

REGIONAL FISHERIES

Dept. of Fisheries & Forestry
District Office
Grand Falls

FEB 9 1972

NEWS

JAN - 1972



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

DISCUSS FISHERIES IN PANEL DISCUSSION

Regional Director H. R. Bradley participated in a special fisheries panel discussion held January 18 at the College of Trades and Technology in St. John's.

The panel discussion, which was preceded by a reception and dinner, was sponsored by the St. John's Kiwanis Club.

Other members of the panel were: Dr. Wilfred Templeman, Director of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada Station, St. John's; A. A. Etchegary, President of the Save Our Fisheries Association; Donald Petrie, President of the Fish Trades Association; William Short, a fisherman from Pouch Cove; Rupert Prince, Newfoundland Fisheries Development Authority; Aiden Maloney, President of the Canadian Saltfish Corporation.

The panel discussion was under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Barrett, President of the College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering and Electronics.

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FVIP HOLDS 2-DAY CONFERENCE

The Fishing Vessel Insurance Plan held a two-day conference in the Regional Board Room January 18-19.

Among points discussed during the conference were new FVIP regulations that went into effect last November and problems connected with implementation of the plan.

Colonel R. Brown and L. O. Clarke, members of the Plan's Advisory Committee from Ottawa, were scheduled to attend the conference but were unable to do so because of the nationwide strike by Air Traffic Controllers. Colonel Brown is the Plan's solicitor while Mr. Clarke is Co-ordinator.

Chairman for the two-day conference was C. D. Parrott, Regional Manager of FVIP. The discussions were led by B. G. Lawrence, Assistant Regional Manager, and M. M. Manuel, Technical Adviser.

Appraisers/Adjusters participating in the discussions were:

S. W. LeDrew, Port aux Basques
J. Bennett, Corner Brook
E. C. Simms, Lewisporte
F. Bennett, Carbonear

F. Bishop, Clarenville
J. E. Cheeseman, Grand Bank
W. C. Roberts and W. R. Oldford,
St. John's

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INSPECTORS ATTEND REFRESHER COURSE

A Salt Fish Refresher Course sponsored by the Regional Inspection Branch was held at St. John's headquarters January 24-31.

Inspection Officers from various parts of the province attended the week-long course. Those present were: H. A. Ryan, B. Sears, F. LeDrew, J. Dalley, F. Hounsell, J. Cheeseman, R. Cramm, R. Andrews, J. McKay, F. Hartery, A. Andrews, J. Mulcahy, H. Lake and A. Caravan. Also in attendance were J. White and G. Morgan of the Canadian Saltfish Corporation.

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SEALING COMMITTEE REPORT RELEASED

Environment Minister Jack Davis released the interim report of his special Advisory Committee on Atlantic Seals January 18.

The Minister asked Professor Keith Ronald, Dean of the College of Biological Science, University of Guelph, to set up a committee last year to study the seal herd.

The committee made these recommendations:

- (1) Phase out of the Canadian and Norwegian Atlantic seal hunt by 1974 followed by a minimum six-year moratorium on hunting.
- (2) No increase in exploitation of seals at any other area in the world, especially in the Antarctic.
- (3) Immediate institution of a research program covering
 - (a) compensation to those affected by the abolition of hunting;
 - (b) expanded biological and related studies of the Harp, Hooded and other species of seals in Canada;
 - (c) development of satisfactory guidelines for the future protection and management of the seal population;
 - (d) development of improved methods for taking seals.

Mr. Davis said in anticipation of the report he had already banned the taking of seals in the Gulf of St. Lawrence in 1972. This ban relates to aircraft and the operations of the big vessel commercial sealing fleet.

The Minister stressed landmen will be able to take seals as in the past, their historic catch being small as compared to that

of the commercial fleet. However, he said he is giving consideration to establishing subquotas and closing dates for the various areas in which the landsmen operate and will limit the number of small longline vessels taking seals in 1972 to those which operated last year. He also stated he is studying the possibility of restricting entry of landsmen in the seal fishery to those who are experienced in this operation.

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AROUND THE REGION

Activity in the fishing industry in District "A" is now at its lowest ebb. Boats are still operating from Bonavista-Catalina area when weather permits. The same applies in a very limited way to St. John's and Bay Bulls.

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Crab processing plants in District "A" are operating mostly on a part-time basis. Herring catches within the district are relatively low; Tacks Beach is the most productive area. However, plants at Dildo and Witless Bay are receiving herring from other ports, usually Fortune Bay. Most are produced as butterfly pack.

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Exports of salted fish continue steadily from District "A". Only St. John's and Conception Bay plants now have any worthwhile stocks on hand. Lunenburg Sea Products recently began renovations at the south side plant preparatory to opening this spring. All plant surveys are now completed and considerable remedial work is underway.

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We are happy to report that Bren Paul is coming along quite well and expects to return to duty in late February. Due to forced inactivity at home, he has become knowledgeable in open line programs and political happenings of recent time. A turban and crystal ball, normal tools of the fortune teller trade are, he claims, quite unnecessary. At the office we still consider him expert at "yesterday's forecasts".

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"On what strange food do statisticians feel that they so great have grown?" Seriously, no requirement of this nature in the past has ever reached the stature of M. B. & G. Due to the ever escalating need for information we now have achieved the "inverted pyramid", however, some humour remains. One J. M. King reached the ultimate when in a certain garage he applied the "ancient mariners" hold on a mechanic and filled in forms on four men. Let us observe a moment of silence for the car owner who paid \$9.00 per hour plus tax for this service.

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Herring seiners are operating along the south coast but catches are low compared to last season mainly because of the scarcity of herring. Most catches to date have been made west of Burgeo. However, toward the end of the month seiners were reported to be more frequently observed east of that area. Inshore gillnet fishermen in Fortune Bay have had little success to date with only small hauls recorded in the English Harbour East waters.

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Trawlers fishing for cod in the Gulf were successful in obtaining good catches. Stern vessels landed more fish than the conventional side trawlers and catches in excess of 400,000 pounds were realized on occasion. The good price for cod at present is also an inducement to participate in the fishery for this species.

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District "B" welcomed the patrol vessels "Garia Bay", "Pistolet Bay" and "Burin Bay" to the area where they undertook patrol duties coupled with various other assignments. The "Belle Bay" also entered the district and was engaged in analytical work along the coast. The "Cape Freels" and "Arctica" also navigated south coast waters on related fisheries duties.

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Deepest sympathy is extended to Fishery Officer D. J. Pretty and his family on the death of his father recently.

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Enumeration of fishermen, fishing boats and fishing equipment was a topic confronting many officers in District "B" during the month as efforts were made to concentrate as much time and equipment as possible to this work. Since most fishermen in the district fish year round, very little could be done until 1971 ended. However, forms were partially completed at District Office and nearby locations covering lobster, salmon and offshore fishermen which cut down on work in the field during the actual contact.

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District "B" Office is crippling along without Miss Bradley who performs in an able manner the many duties of clerk. She underwent major surgery at the Grace Hospital recently and it is not certain when she will return to active duty. We hope it is soon. The District Officer was also ordered by his doctor to vacate his office for about two weeks because of bronchitis. Officer Keating was housed with the same ailment. Both have since returned to work with clear windpipes once again.

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A Board was held at Corner Brook on January 4 to fill three part-time carpenters' positions. Carpenters were needed to construct a

concrete floor in the departmental garage at Steady Brook. The floor is presently being constructed.

