

shallow water surveys. This will assist in the increased production of charts, particularly of inland lakes and river systems.

In addition to the regular charts, the recreational boater has all the additional publications of the Hydrographic Service — sailing directions, small craft guides, small craft charts and the tides and currents tables which are available to assist him in reaching his chosen destination. And that destination may well be a marina developed through the department's small craft harbours program. This year, small craft harbours and related facilities were developed at a cost of \$40.4 million. Today there are 2 400 such facilities throughout Canada, ranging from large harbour complexes to boat launching ramps.

It may interest you to know that \$3.4 million is being spent in Ontario during the current year on harbour projects and that there are a number of major marine developments in progress in the province. The Greg Cay development at Lancaster on the St. Lawrence River system, a marina development in Sarnia, and installations being built at Bruce Mines, Grand Bend, Nepean and Hudson are among these small craft harbour developments in Ontario....

Recognizing the potential for the small craft harbours program to provide even greater economic opportunities for Canadians, harbour projects across Canada amounting to \$20 million by the end of this coming fiscal year, will be undertaken through the special employment initiatives program announced in last June's budget. Of this sum, \$2.8 million will go towards some 17 Ontario harbour projects. At the present time there are approximately 375 recreational and com-

mercial fishery harbour facilities in Ontario alone that are administered by the department's small craft harbours branch....

#### Search and rescue duties

All the department's vessels can and are called upon to carry out search and rescue duties in an emergency. In recent years survey parties operating in Lake Huron have been specially tasked for search and rescue duties. A specially equipped launch is kept available at all times through the boating season and carries out regular hydrographic surveys when not called upon for search and rescue. At night and on the weekends the launch crew is on standby with a special hot-line telephone to the rescue co-ordinating centre at Trenton, the Ontario Provincial Police and the local police....

In recent months we have seen much publicity about the state of the commercial fisheries on the East and West coasts as we strive to find solutions to critical problems which confront this industry.

At the same time, the federal government is concerned with developing a fuller understanding of the oceans, not just for their potential as a fishery resource, important as that is. We realize that the oceans themselves are the last great unexplored territory of the globe, a fact which has been brought sharply into focus during the lengthy Law of the Sea deliberations of the past decade. When I was in Jamaica in December for the signing of the Law of the Sea agreement, I know it was present in our minds that all nations have a shared responsibility to ensure that the exploitation of this priceless resource is adequately controlled and monitored.



NFB

*Fishermen rely on the agency's services.*

The Hydrographic Service is just part of the Department of Fisheries and Oceans' responsibilities in relation to the scientific exploration and surveying of Canadian waters. Programs of oceanographic and fisheries research are conducted on both coasts and at a variety of installations throughout the country. This oceanographic research is carried out during extensive cruises by ships such as the *Hudson* and *Baffin*, providing us with vital information on the biological, chemical and physical properties of the ocean and sea bottom....

Oceanography is a science in its infancy. Canada has been active in this area of research for about 25 years and in this time we have developed two major oceanographic institutes, one on each coast, as well as research facilities in Quebec City and in Ontario at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters in Burlington.

As we strive to understand the oceans, one of our priorities is surveying our Arctic waters. These have become increasingly important to Canada as we have discovered reserves of oil and gas and mineral wealth in this fragile northern environment. It is only possible to exploit these resources if we know that we have safe, charted transportation routes to bring them to southern distribution points. Here, the Hydrographic Service is performing a vital role, charting some of the most inaccessible ice-covered waters in the world, supported by elaborate computer systems and the latest technological aids. Those who are involved in this survey work are truly the explorers of our last frontier....



*The Canadian Hydrographic Service provides charts for recreational boaters.*