

commodities subject to voluntary restriction and removal of such restraints as soon as the Canadian situation permits. The Committee reviewed recent progress made in the liberalization of imports into Japan. The Canadian Ministers asked that, as further progress became possible, Japan should keep in mind Canada's interest in certain products. The Canadian Ministers urged that quantitative restrictions should not be replaced by tariff increases or other restrictive devices.

"The Committee took note of the assurances of the Canadian Government that the Canadian temporary import surcharges would be eliminated as quickly as Canada's balance-of-payments position permits.

"The Committee examined recent developments in international economic relations. The Committee took special note of the joint initiative taken by the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the U.S.A. in calling for a meeting of ministers to set in train a broad programme for the liberalization and expansion of trade. The Committee welcomed the fact that this meeting would take place under the auspices of GATT in the early part of 1963. The Committee stressed the importance of achieving the broadest participation in the tariff negotiations which would follow the meeting of ministers and emphasized that such negotiations must be based upon the unconditional 'most-favoured-nation' principle. The Committee recognized the need to make progress in all sectors of trade.

AID TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

"The Ministers reviewed the efforts being made by Canada and Japan to assist economic progress in the developing countries and noted that both countries were co-operating in this field in various international bodies. They recognized that the economic progress of the developing countries required not only financial assistance but also expanding export opportunities for their products. The Committee noted that this would be a major objective of the forthcoming UN Conference on Trade and Development. They agreed that Canada and Japan should work closely together in the preparatory committee in order to ensure the achievement of meaningful and constructive results.

"The Canadian delegation expressed the strong support of the Canadian Government for increased participation by Japan in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and full Japanese membership therein.

DISCUSSION OF FISHERIES

"The Committee discussed a number of fisheries matters. There was an exchange of information and views on the present conditions of the respective domestic fishing industries, as well as on the international aspect of fisheries. The importance of fisheries for the economies of the two countries and the significance of international co-operation for the sound promotion of fisheries were emphasized.

"It was agreed that negotiations be initiated between the two Governments for the conclusion of an agreement for the avoidance of double taxation in view of the need for further strengthening of economic relations between the two countries.

"The Ministers of the two countries were unanimously agreed that the Canada-Japan Ministerial Committee, which was established by Prime Minister Ikeda and Prime Minister Diefenbaker in June 1961, was of great value for the development of better mutual understanding between the two countries. Accordingly, this highly successful first meeting was of historic importance.

"The Committee accepted the invitation of the Canadian Government to hold its next meeting in Ottawa."

LOBSTERS IN THE LIMELIGHT

Science is taking a new look at the luxury creature known as the lobster, which brings millions of dollars to Canadian Atlantic-coast fishermen each year. This time the technologists are concentrating their efforts on unravelling the mysteries of the creature's chemistry.

A report on the physiological approach to the lobster, with its armor-like shell, was given recently at the annual meeting of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada in Ottawa. The technological study is being carried out by a scientific team at the Board's research station in Halifax.

Tanks have been installed capable of holding hundreds of lobsters. A pipeline runs from the station to the bottom of Halifax harbour to provide a continuous fresh supply of sea water to keep the lobsters alive.

MOULTING STUDIES

There are many things the scientists hope to find. They are interested in the lobster's moulting process. Each time a lobster sheds its shell, its growth and weight increase substantially. Would there be a way to increase the number of moults? That answer in itself would be a big step forward in lobster research.

An important aspect of the whole programme, of course, is the lobster's medical history. Normally, lobsters are healthy creatures. However, like all living things, they are sometimes affected by disease. That is why the technologists want to know more about the lobster's body chemistry.

Last summer there were deaths among the lobsters stored in certain tidal pounds. Halifax scientists moved in to find out the cause. Samplings were made of lobsters from districts where the casualties occurred and all indications were that the creatures had been infected with a specific bacterium while still in the sea. With the source of trouble reasonably well identified, scientists were able to suggest measures to correct the situation.