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Mr. D. Newbury, Engineer with the Fish Inspection Branch, visited District "C" in connection with a special project being undertaken regarding the pumping of food herring from seines through until their arrival in the plant.

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Captain C. J. Blagdon returned to duty on January 20 after being on sick leave since mid-December.

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Assistant District Officer L. Crane of District "C" is presently on sick leave and confined to bed. Anyone knowing Lew will realize that this is an extremely difficult row to hoe. We only hope that being confined to bed will not lead to further illnesses.

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Fishery Officer J. Mullins of District "C" underwent minor surgery. He was on sick leave only a few days and has since returned to duty.

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Fishery Officer J. Cheeseman, who is undergoing training in District "C", became the proud father of a baby boy on January 11. Our best wishes go out to the parents.

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The M. V. "GANDER BAY" was assigned duties in the Port-aux-Basques area early in the month.

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Aerial surveys were undertaken by helicopter in the Deer Lake-Corner Brook areas around mid month. Checks were carried out on all cabins located in isolated areas and on inland ponds and streams. The departmental cabin at lower Serpentine River was broken into by person or persons unknown. Very little damage was done.

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Long Service Certificates and 25-year pins were presented to Fishery Officer John Fudge and Bait Depot Operator Cyril Pauls on January 25. The presentation was made by the District Officer on behalf of the Regional Director.

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Fishery Officer Randolph Simmons has been transferred to "B" District after a few months indoctrinization in Districts "C" and "D". We hope that the old salts in that district will show a little sympathy to a land lubber from Stephenville.

News has reached District "D" that a former clerk (now in another district) has been spared the embarrassment of proposing an engagement - her prerogative in leap year. Word has it that the man in question proposed at 11:59 P.M. on December 31, 1971. We shall overcome!

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Rex Matthews stopped at District "D" Office on his return from the sunny south. He was in the Grand Bank area over the Christmas season and was most anxious to get back home to St. Anthony.

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The big fellow from Gambo left office for a vacation a day earlier than the little fellow from Gambo. Although Joe is down south for an indefinite period Tom is back and reports the rabbits scarce. Tom is now trying to decide if he will write a book on the "Salmon Fishery" or the "Seal Fishery".

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PERSONNEL BRANCH NOTES

New Unemployment Insurance legislation became effective January 1, 1972, and all employees were supplied with a booklet outlining the conditions of the new plan.

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C. Walters and J. Huxter, Resource Development Branch, and Greg Johns, seasonal warden, were struck off strength January 1. David W. Whalen, oiler on the C.G.S. "ARCTICA", resigned his position and was struck off strength January 5.

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Lloyd H. Boyd was appointed Master of the "EASTERN EXPLORER" January 5, while A. W. Kenny was appointed oiler on the "ARCTICA" January 18.

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Deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Carmel Gosse, formerly of the Inspection Branch, on the death January 14 of her husband who was killed in an automobile accident.

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Gordon Slade returned to Regional Headquarters for the Christmas season returning to Ottawa January 3 with his family to resume work with the Classification and Staffing Task Force.

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Tom Donahue of Economics Branch re-entered hospital for further surgery in January and was still absent at month's end.

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Captain F. R. Eddy who has been on extended injury-on-duty leave since July 22 last year obtained medical clearance and returned to work January 4. However, since that date he has been liquidating vacation leave.

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His many friends and co-workers in the region will be glad to learn that Bren Paul has returned home from hospital and is expected to return to work February 25.

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Captain C. J. Blagdon of the "LOMCND" returned to duty January 20. He had been absent since November 29.

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C. Hodder of the "CAPE FREELS" returned to duty January 25 after being on sick leave since December 21.

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Raymond Dawe, Lewisporte, is expected to return to duty around March 1 following prolonged illness and hospital treatment.

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Lew Crane , Assistant District Officer, Corner Brook, was on sick leave during the period January 14-31.

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Deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. G. Robertson of Records Branch on the death of her father January 25 and to Fishery Officer Donald Pretty of Milltown, Bay D'Espoir, whose father died January 10.

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Congratulations to Jerry Pratt of Resource Development Branch whose wife gave birth to a baby girl on January 10.

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FOUR RECEIVE 25-YEAR PINS

Congratulations to four employees of the Fisheries Service in the Newfoundland Region who were recently presented with 25-year service pins. The pins were presented to R. W. Morris, Larry Jones, John Fudge and Cyril Pauls.

A native of St. George's, Mr. Morris is Conservation and Protection Supervisor at Grand Bank. From 1947 to 1949 he was employed as a fish/game warden with the Department of Natural Resources, transferring to the Department of Fisheries of Canada as a fisheries warden at Confederation.

Mr. Jones was born at Moreton's Harbour. He joined the Newfoundland Fisheries Board in 1946 as an Inspection Officer and transferred to the Department of Fisheries on April 1, 1949. He retired from the Fisheries Service November 4, 1971.

A native of Belleoram, Mr. Fudge was appointed fishery officer with the Fishermen's Indemnity and Loan Plan September 2, 1953, and on February 15, 1954, transferred to the Inspection Branch of the Department. In January, 1963, he moved to Rose Blanche where he still resides.

Mr. Pauls was born at Rencontre East, Fortune Bay. He transferred to the Fisheries Department as Assistant Bait Depot Operator at Rencontre East in 1949. In 1969 he was promoted to Bait Depot Operator **in charge of the** Port-aux-Basques depot, a position he still holds.

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- VM Alpay, S. A.
293 A study to identify the requirements for academic education
A4 in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering, within
 Canada's Marine Industries. 1968.
- QL Jones, J. W.
638 The salmon. 195. 192 p. illus.
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11 The oceans; their physics, chemistry, and general biology.
S85
1957
- QL Symposium on pink salmon, University of British Columbia,
638 1960. 226 p. illus.
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- SB Holmes, S. E.
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H45H6 Forestry Service.
- QL Kramer, David
638 Synopsis of the biological data on the Pacific Mackerel,
S35K7 1969. 18 p. illus.
- SH Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,
335 Technical conference on fish inspection and quality
F6 control, Halifax, July 15-25, 1969.
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638 Biology of the Atlantic mackerel (scomber scombrus) of
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 Fisheries Service, Resource Development Branch, 1970.
- QL Schultz, Leonard P.
638 The catfishes of Venezuela, with descriptions of thirty-
S6S37 eight new forms. 1944. 165 p. illus.
- SH Hinds, L.
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REGIONAL FISHERIES NEWS

FEBRUARY, 1972.



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NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

FISHERIES SERVICE SPONSORS HERRING WORKSHOP

A pickled and marinated herring workshop sponsored by the Fisheries Service was held in Stephenville February 21-25.

Purpose of the workshop was to familiarize both industry and government inspection officials with the requirements for processing herring in a variety of ways for the European market, and to demonstrate proper commercial practice in processing.

Two Norwegian government inspection officials -- Harry Hermansen and Alf Asbjornsen -- were loaned to the Service for the workshop. They instructed those attending in the proper methods of herring processing and preparation of the various styles and packs of pickled and marinated herring products for European countries.

Industry was represented at the workshop by several processors from Newfoundland, the Maritimes and the Magdalen Islands. Also in attendance were eight inspection officers from Newfoundland, six from the Maritimes and two from the Quebec Region. Another participant was Dr. C. M. Blackwood, Director of the Fisheries Service Inspection Branch, Ottawa. Dr. Blackwood observed at firsthand some of the Canadian cured herring products received in Europe during a recent visit to that continent. He provided information on government and industry reaction in the markets to those attending the five-day workshop.

