

Gov't making all-out effort to expand Island fisheries

"Island fishermen landed approximately 63 million pounds of fish valued at about \$7,100,000," said Fisheries Minister Leo Rossiter reviewing the 1965 season.

"It should be noted," said Mr. Rossiter, "that the Island fishery on a percentage basis, is more important than the fishery of any other province, including Newfoundland."

"Our provincial fishery contributes approximately 10 per cent of our net product," he said, "while all of Canada's fisheries only contribute one per cent of the national net product."

Commenting on the fisheries picture for 1965, Mr. Rossiter stressed the efforts being put forth by the provincial government to develop the fisheries industry of the province.

"While it is difficult to match the attractions of the more wealthy provinces," he states, "we have endeavored to provide comparable terms within the limits of our resources."

As an example he cited the interest rates on loans for fishing vessels. "Fishing vessel loans are obtainable at interest free in Quebec and at a rate of 3.5 per cent in Newfoundland," said the minister, "but our four per cent rate compares favourably with New Brunswick's rate which is similar and Nova Scotia's rate of 4.5 per cent."

The catch this past year is 31.64 per cent higher than it was in 1964 and it was worth 23.21 per cent more than the previous year.

IRISH MOSS
The most amazing increase was in the landings of Irish Moss. In 1964 there were over 7.1 million pounds of moss landed and this was increased in 1965 by over 140 per cent to 17,138,067 pounds. The value of the Irish Moss industry increased by 138 per cent rising from \$108,131 to \$257,535.

Another spectacular increase was in the scallop fishery, landings were up by 99 per cent and the value of the catch increased from \$67,462 in 1964 to \$180,494, which is an increase of 168 per cent.

The backbone of the Island fishery, the lobster catch, was up by over a million pounds to 8,837,642 pounds having a landed value of \$5,176,554. This is \$965,772 more than in 1964.

The fisheries on the Island involve some 3,200 fishermen who have over 1,500 boats. Their capital investment in boats and equipment amounts to about \$5,000,000.

Island fishermen annually make use of about 450,000 lobster traps, about 5,500 mackerel and gill nets, some 2,000 smelt traps, 2,000 tubs of trawl lines and thousands of hand lines.

A breakdown of the fishery into counties reveals that there are 42 per cent of the fishermen in Kings County, 21 per cent in



HON. LEO ROSSITER

Queens and 37 per cent in Prince County.

About 52 per cent of the capital investment in the fishing industry is in Kings County, 16 per cent in Queens and about 32 per cent in Prince County.

KINGS LEADS
Of the over \$7 million catch last year some 48 per cent was landed in Kings County, 15 per cent in Queens and 37 per cent in Prince County.

A little over 50 per cent of the lobster catch is landed in Kings County, over 76 per cent of the codfish landed come ashore in Kings County and Kings County accounts for about 97 per cent of the flounder landings. Prince County is the strong area in Irish Moss landings having nearly 75 per cent of the Island total.

Mr. Rossiter reports there is an increased interest by Island fishermen in the purse seining of mackerel. "Many fishermen have taken it upon themselves to equip their boats with seine nets," said Mr. Rossiter.

The department is experimenting with a power block to pull the seine nets according to Mr. Rossiter. At present the fishermen pull the nets by hand. During 1965 the provincial gov-

ernment catches. More research is necessary in order to prove the worth of these traps." Mr. Rossiter said there would be further experiments undertaken in 1966.

EEL FISHING

During the summer Mr. Rossiter said that there were many fishermen interested in expanding the eel fishery. They built a new style of baited trap and experiments were carried out in such areas as Vernon, Middelburg, Conway and Tignish.

He said "the results were highly encouraging to date and fishermen in some areas are planning to do this type of eel fishing commercially."

Looking to the future Mr. Rossiter saw much promise for the fishing industry of the province. He pointed out that the growing pains of the Georgetown complex were being worked out. He pointed with pride to the expansion of facilities in Souris and hoped that the coming year would see developments in other parts of the province as well.

