

MORE SCALLOPS: New possibilities for Canadian scallop draggers off the Atlantic coast have been opened up by the discovery of two previously unknown scallop beds, it was announced August 7 by Fisheries Minister J. Angus MacLean.

The new beds are on the southern part of St. Pierre Bank, east of Cape Breton and south of the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon. They were located in July by scientists of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, who have been directing exploratory fishing on a vessel chartered by the Industrial Development Service of the federal Department of Fisheries. The beds are described as small but promising, and are in from 24 to 26 fathoms of water. The larger of the two is about 12 square miles in extent, the smaller about four square miles. Commercially profitable catches of good-sized scallops, with large, firm meats, have been made.

Although the new beds are smaller than those found by Research Board scientists on northern part of St. Pierre Bank in 1954, the concentration of scallops is as high as has been found anywhere, holding promise of good fishing immediately. There are also good numbers of small scallops both on the newly discovered beds and in the area west of the old bed on the northern part of the bank, indicating continued good fishing in these areas in 1959 or 1960.

HEAVY CARGOES: Cargoes loaded at Canadian customs ports in 1956 for foreign countries rose to a new high of 49,373,132 tons, 25 per cent above the previous peak in 1955 of 39,502,714 tons, according to part I of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual shipping report. Loadings at Atlantic and Lower St. Lawrence River ports rose 29 per cent to 31,932,402 tons from 24,719,979. At Great Lakes and Upper St. Lawrence River ports loadings increased 21 per cent to 7,695,678 tons from 6,359,084, and at Pacific Coast ports loadings were up 16 per cent to 9,745,052 tons from 8,423,651 in 1955.

Cargoes unloaded from foreign countries also established a new record in 1956 with a total of 40,554,312 tons, an increase of 13 per cent over the 1955 figure of 35,880,782 and almost 5 per cent above the previous record of 38,756,206 tons reached in 1952. In the Atlantic and Lower St. Lawrence River area unloadings totalled 13,974,752 tons as compared with 13,050,607 in the preceding year, an increase of 7 per cent. In the Great Lakes and Upper St. Lawrence area unloadings increased 15 per cent to 24,061,174 tons from 20,944,184. An increase of 33 per cent was recorded in the Pacific area where cargoes unloaded rose to 2,518,386 tons from 1,885,991.

As in previous years, the largest part of Canada's waterborne commerce was with the United States and the United Kingdom. The two

countries combined accounted for 73 per cent of the total cargo tonnage loaded and unloaded. Cargoes loaded for United States ports during 1956 totalled 25,936,408 tons, almost 6,000,000 above 1955 loadings of 20,215,464. Freight loaded at Atlantic and Lower St. Lawrence River ports destined to the United States increased to 15,227,876 tons from 11,684,328, up 30 per cent, at ports on the Great Lakes and Upper St. Lawrence River cargoes for the United States were up 21 per cent to 7,549,689 tons from 6,249,965, while at Pacific ports cargoes for the United States rose to 3,158,854 tons from 2,281,171. Cargoes originating in the United States and unloaded in Canada totalled 28,304,156 tons compared with 25,165,319 in 1955, an increase of 12.5 per cent.

Shipping between Canada and the United Kingdom also increased. Cargoes loaded in Canada for United Kingdom ports were up almost 11 per cent to 10,326,649 tons as against 9,312,079 in the preceding year, and unloadings rose to 1,387,594 tons from 1,274,649.

FESTIVAL FIGURES: Seventy-eight thousand people attended plays at the Stratford Shakespearean Festival during the first half of this year's ten-week drama season, according to figures released by the box office manager.

Average attendance in the Festival's new theatre was 89 per cent of capacity during the five-week period, and the box office took in \$253,500 in admissions. In 1956, 62,000 people attended performances during the first five weeks in the former Festival tent, for an average attendance of 81 per cent and a box office total of \$217,600. Attendance in the theatre during the fifth week this year totalled 17,038, for an average of 88 per cent and a box office total of \$53,661. A special matinee performance of "Twelfth Night" drew 1,960 people and netted approximately \$6,000 for the Tyrone Guthrie Award Fund which benefits promising theatrical students.

The first three concerts of Stratford's third annual music season, which opened on July 31, drew 2,720 people, for an average attendance of 91 per cent and a box office total of \$7,222. The Festival Concert Hall has a seating capacity of 986 as compared to the Theatre's 2,196.

MONT-TREMBLANT MEETING: The finance ministers of Commonwealth countries will meet at Mont-Tremblant, Quebec, beginning September 28 for a four-day conference. At this meeting, announced by Prime Minister Diefenbaker, the ministers will discuss Canada's proposal for a full-scale Commonwealth trade and economic conference to be held in 1958.

The Commonwealth ministers will come to Canada from Washington after attending a meeting of the World Bank.