In addition to emphasizing the preparation of spice and sugar cured herring packs, the workshop also featured instruction on the preparation of brine cured headless herring and on preparation of herring fillet products.

Workshop sessions were held at the International Fisheries Ltd. plant in Stephenville and in a building under control of the Harmon Corporation.

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FISHERIES MINISTER VISITS NEWFOUNDLAND

Fisheries Minister Jack Davis paid a three-day visit to Newfoundland in February.

While in the province, the Minister addressed students and staff of the College of Fisheries, Navigation, Marine Engineering and Electronics and following the talk was questioned by local news media at a press conference.

Also during his visit Mr. Davis travelled to the south coast of the province visiting fishing operations at Grand Bank, Marystown, Bay L'Argent, Fortune and Burin. He also held meetings with Premier Frank Moores, Mines, Agriculture and Resources Minister C. W. Doody, representatives of the Fish Trades Association, fishing industry and fishermen's organizations in the province.

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AROUND THE REGION

Persons who complain that the winters are not what they used to be should have visited District "C" during February. Blizzard conditions, high winds, snow and sub-zero temperatures were the order of the day and as the month ended there was no letup in sight.

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Travelling by road on the west coast of the province was difficult during the month and persons wishing to confirm this can contact John Hennessey and Marvin Barnes as both braved the elements to visit District "C".

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Assistant District Officer Lew Crane of District "C" was still on sick leave as the month ended. To see Lew attempting to hobble around the house with the aid of grandfather's old walking cane is a sight to behold. He is now trying to purchase an old fashioned pair of "creepers" as an aid to walking when he is able to move outside the house.

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Conservation and Protection officers have commenced their annual visits to schools and Boy Scout groups in District "C" in an effort to preach the gospel. Jack Marshall and Bud Parsons gave several talks along with showing films and slides in the Corner Brook area while Bud and Bill Samson covered the Brig Bay section. Bud, who is becoming well known on the lecture tour, also assisted George Hapgood and Gordon Gushue in their respective areas. Several additional visits are to be made to schools in Corner Brook.

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Fishery Officer D. Denny attended an Emergency Measures Organization course at Arnprior, Ontario, during the week of February 7.

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Fisheries Officers Alban Moraze, Frank Slade and Jim Mullins attended a pickled and marinated herring course at Stephenville February 21-25. The weather was such during the week that one of the persons attending was heard to say "It would be better if we were all pickled."

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The flu bug took its toll in District "C" in February. In bed with the flu for varying periods were Jim Mullins, Ernest Collins, Captain George Parsons, Ralph Mayo, Walt Noel and Dick Roberts.

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Fishery Officer Albert White of District "C" suffered a painful accident in early February when attempting to push a departmental vehicle after it had become stuck on an icy surface. Albert slipped on the ice and broke a bone in his elbow. Fortunately, no time was lost and Albert has since returned to his normal duties.

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Fishery Officer Jack Bennett recently returned from his annual trip to the sunny south. Jack joined a boat in St. John's and travelled to the West Indies returning by way of Corner Brook at the end of the month.

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Deepest sympathy is extended to Fishery Officer Ernest Collins on the death of his mother February 19. Mrs. Collins resided in Twillingate.

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A welcome visitor to Corner Brook during the month was Cathy O'Brien who, in her usual efficient manner, presented several demonstrations in the art of preparing fish dishes.

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Stormy weather plus freezing of bays along the south coast curtailed herring fishing operations for both seiners and inshore gillnet fishermen. Some bar seines became frozen in coves and difficulty was experienced in freeing them; chain saws were used to release them on occasion. As a result of the decreased landings both food and reduction plants were short of raw material. A few seiners headed for Placentia Bay the latter part of February to try and locate herring schools.

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Sympathy is extended from District "B" staff to the District Officer and family on the death of his stepfather at St. John's.

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Burgeo is going through its first winter in some years without full employment in the town. The curtailment of operations of Burgeo Fish Industries Limited has not only put many shore workers out of employment, but inshore fishermen now have no place to sell their fish and cannot fish this winter at all. Since Burgeo usually had a good winter cod fishery in the past this means many new dollars will be lost to the economy. The herring plant has employed a few persons, but many still rely on strike funds or unemployment insurance.

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Strikers at Marystown are picketing the premises of Atlantic Fish Processors Limited and at the time of writing an early settlement appears unlikely unless the company accedes to union demands. Trawlers have also been prevented from sailing which, together with the plant shutdown, has put many persons out of work. Unemployment and/or strike pay are being used to compensate for lost employment.

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The Honourable Jack Davis paid a flying visit to the Burin Peninsula on February 19. While there he visited processing plants and spoke with management.

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Recently appointed Fishery Officer Lloyd Gallant arrived in District "B" for about one month's training in fresh and frozen fish production. Conservation and Protection Officer Randolph Simmons is becoming familiar with south coast activities and has covered most of the district on various patrol vessels. During his travels he has enumerated fishermen for the Men, Boats and Gear survey. Warden George Lace was taken on strength to help in the varied departmental activities now underway.

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RADIO-TELEPHONE EDUCATION

District Offices at Grand Falls and Grand Bank have found a new and rather unique way of providing information to Newfoundland school students.

On the regional office radio-telephone set recently District Officer Andrew Hiscock was heard to be giving what was first thought to be a political speech. He talked in some length about the large dragger fleet on the south coast of the province, the modern fish plants, the fisheries, the fluorspar mines, the beautiful scenery and miles of paved roads.

Mr. Hiscock was actually talking to Steve Payne of Grand Falls. Sitting in Mr. Payne's office at the time were a group of Grand Falls school students who were seeking information on the fisheries. Mr. Payne decided to call Mr. Hiscock on behalf of the school children in an effort to get a firsthand report on the social, economic and cultural environment as it exists today on Newfoundland's south coast.

It was determined later that this method of educating young people by means of radio-telephone hookup was first introduced by the District Offices some time ago.

INSPECTION OFFICERS ATTEND SALT FISH WORKSHOP

Fourteen fisheries inspection officers involved with the grading and inspection of salted fish for export attended the second of a two-part Salt Fish Training Workshop at Regional Headquarters February 7-14.

Both training sessions were organized by the Inspection Branch in conjunction with the Canadian Salfish Corporation. The workshops featured discussions on the many facets of the salt fish export industry with a view to maintaining uniformity of grading and inspection between the Salfish Corporation and the Fisheries Inspection Branch, which is responsible for the final assessment and grading of fish before shipment.

Information obtained by the fisheries inspection officers during the two training workshops will be applied in the 1972 season in an effort to upgrade quality and enhance prestige of traditional salt fish products exported from Newfoundland.

Topics covered during the workshops included: (1) fish grading sessions to ensure familiarity with the required grades (2) use of Moisture Teller equipment to determine moisture contents in the product (3) proper procedures to be followed in mechanical drying of fish (4) information on varying differences and specifications in the different markets.

Inspection officers attending the second course were: H. A. Ryan, B. Sears, F. LeDrew, A. Spencer, R. Andrews, J. Randell, C. Emberley, G. Drew, C. Russell, V. Taylor, E. Rodway, P. West, B. Manning, and R. Randell. Also in attendance were V. Lodge and J. Norman of the Salfish Corporation.

