

THE MYSTERY OF THE
SALMON'S OCEAN WANDERINGS
AND FAITHFUL RETURN
HAS ALWAYS BEEN
A SOURCE OF FASCINATION
FOR MANKIND

TO suggest that the salmon are an endangered group would certainly be misleading, yet it is true that, on a world wide basis, their stocks are declining. As with all species of great natural abundance, there is a critical point of decline below which recovery becomes extremely difficult, if not impossible. To say that Atlantic salmon are within sight of this critical point is probably no exaggeration at all. To suggest that high seas fisheries could push many stocks, if not the entire species, below the critical point of survival is certainly true.

Yet the challenge can be met, the decline arrested. Many new things have been learned about the world's salmon resources in the past twenty or thirty years. For the first time there is some clear knowledge of the nature and pattern of their ocean movements. For the first time there is some clear understanding of the intimate hereditary relationship between a vast number of discrete local stocks and their precise freshwater environment. For the first time the possibilities of rehabilitation and development of existing natural stocks have been amply demonstrated. For the first time there is a real prospect of restoring the runs to their original numbers and perhaps well beyond them.

Canadians believe in the value of the salmon runs and their continuing potential. Canadians believe in the right-