Fishing violators given rough year

Violators of fishing regulations generally had a rough year in the Maritime Provinces as was indicated here by Ambrose P. Fitzgerald, Maritimes head of the federal department of fisheries protection service.

"The past year," said Mr. Fitzgerald, "was the most successful year we had in the work of law enforcement, since the protection branch was organized." His remarks were made at the opening of a four-day conference in Halifax of federal officials from area headquarters and senior department representatives from district offices throughout the Maritimes. A delegation from Ottawa headquarters, led by Dr. R.R. Logie, assistant deputy minister of fisheries for

Canada, also is attending as are representatives of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada.

In the Maritimes last year, 756 cases of fishing violations were brought before the courts. There were convictions in 722 cases and fines totalling nearly \$19,000 were paid. Six offenders were given jail terms. In 1964 prosecutions totalled 682, with 650 convictions. Twenty-eight prosecutions instituted last year are still before the courts.

Mr. Fitzgerald attributed much of the success of 1965 law enforcement program to the stiffening attitude of many magistrates who imposed heavy fines, and, in some cases, ordered the confiscation of boats and motor vehicles used by offenders.

HARD WORK
However, Mr. Fitzgerald added, "we must not forget that it was the hard work on the part of the fishery officer in bringing the offenders before the court and giving good evidence on the witness stand that made it possible for the magistrate to impose these penalties."

The protection chief had praise for the support given by fishermen and the fishing industry in the action taken by the department in dealing with those who deliberately broke the nation's fishing laws.

"We must remember," Mr. Fitzgerald emphasized, "that violations of fishing regulations are the work of a small minority of our fishermen—at least 90 per cent—both sports and commercial fishermen are law-abiding citizens who recognize the value of our fishing resources."

In his general review of the work of his service, Mr. Fitzgerald declared the current trend toward greater exploitation of fish stocks with new and im-

proved methods of fishing indicated that higher prices would be offered for fish products. That could encourage illegal fishing and would mean more demands on the protection branch for management and enforcement. "It follows, therefore, that good planning and supervision of protection work will be required," he said.

Turning to enforcement of regulations under the International Commission for the North-west Atlantic Fisheries (a 13-nation body of which Canada is a signatory) Mr. Fitzgerald said 28 prosecutions were instituted by his officers against 28 Canadian fishermen. There were 20 convictions. ICNAF regulations specify a minimum size of net mesh used to permit the escape of young fish. Each signatory nation is responsible for the enforcement of this regulation with respect to its own nationals.

BUILDING VESSEL
Mr. Fitzgerald noted that, with more Canadian travelers entering the North Atlantic fishery, many fishery officers would be required to spend sea time

enforcing those regulations on Canadian boats. To assist in that work, the fisheries department has now under construction another patrol vessel to operate on the offshore fishing banks.

In emphasizing the role of the protection service in safeguarding the fishery, Mr. Fitzgerald declared that the operation couldn't stand still. "Our officers must be continually on the move," he added.

"You cannot give the fishery resources protection, if one waits until complaints are received about illegal fishing," Mr. Fitzgerald warned. "By that time the damage has been done." Therefore, illegal operations must be anticipated at all times and uncovered, if possible, by officers while on patrol duty. The public will not tolerate competency on our part.

No longer should a fishery officer be satisfied that he has control of his district without expending as much effort as he possibly can."

Cyanamid Co. splits stock

PORTLAND, Me. (AP)—Stockholders of American Cyanamid Co. approved Monday a two-for-one split of the common stock.

They also authorized a new class of 650,000 shares of \$1 par preferred in substitution for a like number of \$100 par cumulative preferred.

Dr. Wilbur G. Malcolm, board chairman, reported record sales and earnings for the first quarter of 1966. He said the company earned \$26,711,000, or \$1.21 a share, on sales of \$236,928,000. Earnings were up 16 per cent and sales 13 per cent over the first quarter of 1965.

HYDRO USE GROWS
Ontario Hydro produced 4,300,000 kilowatt-hours of electricity in January, 1966, 11 per cent more than in the same month of 1965.