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PERSONNEL BRANCH NOTES

The prevailing flu claimed its victims throughout the month and many absences were reported. There were also extended illnesses. Among those on the sick list were: Harrison Hicks, hospitalized February 4 to return to work in early March; Ches Simmons, who returned to work February 1 after an absence which began January 24; E. J. Sullivan, scheduled to return to duties the first week in March.

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Miss Annie Bradley, Grand Bank, will return to work in mid-March. We were glad to see Tom Donahue back at his desk on February 21 and Bren Paul will be doing duty for half days pending further medical clearance.

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Lloyd C. Dalton joined the Service as a Primary Products Inspection Officer February 14 and Mrs. Mary B. Freake as a clerk with Fishing Vessel Insurance Plan on February 22. Nathan Norman replaced Dennis McCrowe February 21, the latter having resigned as deckhand on the "Cape Freels". W. S. Baker joined the "Boltenia" as cook-deckhand February 15 replacing Frank Bolt who transferred to waiter on the "Arctica" February 7. Dennis Riche joined the Environmental Protection Service as a term assistant February 21.

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A. W. Kenny, oiler on the "Arctica", was struck off strength February 29; and E. J. Sullivan, deckhand on the "Eastern Explorer" was also struck off strength on February 29.

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Expressions of sympathy were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Bishop, Clareville, whose infant son died February 3; to Andrew Hiscock whose stepfather died at Portugal Cove during the weekend of February 7; and to Mr. and Mrs. Max Rose, Bonavista, whose son died as the result of an accident at Churchill Falls. Sympathy is also extended to Miss Lynn Shallow of District Office, Grand Falls, whose father died February 26 and to Fishery Officer Ernest Collins whose mother died February 19.

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A training course sponsored by the Department of Supply and Services under the direction of Mr. Lew Benvie was held during the month. The course was designed to familiarize participants with new pay input forms. It was attended in two sessions by Mrs. Phalen, Len Whitten, George Fiander and C. C. Cousens.

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Congratulations to Keith Spencer of the Inspection Laboratory whose wife gave birth to a baby girl on February 17.

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BOWLING ENDS MARCH 22

The Federal Fisheries Bowling League will complete its 1971-72 schedule March 22. As we go to press the Flounders are leading the team standings with 44 points followed by Shrimp and Tomcods with 38, Potheads 37, Tuna 33, Salmon 31, Trout 28, Herring 25, Cod 23, Caplin 20, Mussels 19, and Mackerel 6. In the race for individual trophies Len Whitten is leading the men's averages with a respectful 217 average followed by Eugene Wiseman with 209 and Frank Brocklehurst, Bud Butler and Doug Downey 206. Garry Scott and Bud Butler are tied for the high triple in the men's division with a three frame total of 764 while Len Whitten is heading the list of contenders for the top single award. Len bowled a 342 single March 1.

In the ladies' division Donna Down tops the high average list with a 197 followed by Elizabeth Peet 195, Elsie Bauld 193 and

Flora Samson 191. Elsie Bauld has the high single to date, a fine 323 frame, while Elizabeth Pect is leading in the high triple division with a 711.

Trophies will be presented to the first and second place teams and to the top individual bowlers during a special bowling dance to be held sometime during the month of April.

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SEARCH FOR FISHERMAN FAILS

Two Fisheries Service vessels participated in a search in late February for a 45-year old Ramea resident reported missing on a fishing trip to the Islands East of Burgeo.

The Bait ship "Arctica" and the Patrol Vessel "Pistolet Bay" searched for the missing man in the Burgeo-Ramea area.

The fisherman, Wallace Skinner, was tending codtrawls from a 22-foot open boat. No sign of missing fishermen or the boat was found.

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LIST OF BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM REGIONAL LIBRARY

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N3
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REGIONAL FISHERIES NEWS

L. Sullivan

MARCH, 1972.



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NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

CAPE FREELS RESCUES TRAWLER CREW

What could have resulted in a serious loss of life at sea was prevented recently when the Fisheries Service patrol vessel "Cape Freels" came to the rescue of a Nova Scotian longline fishing vessel off the Grand Banks of Newfoundland.

Eight crew members of the Port Mouton, Nova Scotia, longliner "Sea Urchin" were rescued by the "Freels" in the early morning of March 15 just hours before the vessel sank in heavy seas approximately 280 miles southeast of Cape Race.

The "Cape Freels" received a call that the trawler was in trouble in the afternoon of March 14 and immediately set course for the area in question arriving there approximately 5 o'clock in the morning. The "Freels" stood by until daylight when it was determined that efforts by the crew of the "Sea Urchin" to save the trawler were in vain. Captain Wallace Collins of the "Freels" ordered his crew to release a rubber dinghy which the patrol vessel carried on board in an effort to rescue the skipper and crew members of the longliner. The rescue mission was a complete success and no injuries were recorded.

The 86-foot vessel went to the bottom around 9 AM. The "Sea Urchin" was under the command of Captain Hubert Rose of Halifax and formerly of Fortune Bay. After completing the rescue mission the "Cape Freels" brought the crew of the sunken vessel into St. John's.

Captain Collins and his crew deserve special recognition and congratulations for their efforts.

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BOWLING SEASON ENDS

The Federal Fisheries Bowling League completed its 1971-72 bowling schedule at Holiday Lanes March 22, marking the end of another very successful season.

Tomcods emerged champions of the 12-team league raking up 47 points while Flounder and Shrimp finished up in a close second place tied with 46 points each. Members of the championship team are Frank and Alice Brocklehurst, Bob and Mary Lou Mills and Ruth Downey.

Individual award winners were as follows:

MEN

Len Whitten (High average)
Bud Butler and Gary Scott (High
triple)
Len Whitten (High single)
Frank Brocklehurst (Most improved
bowler)

LADIES

Elizabeth Peet (High average)
Flora Samson (High triple)
Elsie Bauld (High single)
Mary Lou Mills (Most improved bowler)

Trophies will be presented to the top three teams and to the individual award winners at a special bowling dance to be held shortly.

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PERSONNEL BRANCH NOTES

Fishery Officer Ray Dawe of Lewisporte returned to duty March 1 following an extended absence due to illness while Harrison Hicks returned to work March 10 having been away for a few weeks.

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Sympathy is extended to Ken Sutton of the M.V. "Gander Bay" whose father died March 1 and to Mrs. Gertrude Gladney of Records Office whose mother passed away March 3.

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E. P. Roche was taken on strength March 3 as deckhand on the "Eastern Explorer" while J. J. Roche was taken on strength March 25 as oiler on the "Arctica".

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Questionnaire forms concerning Survey of Family Expenditure were sent out March 21 to employees at Isolated Posts. Most employees received forms to be completed and returned to Statistics Canada (DBS) but in some communities where a number of employees were located sampling copies only are being done in that community.

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SOCIAL CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS

The Federal Fisheries Social Club held its annual meeting and election of officers at HMCS CABOT March 14.

Activities of the past year were outlined and plans for the coming year discussed. The following new officers of the Club are:

E. P. Quigley, President
E. Dunne, Vice-President
E. Driscoll, Secretary
D. Tilley, Treasurer

The Club plans to hold another meeting shortly to discuss possible implementation of a membership fee program.

FISH FARMING IN PRAIRIES AIDED BY UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Farmers on the Canadian Prairies in the next five years may take as much as 10 million pounds of rainbow trout from useless "pothole" lakes, ice-age remnants which dot farmlands in the West. The estimate comes from the University of Manitoba which has pioneered experiments in stocking such lakes with fingerlings and fish fry.

