

Still, the area contained is huge, as are the resources. With the extension of the zone, Canada added 632 000 nautical square miles of ocean to the area over which it exercises fisheries responsibility. With this acquisition has come a new lease on life for the fishing industry, and the first real opportunity to put fishing — as an occupation and as an industry — on an even keel. But the 200-mile demarcation has also brought new responsibilities. Scientific management of the fisheries in this area, the essential condition for a stable industry, now is a strictly Canadian responsibility.

Since 1977, Canada has been striving to effectively manage the 200-mile zone. The first priority has been rebuilding overfished stocks and, in the most badly damaged cases, this has meant giving them a breathing space through the setting of strictly enforced limits on the catch. These efforts have begun to show results, particularly on the Atlantic coast, where landings of fish rose from 895 000 tonnes in 1976 to 1.2 million tonnes in 1981. The cod fishery in particular has made a remarkable recovery, with catches doubling in the same period. As a result of extended jurisdiction, and the recovery it has made possible, Canada's fish exports expanded substantially currently amounting to about \$1.5 billion annually. But recently the industry has suffered setbacks owing in part to the depressed state of the world economy and also to a hardening of the Canadian dollar against European currencies.



Technician works in high-hazard lab at the Canadian Centre for Inland Waters, Burlington, Ontario.

