

the departmental patrol fleet; its left wing is the Fish Culture Development branch, staffed by engineers and biologists. Any industrial project which may, in any way, affect fish in the locality is reported from the field. Plans are examined by fisheries experts and, when necessary, biological and engineering surveys are made. If the plans indicate any possible damage to fish, alternatives are suggested and in most cases have been adopted by the companies concerned. In the past few years many valuable stocks of fish have been protected in this manner.

As has already been pointed out a healthy and prosperous fishery industry is always a matter of concern to the Department. One of the agencies towards this objective is the Inspection and Consumer Service. Canada's yearly export of canned fish is valued at well over \$100,000,000 and it is therefore of vital importance to the nation that the quality of canned fish is maintained at highest possible standards.

On the B.C. coast a system of canned fish inspection was introduced in 1932, when a board of salmon brokers operated for the Government under contract. Three years later the Department established its own canned fish inspection laboratory. Since the start of this service approximately 65,000 inspection of canned fish parcels have been made.

CONSUMER WORK

Coincidental with these measures to maintain B.C. fish products at the highest quality level are the efforts made by the Department of Fisheries to promote the best use of them. To interest and educate Canadians in the proper methods of preparing fish dishes the Consumer Section employs a number of home economists who give lectures and practical cooking demonstrations wherever an audience is waiting.

An important service is rendered the entire industry by the Economics Service which provides valuable knowledge to meet the dual demand by (1) the fishery scientists who require detailed data on the catches of fish and the localities in which they were caught, and (2) the fishermen and industrialists who must have knowledge of trends and cycles in order to plan from one season to another. The sales slip statistical system introduced in British Columbia in 1950 has proved to be the answer to modern demands. The Economics Service also administers the Fishermen's Indemnity Plan, which provides low cost insurance for owners of medium-sized fishing boats.

The Information and Education Service of the Department is responsible for keeping the public abreast of departmental activities and of the progress of the industry. When necessary the press and radio are supplied with prepared releases. A considerable amount of pamphlet type material is distributed every year, mostly to school students and teachers. This work is supplemented by motion pictures in keeping with modern trends.

VISITS CANADIAN TROOPS

German General Hans Speidel, the Commander of NATO land forces in Central Europe, paid his first visit May 30 to troops of the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in West Germany.

The 60-year old German General, former war-time Chief-of-Staff to Field Marshal Erwin Romel, conferred with the Canadian Commander, Brig. Donald C. Cameron of Alexandria, Ont. General Speidel's headquarters is at Fontainebleau, on the outskirts of Paris.

Military policemen of the Canadian Provost Corps met and escorted the German General from the Canadian brigade headquarters, near the town of Soest.

At Fort Henry, the Canadian formation headquarters, he was greeted by a 15-man guard of honour from the 2nd Battalion, The Canadian Guards, under the command of Lt. Robert D. Partridge, 28, of Toronto and London, Ont.

During his brief two-hour visit, Gen. Speidel met senior staff officers and unit commanders of the brigade group. His command is one of four principal sub-headquarters under Allied Command in Europe and includes troops of the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Belgium and Denmark.

In June of last year Gen. Speidel visited the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade Group, which was on NATO duty in Europe at that time.

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BUILDING PERMITS, 1957

Building permits issued in 1957 were valued at \$1,827,291,000, virtually unchanged from the record 1956 total of \$1,827,880,000, Dominion Bureau of Statistic reports. Values were smaller in 1957 than a year earlier in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia, offsetting larger values in the other provinces. Totals were (in thousands): Newfoundland, \$9,120 (\$8,974 in 1956); Prince Edward Island, \$855 (\$1,348); Nova Scotia, \$17,724 (\$22,908); New Brunswick, \$22,557 (\$21,993); Quebec, \$390,674 (\$398,340); Ontario, \$828,616 (\$810,025); Manitoba, \$74,425 (\$75,470); Saskatchewan, \$65,768 (\$53,629); Alberta, \$172,851 (\$188,104); and British Columbia, \$244,701 (\$247,096).

Value of building permits issued in March climbed sharply to \$165,638,000 from \$114,290,000 in March last year, gains occurring in all provinces except New Brunswick. Prince Edward Island recorded no change. Totals (in thousands): Newfoundland, \$413 (\$123 a year earlier); Prince Edward Island, \$23 (\$23); Nova Scotia, \$1,151 (\$745); New Brunswick, \$1,087 (\$1,383); Quebec, \$31,591 (\$21,644); Ontario, \$79,401 (\$57,627); Manitoba, \$4,398 (\$3,027); Saskatchewan, \$4,549 (\$2,013); Alberta, \$15,507 (\$8,744); and British Columbia, \$27,518, (\$18,961).

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