The yield is about 120 pounds an acre, an impressive figure in comparison with the three pounds an acre from commercial fishing areas like Lake Winnipeg. Profits can be immense - better than grain.

In the United States, catfish farming is already big business in Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas and Texas. The fish are now an important crop on flooded cotton fields and yield the farmers as much or more revenue as their previous traditional crops. Pumps keep ponds free of parasites and disease and automatic feeders blow protein-rich pellets into the water to assure a plump, tasty crop.

* * * * *

AROUND THE REGION

Offshore vessels in District "A" produced good trips of flounder throughout the month, but the unusually small size restricted production. The inshore fishery ceased on the northeast coast because of the ice blockage. However, an occasional trip was made from St. John's. Placentia Bay yielded some reasonably good catches of herring mostly by seiners.

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Residents of St. Mary's Bay are comfort orientated. Cars were driven on the bay ice and owners fished from them in relative warmth. There were no problems at all.

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About 4,500 fishermen have been listed in District "A" by Men, Boats and Gear survey. A few more places have to be surveyed. There will probably be a lesser number of men accounted for than last year. Lobster fishermen were indexed and forwarded applications but response to date is slow. A difficult time is expected in April when the matter of salmon licenses raises its head, and it must be dealt with eventually.

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Fishery Officer W. Davis of District "A" addressed a student group at Placentia on the subject of "Opportunity in the Department of the Environment". By all accounts it was an excellent job.

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District Officer S. Bartlett spent a few days on the "Cape Freels" surveying activities on the Grand Banks and assisted in rescuing crew members of the dragger "Sea Urchin" which sank at the time. Since the weather was stormy, one can excuse a member of the Constabulary for looking askance at Sam's "sailor's roll" while walking to his parking spot next day.

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Fishery Officer J. Randell is now officially a member of District "A". Welcome Jim. By the way, where the heck is he? To quote Basil Sears: all hands on deck for the summer when we will have 55 operating plants. And it came to pass that in these days stats entered a period of great mourning.

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District "A" was happy to contribute toward a successful course held recently at Stephenville by providing one essential item - herring. Odd how such little things are hidden by larger issues of project planning, priorities, etc. Does not the latest song begin: "Where have all the herring gone?" Seriously, it was a pleasure to be of service.

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A quiet place. District "A" has a room in the Gilbert Building known as the sanctuary. After all, who would enter a door marked "ladies" looking for a lobster license. It is so highly classified that we doubt if Public Works is aware of our presence and we may be able to vacate before they find out. After all we needed space in '72.

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Warden V. O'Keefe was taken on strength March 22.

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Both the "Gander Bay" and the C.G.S. "Cape Freels" were kept quite busy on patrol duty in the Port-aux-Basques-Rose Blanche area where a number of foreign and local draggers were engaged with fishing activity. When ice conditions permitted longliner operations, some excellent catches were taken.

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During the month a number of schools in the Stephenville-Corner Brook area were visited by Conservation and Protection Officers and Lester Riche of the Resource Development Branch. This is a continuation of the District's educational program and along with slides and films there were discussions on pollution problems and conservation and protection in particular.

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Herring factories in District "C" were idle during most of the month insofar as initial processing was concerned. With so much ice around the coast and herring being scarce, landings were

down considerably. However, plants in the Curling area operated for a period from stocks on hand in the curing process.

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Staff at District "C" office were kept quite busy during March with the processing of lobster licence applications from the whole of the district and it is expected that all will have been issued by mid-April.

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Due to illness and leave it was necessary during the month to have the Captain and Engineer of the "Lomond" take up temporary duties on board the M.V. "Gander Bay". Also on board was Fishery Officer B. Parsons, who, in addition to regular conservation and protection duties, took on the portfolio of cook. It's understood from the crew that Bud is quite capable in this department but the return of the boat's regular cook brought great sighs of relief - especially from Bud.

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Around the third week of March F. Slade and Fishery Officer E. Collins visited Placentia Bay and spent some time on board a herring seiner in connection with a survey program.

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On Monday, March 6, Fishery Officer E. Collins and the Assistant District Officer attended a meeting at the Bonne Bay Central High School, Woody Point. The occasion was an Education Week Career Night. A number of other resource people from other branches of government were also present.

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The offshore fishery improved considerably in District "B" during March especially for those engaged in the catching and processing of sole. Trawlers landed good catches of various sole species and plants worked full time plus overtime to process the landings. The herring fishery in Fortune Bay picked up a little at the end of the month but catches are only small in comparison to last season. Ice is still hampering inshore net fishermen who operate in small coves along the coast.

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Milder weather the last two weeks of March caused sections of the Burin Peninsula road system to be impassable at times. Road crews worked continuously to try and maintain a free flow of traffic. With the exceptionally hard frost experienced this past winter, it will be a considerable time before all frost leaves the ground and roads are expected to be soft while this is occurring.

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Burgeos fresh-frozen fish process plant re-opened March 20 under provincial government ownership. The union representing the

workers at the plant signed an agreement with that government, which along with the takeover from Lake interests, led to the re-opening. Mr. J. Winsor, Manager of the Gaultois plant, is presently managing the Burgeo operation;presumably until a buyer is found for the plant by the government. Inshore fishermen in the area now have a buyer for their catches once again and early reports indicate landings from this source are good.

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Marystown plant workers and trawlermen returned to work as their strike ended. A compromise was reached between union and management and workers voted in favour of the new contract. It is hoped to begin actual production the first week of April.

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Fishery Officer W. Goodyear of District "B" is owner of a mimeograph machine and on occasion has consented to run off copies of various forms required by district office on short notice. The local name of the machine is "The Alternate Press".

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The enumeration of fishermen, fishing boats and fishing equipment was concluded this month in District "B". Officers utilized telephones, mail service, boats, cars and feet to try and complete their work on this survey. When any fisherman could not be contacted, information was gained from a relative. Imagine the astonishment of one wife during a telephone conversation when confronted with the question, "How much gear does your husband have?"

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Lobster applications were mailed to fishermen in District "B" during the month and many have been returned for the registrations and licences. Officers have been assigned to this task in an endeavour to have all fishermen licensed by the opening of the lobster fishing season.

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District "B" welcomed back Miss A. Bradley, clerk at District Office. We trust she is now totally fit for the work ahead and any further illnesses of any duration will not occur in future.

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District "B" Officer A. Hiscock paid a visit to Regional Office during the month to discuss various matters especially the salmon fishing policy.

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RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT NOTES

Branch activities during the month were centered around finalizing last year's reports and making preparations for the

approaching field season. In this connection, several staff members made short trips into the field.

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The winter works program, halted earlier due to severe weather conditions, has once again resumed. Under the program, a permanent counting trap facility is being installed in the fishway on Northeast River, Placentia.

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The Annual Report for the Branch has been completed and is now ready for the printer.

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Lester Riche spent a week lecturing at several schools in the Corner Brook area during the month.

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During the latter part of February, Terry Peddle, a Resource Development Engineering student, shot a banded Turr in the New Perlican area of Trinity Bay. Terry forwarded the tag to Dr. Leslie Tuck of the Canadian Wildlife Service. Dr. Tuck later informed him that the bird was banded in 1956 in Hudson's Bay by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington. When banded, the Turr was three years old, bringing the age when shot to 19 years. According to Terry, this is a tie with a previous recapture for the oldest Northern banded bird.

