

## FISHERIES

Commercial fishing, which dates back nearly 500 years, was Canada's first primary industry. Today, fishing is the nation's fifth ranking primary industry. Canada's annual catch amounts to approximately 2.3 billion pounds, with a market value of over \$340 million.

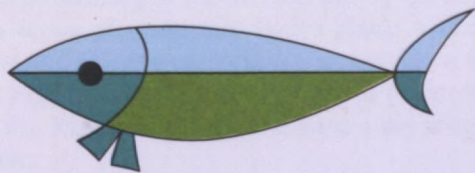
Eighty thousand commercial fishermen are employed in fishing operations. Exports in 1967 totalled approximately \$216 million.

On the world market, about 70 per cent of the total demand is for fresh, frozen or preserved fish; 12 per cent is for canned products and 18 per cent for shellfish.

On the Atlantic coast, cod, lobster, haddock, sardines and flounders, in that order, are the most important fish. On the Pacific coast, salmon, halibut and herring are the major species. The development of new fish-freezing plants in the Atlantic Provinces since 1963 has increased their proportion of the total value of the national catch to about 67 per cent.

In May 1964, the Canadian Government established a 12-mile exclusive fishing-zone along Canada's coastline. The Federal Government has full legislative jurisdiction over coastal and inland fisheries for their protection, conservation and development.

Canada has entered into a number of international treaties, particularly with the United States, for the protection and preservation of marine fisheries. Among these are the International Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Convention and the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Convention.



Codfish hauled from fishing-boat, Nova Scotia

