,177,000 versus 497,344,000 pounds worth \$27,708,000 in 1955. Landings of herring weighed 491,246,000 pounds versus 305,692,000, salmon 111,522,000 pounds versus 131,222,000, and halibut 22,499,000 pounds versus 19,679,000. Values for these species were: herring, \$7,057,000 (\$4,187,000 in 1955); salmon, \$20,805,000 (\$18,481,000); and halibut, \$4,892,000 (\$2,555,000).

Catch in Newfoundland in 1956 rose to 568,336,000 pounds from 553,170,000 and the value to \$14,331,000 from \$14,101,000. Landings were larger for cod, rosefish, plaice and greysole, and squid, but smaller for herring and capelin.

In Nova Scotia the year's catch of all kinds rose to 430,043,000 pounds from 424,877,000 and the value to \$24,770,000 from \$23,384,000. Larger catches were recorded for haddock and rosefish, but smaller for pollock, plaice, herring, mackerel, and lobster.

In New Brunswick the year's total catch increased to 191,483,000 pounds from 152,722,000

and the value to \$7,963,000 from \$6,441,000. Among the chief kinds the landings were larger for cod, herring, sardines, and alewives.

Prince Edward Island's catch rose to 40,350,000 pounds from 35,700,000 and the value to \$3,859,000 from \$3,332,000. Landings of cod, hake and lobsters increased but herring decreased. Landings in Quebec climbed to 124,400,000 pounds from 116,221,000 and the value to \$3,579,000 from \$2,722,000. Landings of cod were substantially larger but herring dropped sharply.

In Ontario, January-November landings (latest available) were down to 29,732,000 pounds from 29,864,000 and the value to \$3,602,000 from \$4,264,000. Manitoba's catch was also smaller at 26,424,000 pounds valued at \$2,730,000 versus 30,705,000 pounds valued at \$2,992,000.

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OPERATION SPRINGBOARD: Sixteen units of the Royal Canadian Navy's Atlantic Command, including four St. Laurent class destroyer escorts operating together for the first time, took part in the United States Navy's annual winter training exercises, Operation Springboard, in the Caribbean sea.

Rear-Admiral R.E.S. Bidwell, Flag Officer Atlantic Coast, embarked in HMCS Crusader, were present at these exercises. The Canadian ships took part from February 19 to March 20.

Operation Springboard, which will continue until April 1, is designed to provide maximum training and raise the operational readiness of the fleet by taking advantage of the long periods of fair weather in the Caribbean.

In addition to the Crusader, flying Rear-Admiral Bidwell's flag, the following units of the Atlantic Command participated:

Third Canadian Escort Squadron--HMC Ships St. Laurent, Assiniboine, Ottawa, and Saguenay.

First Canadian Escort Squadron--HMC Ships Algonquin, Huron, Haida, Iroquois, and Micmac.

First Canadian Minesweeping Squadron HMC Ships Gaspé, Trinity, Ungava, Resolute, Quinte, and Fundy.

HMS Alliance of the Halifax-based Sixth Submarine Squadron of the Royal Navy.

Nearly 100 USN ships are in Operation Springboard, including two aircraft carriers, one battleship, four cruisers, and a number of destroyers, submarines, minesweepers, logistic support ships, as well as anti-submarine and patrol aircraft squadrons.

Following the exercise, the Crusader and the minesweeping squadron will return to Halifax while other Canadian units remain in the Caribbean area to carry out fleet training and visit several ports in the West Indies, after which they will take part in a spring exercise with units of other NATO countries before returning to Halifax about mid-May.