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HONOLULU FISH FED FROM PLASTIC "GRASS"

In the Cook Islands in the Pacific Ocean, the local government called in a Hawaii-based oceanographic firm to help encourage the fishing industry. The company came up with an ambitious program called "Total Atoll Production System".

Using new spawning techniques, scientists are now attempting to produce more and bigger mullet to supplement the diet of the islanders.

Plastic blades of "grass" are planted in the fishponds and the mullet feed from sun-induced algae growth on the plastic "grass", in a kind of sea pasture.

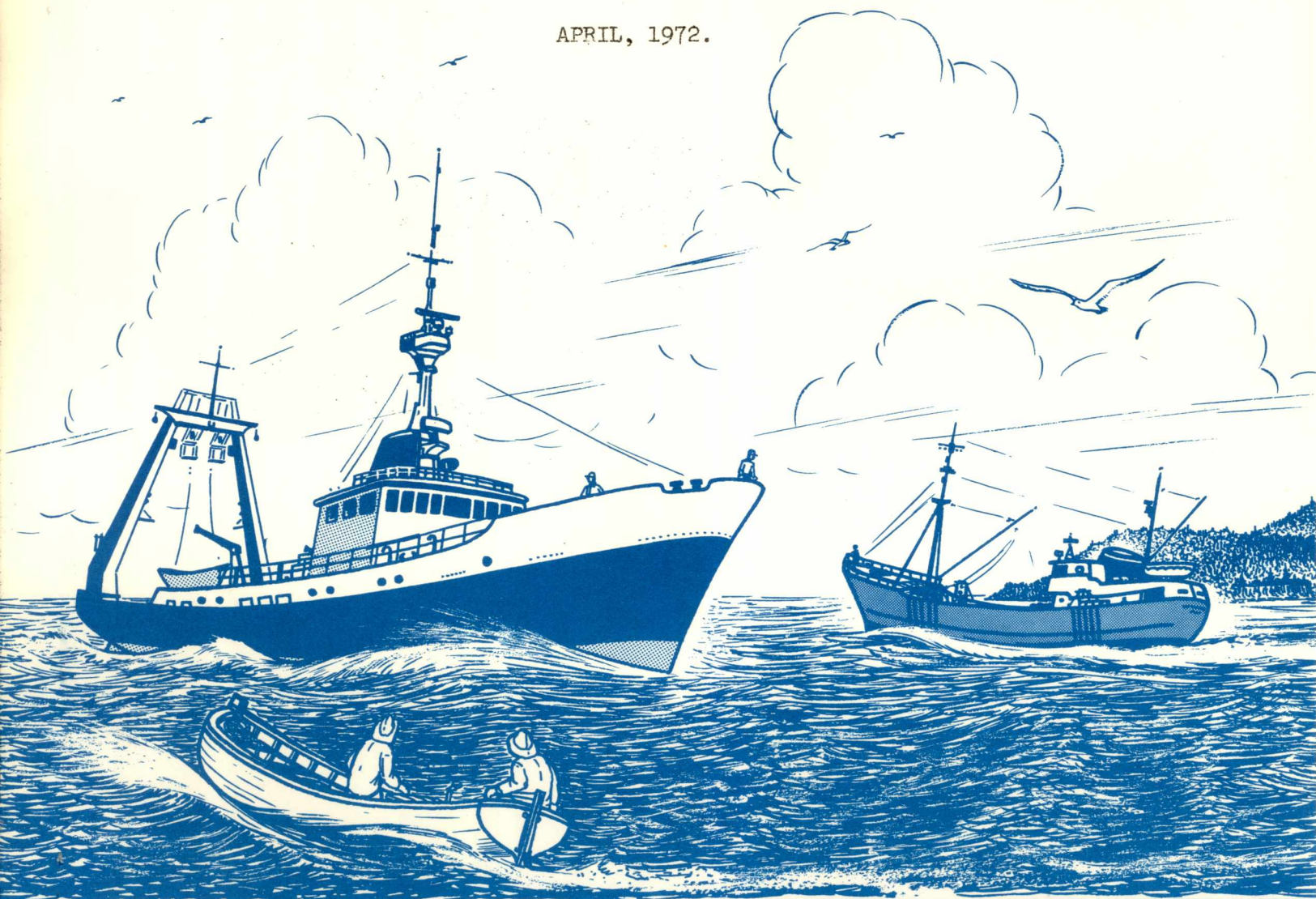
Oysters and other shellfish will be grown on special rafts planted in the lagoons.

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REGIONAL FISHERIES NEWS

L. Sullivan

APRIL, 1972.



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NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

ATLANTIC SALMON FISHERY

The following is the text of a statement on closures in the Atlantic salmon fishery which was delivered in the House of Commons April 24, 1972, by Fisheries Minister Jack Davis.

Mr. Speaker:

I regret to announce the closure of the commercial fishery dependent on salmon runs returning to a number of the famous producing rivers in the Maritime Provinces. This course of action has been forced upon us by a serious decline in the number of salmon returning to the Saint John, Miramichi and Restigouche Rivers.

Because much of the salmon fishery in the Port Aux Basques area of Newfoundland is also dependent on these runs destined for mainland streams, it, too, will be closed beginning in May of this year.

While the situation will be reviewed annually, it is expected that at least one full cycle, namely six years, will elapse before the stocks in these rivers will be rebuilt to the point where large scale commercial operations can commence once more.

The advice of existing River Management Committees on which the fishermen themselves serve will be sought not only in respect to the duration of these closures, but also as to the manner in which the runs can best be rehabilitated.

Compensation will be paid to commercial fishermen whose earnings are affected by these river closures. Payments will be negotiated on an individual basis and the formula which will be employed will be worked out in close consultation with the fishermen themselves.

These closures will not apply to salmon returning to the streams in Newfoundland and Labrador. They do not apply, also, to salmon returning to the rivers in Nova Scotia.

Historically, the total mainland take accounted for approximately one-half of the overall catch of Atlantic salmon by Canadians. This volume has been sharply reduced. It has fallen by more than 80% since 1967. On the Miramichi, where escapements formerly were measured in the tens of thousands of large fish, they are now measured in the hundreds.

There are several reasons why our stock of large mainland salmon has become seriously depleted. They are:

1. Heavy fishing by foreign nations on the High Seas;
2. Heavy fishing by our own commercial fishermen; and
3. Pollution in some of our own main salmon rivers themselves.

We are moving, quickly, to deal with pollution. There has been a

significant improvement in water quality on the Miramichi, for example. But commercial fishing, especially on the High Seas, is another story. In spite of agreements to the contrary, the catch by Denmark alone was four times that of all of our own mainland fishermen last year.

The estimated cost of this programme for the current fiscal year, 1972-73, is in the order to \$2 million. Over 900 commercial fishermen are involved. This announcement is being made now in order to avoid unnecessary expenditures by our fishermen in preparing for the Atlantic salmon fishery in 1972.

Mr. Speaker, I have already made arrangements to meet with fishermen from the affected areas in Chatham, New Brunswick, on Thursday of this week.

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EMPLOYEES RECEIVE 25-YEAR PINS

A 25-year service pin was presented April 6 to Fishery Officer Frederick J. Fleming of District "A".

Mr. Fleming was born at Holyrood August 11, 1917. From 1947-49 he was employed as district game warden with the Department of Natural Resources, transferring to the Department of Fisheries as warden in 1949. He was promoted to Fishery Officer with the Conservation and Protection Branch in 1957. He still retains this position.