Barry claims LBJ playing politics

By HARRY KELLY

WASHINGTON (AP)—Barry Goldwater charged today President Johnson is playing politics with the Vietnamese war by trying to keep it at a "low level" to save Democratic seats in next fall's congressional elections.

He claimed Johnson was trying to please both the hawks and the doves.

"We're not exerting our full air power against the enemy, and I don't think that is playing fair with the men... being sent over to Viet Nam," Johnson's 1964 Republican presidential opponent said in a copyrighted interview in U.S. News and World Report.

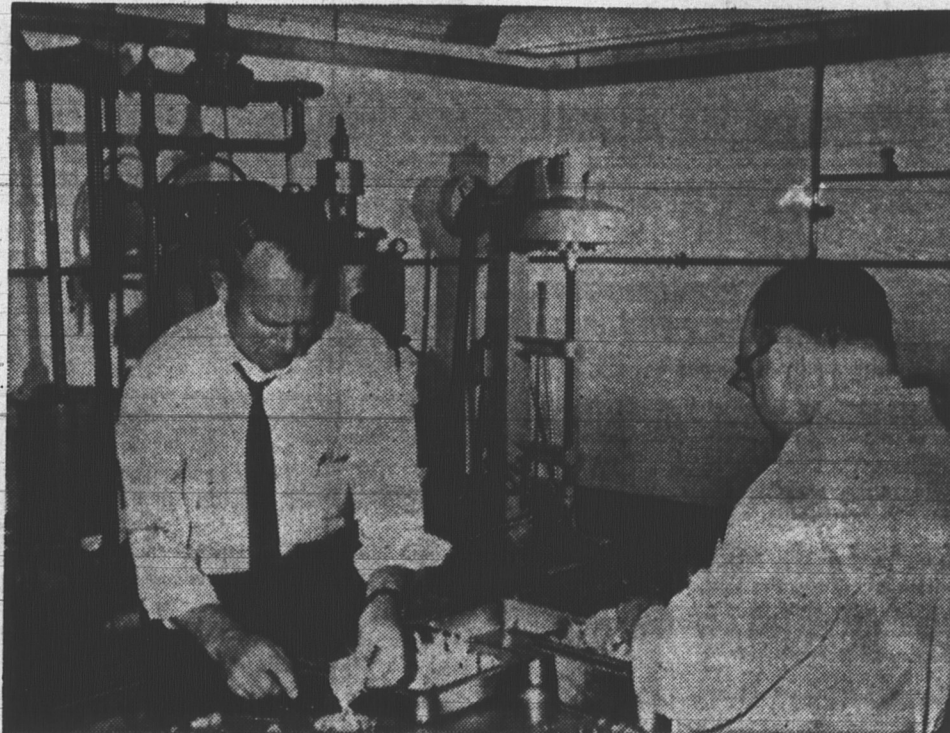
Congress returns today to face the South Vietnamese political storm that broke during the Easter recess and as State Secretary Dean Rusk testifies before the Senate foreign relations committee.

The committee has been a hotbed of congressional criticism of Johnson's Asian policies. But Committee Chairman J. W. Fulbright (Dem. Ark.) said he didn't think "there will be any fireworks."

'WE'RE IN TROUBLE'
The committee's mood, said Senator John J. Williams (Rep. Del.) may depend on Rusk—"to the extent he is frank with us... there is no use kidding ourselves, we are in trouble. We can't correct a problem by ignoring it."

The reason for Rusk's appearance before the committee is to support the administration's foreign aid requests. Defense Secretary Robert McNamara will appear before the committee Wednesday.

The hearings are to be televised nationally. Adding to Goldwater's call for the use of more power was Sen-



STUDYING POLYPHOSPHATE EFFECTS

A chemist and technician on the staff of the Fish Inspection Laboratory in Halifax, N.S. prepare lobster meat samples to study the effect

of polyphosphate in controlling the thaw drip in frozen meat. Can sealing equipment is shown in the background.

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