

zone and more extensive rights than it now possesses over marine pollution and scientific research.

For Nova Scotians and Canadians in general, that is a most encouraging development. It means that in the very near future Canada will be able to exercise full control over the most important economic activities now taking place or that may take place in the future in our off-shore waters. To be realistic, I must point out that this does not amount to an automatic remedy to all the economic ills of our coastal areas. Such a panacea does not exist. But it does mean that we shall have the legal means and the necessary tools to put into effect sound management and conservation practices for the benefit of our own citizens, a power we have not had.

Let us consider for a moment what a 200-mile zone would do for Canada as far as fishing is concerned.

First, we shall acquire the exclusive right to manage all living resources within 200 miles from our shores. We shall have the final say in determining maximum or optimum sustainable yields for each species. We shall have the final say in establishing quotas, closed seasons, the size and nature of gear and the numbers, sizes and types of fishing vessels that may be used. We shall have the final say in licensing foreign fishermen, fishing vessels and equipment. In short, we shall have the exclusive power to prescribe any terms, conditions or regulations we consider necessary to govern the harvesting of all living resources and their proper management and conservation.

Secondly -- and this is perhaps the most important feature of the conception for the future development of our fishing industry -- we shall have the right to reserve to our own fishermen that portion of the total resource they have the capacity to catch in any given year. In practice, this means that, as our capacity increases, so does our percentage of the total catch. In principle, this percentage could reach 100 per cent.

We shall, therefore, manage the whole and be guaranteed our fair share of the proceeds. It does not mean, of course, the immediate exclusion of all foreign fishing vessels from our 200-mile zone. That would simply mean a waste of close to 70 per cent of the living resources now being exploited. It does mean, however, control of foreign fishing on Canadian terms. Of course, we shall continue to use international bodies such as the International Commission for Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (ICNAF) to exchange scientific data and catch statistics, as well as for the establish-