Mr. Fleming is married to the former Georgina Campbell of Scotland and they have four sons and three daughters.

Also presented with a 25-year service pin in April was Miss A. M. Shears of Fishing Vessel Insurance Plan.

Miss Shears was born in Gambo and received her education at Model School, Prince of Wales College and Bishop's College in St. John's. She joined the provincial public service in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs on April 1, 1947. On October 1 of that same year she joined the Newfoundland Fisheries Board and transferred to the Department of Fisheries of Canada on April 1, 1949.

Miss Shears was employed in the Stenographic Pool at the time of Union and was later appointed to the Administration Branch, transferring to the Fishermen's Indemnity Plan (now Fishing Vessel Insurance Plan) when it was inaugurated in December of 1953.

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AROUND THE REGION

The lobster season along the south coast opened on April 20 and most of the fishermen were ready to place traps in the water on that date. Licenses and registrations were issued from District "B" office

and approximately three-quarters of the fishermen were licensed at the start of the lobster season. Early reports indicate fair to good catches in the Pool's Cove-Belleoram area while first hauls in other sections of Fortune Bay were disappointing. Exports of lobsters to the French islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon are again evident this year and fishermen are obtaining a price of .95¢ to \$1.00 a pound. A lobster pool is being operated at English Harbour West as in past years.

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Officers completed a coverage of District "B" during the month issuing salmon licenses to those considered eligible. Because of the changes in the salmon licensing policy this year, much time was spent explaining to fishermen the whole situation and listening to individual cases. A large number of last year's license holders have been eliminated from the fishery and to date there have been no great number of appeals registered for consideration by the appeal committee. A few individuals have made their views known by vociferous action or written word which was not really unexpected.

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Warden W. J. Sheppard was taken on strength April 6 and two others in Bay D'Espoir will begin seasonal employment May 1.

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B. J. Lawrence spent a few days in District "B" discussing various aspects of fishermen's insurance with J. E. Cheeseman, district representative. Visits were also made to settlements on the Burin Peninsula.

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The patrol vessel "Aurelia" began seasonal operations the first part of April with her same crew as last season. She will again concentrate her activities between Grey River and Petites.

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Mrs. M. Wells was appointed seasonal clerk at Grand Bank District Office for a three-month period. This additional help is necessary to compensate for the extra duties undertaken at the office and her service is welcomed.

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Patrols were maintained among herring seiners, lobster fishermen and offshore trawlers (foreign and local) during the month. Twenty-four hour patrols were necessary in the Brunette area when French vessels began fishing operations there. Local longliners also fished the same grounds.

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Conservation and Protection Officers in District "C" were kept reasonably busy during the first three weeks of the month issuing lobster fishing licenses. Generally speaking, the lobster fishery got off to a poor start in the district because of ice conditions. On April 23 a number of fishermen in the Heatherton area found it necessary

to remove pots from the water when onshore winds and moving ice threatened trap safety. The starting price to fishermen for lobster was .80¢ per pound.
.....

Along the northwest coast some seals were taken around mid-month when ice conditions permitted boats to reach open water. However, total landings have not been too encouraging.
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On April 5, District "C" Conservation and Protection Officers gathered at district office in Corner Brook for their annual pre-season get together. Plans for the coming season were discussed and a number of local problems straightened out.
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Mrs. Ruth Rossiter was taken on strength as CR2 in District Office at Corner Brook April 4.
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In mid-April the M.V. "Belle Bay" visited Port aux Basques where both water and product sampling was carried out at all plants in the area. Joining the "Belle Bay" at Port aux Basques were S. G. Officer Bob Mills and technician Wayne Saint.
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On March 31 the C.G.S. "Cape Freels" arrived in port at Corner Brook accompanied by the Faroese longliner "Bordoyarnes". This vessel had been apprehended while fishing inside the limit and subsequently placed under arrest. She was later released under bond and trial date set for some time in May.
.....

During the first week of April S. G. Officer Frank Slade and Fishery Officer Ernest Collins spent some time in the Arnold's Cove, Placentia Bay, area in connection with a survey being carried out to determine the quality difference between brailled and pumped herring. They had earlier spent some time aboard the purse seiner "Silver Dolphin".
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On March 31 a bouncing baby girl weighing 7 lbs. 4 1/2 ozs. was born to Fisheries Warden and Mrs. Leinus Fitzpatrick. Congratulations are extended.
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Visitors to District "C" office during the month included Capt. Wilf Barbour, George Fiander, V. R. Taylor and Bob Mills.
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All fresh and frozen establishments and canneries in the Grand Falls area were operating at full capacity early in April processing seal meat. The sudden burst of activity was caused by the arrival from the Front of Nev "Bearded" Dalley and his partner

Jim "Polka Dot Bearded" Steele, who brought with them several thousand flippers and carcasses. All their co-workers in District "D" wish Nev and Jim a speedy return to the Front.

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Conservation and Protection Supervisor Tom Curran entered hospital during the month both at Grand Falls and St. John's, having surgery at St. John's General. All his seal eating friends in District "D" wish Uncle Tom a speedy recovery. Many of his friends are awaiting Tom's return to talk about a relatively new topic - Salmon Net Licenses.

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Several weeks ago Ray Andrews and the Inspection Engineer Doug Newbury visited the Northern Peninsula. The trip had variety to say the least; stuck in snow drifts, snow, sleet and rain, roads so slippery Highroads equipment couldn't operate and on return so much water on the road cars had to be towed through water by grader. The inconvenience of no water and sewage at motel was minor and in fact a challenge to Doug. He was busily engaged designing a system that could withstand our coldest winter. At Port au Choix, Frank Slade from District "C" advised that the only building with sewage facilities was the Legion Club. Andrews quickly suggested that alcohol was a good antifreeze both in car radiators and sewage pipes.

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Have any flippers in February. St. John's received 1500 flippers from Nova Scotia early in February. The flippers from the grey seals were garnished with mercury - below the tolerance, of course.

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Price of coffee at Grand Falls office is to be increased. Reasons: recent increase in travel allowance and frequent visits of two Corner Brook herring fishermen operating out of Arnold's Cove.

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INSPECTION BRANCH NOTES

During the month Bob Mills and Wayne Saint sampled plants in the Port aux Basques area and discussed future cannery operations, continued routing bacteriological sampling as far east as Ramea and returned to headquarters April 21.

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Clarence Barnes accompanied personnel from Environmental Protection Service to fish plants on the Burin Peninsula to assist EPS personnel in sampling plant effluents.

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Bacteriologists Dave White and Ray MacDougall attended a meeting April 17-21 of Inspection Branch bacteriologists in Ottawa.

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Branch Chief J. P. Hennessey visited Ottawa April 12-14 for meetings with Inspection Chiefs of other regions.

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In late April Bob Mills visited the New Pack Atlantic Cannery at Stephenville testing retort operation and performing heat penetration studies.

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April 24-25 J. P. Hennessey attended meetings with the Director of Inspection Branch in Ottawa and with industry personnel from the Maritimes in connection with plant standards for pickled fish premises.

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On April 24 Frank Brocklehurst joined the M.V. "Belle Bay" at Fortune and accompanied Bill Thornhill on visits to plants at Harbour Breton, Gaultois, Ramea and Burgeo.

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Sympathy is extended to Clarence Barnes whose father passed away April 11 and Mrs. Theresa Morris whose father died April 23.

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LOBSTER POPULATIONS AND CATCHING METHODS - 1794.

Fishery Officer Edward Pardy of District "B" requested that we include in this edition of Regional Fisheries News part of an article carried in a recently published book which was written as a Newfoundland Journal by one Aaron Thomas during a journey from England and Spain to Newfoundland and return. The book was entitled "The Newfoundland Journal of Aaron Thomas, 1794" and was edited by Jean M. Murray of St. John's. According to Mr. Pardy this manuscript apparently has been in possession of the Murray family since 1882. It was only published in 1968. The manuscript reads in part:

"I was now in Portugal Cove, Conception Bay, on the Northern Shores of Newfoundland. The portuguese Adventurer who discover'd this Country first made the Land which forms the angles of this Bay. He enter'd the Bay, which he named Conception, as conception is the Mother of all things. He coasted round this spacious Bay and landed on this spot, which he named Portugal Cove in compliment to the Country which foster'd him in his discoverys. There are several small Islands in this Bay only one of which inhabited. This is call'd Bell Isle, and is reckon'd to be the fertilest spot to be met with on the Northern Coast.

Lobsters are in such plenty at this place that they are used for Bait to catch the Codd Fish with. About Sunset I went out in a small Boat to inform myself of the fact. The result was far beyond my expectation. I was not in the Boat more than Half an Hour, during which time one man hooked fifty-nine Lobsters.

There is some Art in Lobster catching. The man stands erect in the Bows of the Boat, with a slender Pole fourteen or fifteen feet long in his hand, at the end of it is an Iron Hook. He keeps his eye steadfastly on the water. The instant he gets the sight of a Lobster he darts the pole at it and with surprizing dexterity hooks it under the Tail. As soon as the Fish is tickled he bends his Tail, fatally for himself! which presseth as a Ring around the Hook, and it is the only assistance wanting to haul him into the Boat. Mornings and evenings is the time for catching Lobsters, when there is no Swell or Sea, they then come out of their holes to feed. The Boats which go after them move slowly on the water's surface. They very seldom miss one they aim at."

Mr. Pardy says the punctuation, spelling and capitalization appear as written by Mr. Thomas in 1794 and this is the way it is published. He says it represents a firsthand eye-witness account of the way people lived and worked in Newfoundland during 1794-95. The boat on which Mr. Thomas sailed and worked was His Majesty's Frigate the "Boston". It was skippered in those days by a man well known to Newfoundland -- Patrick Morris.

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REGIONAL FISHERIES

NEWS

MAY, 1972.

L. Sullivan



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NEWFOUNDLAND REGION

HERRING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE APPOINTED

Appointment of an Atlantic Herring Management Committee to advise on Canada's east coast herring fishery was announced May 26 by Fisheries Minister Jack Davis.

The chairman of the committee is J. E. Creeper, Acting Maritimes Regional Director, Fisheries Service, Halifax, and members include Newfoundland's Regional Director of Fisheries H. R. Bradley.

Among commercial fishermen represented on the committee are Captain John R. Hackett of Halfway Point, Bay of Islands, Newfoundland, and Eric Bolt of Arnold's Cove, Placentia Bay. One of the committee members representing buyers and processors of herring and herring products is Ray Dunphy of Curling, Bay of Islands, and among committee advisors nominated by provincial authorities is Rupert Prince of the Newfoundland Fisheries Development Authority.

Included in those who will assist the committee as technical associates from the Fisheries Service are George Winters and Marvin Barnes of St. John's.

The Atlantic Herring Management Committee will recommend on both national and international management policies for the Canadian Atlantic herring fisheries, including such matters as seasons, quotas, closed areas, harvesting methods and distribution of catch among various types of fishing gear. It will also recommend projects concerned with exploratory fishing, herring vessel and gear development, research relating to management of stocks and quality control of products, marketing studies and product development programs.

Declines in northwest Atlantic herring catches in the past two or three years have necessitated both national and international conservation measures. The size of the Canadian herring fleet has been frozen for the last two years and a system of national quotas has been adopted this year for Canada and the fourteen other member nations of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries.

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SPORTS SALMON FISHERY OFF TO SLOW START

The 1972 sports salmon fishery on Newfoundland's scheduled rivers got off to an unusually slow start.

According to reports received by the Department, only about 61 salmon were caught by anglers in the first week of the season which

opened May 22, and all of these fish were taken from rivers on the west coast of the province.

Thirty-five fish were taken from Southwest and Bottom Brooks, 3 salmon from Fishels River and 23 from Middle Barachois. Average size of the fish was between six and seven pounds.

* * * * *

COMPENSATION ANNOUNCED FOR SALMON FISHERMEN

A compensation program that would pay Newfoundland commercial driftnet salmon fishermen almost \$1.4 million over the five-year life of a ban on catching salmon by driftnets was announced in late May.

Under the program, which benefits driftnet fishermen in offshore fishing grounds near Port aux Basques, approximately 159 fishermen will receive about \$267,960 annually for not fishing under the ban.

The compensation fund has been divided into some 220 equal shares, each worth \$1,218 annually for the five-year period. Vessel captains will get two shares, or \$2,436 annually, while crew men will get a single share per annum. There are 61 captains and 98 crew men involved. The compensation was based on the average salmon catch for the three-year period 1967-69.

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AROUND THE REGION

The fishery in District "A" has fallen well behind that of last year in terms of quantitative returns. Small catches of cod were taken by trap in Bauline and Port de Grave early in the month and catches had improved considerably by the end of the month. Gillnets are yielding fair to poor returns, however, recently Arctic ice moved in and thus reduced offshore activity. The lobster fishery in Placentia Bay is reported fair and showing improvement. Elsewhere the catch is down considerably. Fishermen are receiving from .80¢ to \$1.20 a pound for lobsters.

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The commercial salmon fishery in District "A" is almost a complete failure to date. Most nets have been set but the numbers of fish taken are only a fraction of the 1971 catch for the same period.

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Trout fishing picked up considerably over the past two weeks in District "A" with good catches being taken in the Colinet area and from ponds along the Trans Canada Highway. Several complaints have been received regarding molestation of rainbow trout and catching of smolt in river estuaries and this is keeping protection staff extremely busy.

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The new fishery cabin at Trepassey is under construction and will be completed shortly.

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The staff of District "A" wish to acknowledge the retirement of Fishery Officer Bill Gordon who will be 65 on June 1. While his humor and capable hands will be missed at district office, we are happy to report that his excellent health indicates he will have many useful years ahead of him. All our best wishes go with you Bill.

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Our correspondent in District "B" reports that the weather was the most important topic for discussion during May in that area of the province as temperatures remained low thus keeping everybody wondering if we would have summer at all this year. One resident of the district claimed that last year summer occurred on a statutory holiday and this year we may have it on his "half-day off." A snow storm hit the south coast on May 10 and 11 and this caught many by surprise especially those drivers who had their snow tires removed. However, the snow didn't last long as fine weather and seasonable temperatures followed for the next couple of days.

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Lobster fishermen in Fortune Bay are meeting with fair success and demand for the shellfish appears to be brisk. The near zero temperatures early in May interfered with the hauling of traps especially in the early mornings. One fisherman claimed that when he hauled one trap on a rather cool morning the lobster in it was beating his two big claws together to try and keep warm.

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A fisherman from Fortune had a narrow escape recently when his dory was hit by a larger vessel causing it to sink below the gunwales. A Bonavista Cold Storage trawler sighted him and the captain figured it must be St. Peter because the fisherman appeared to be walking on the water. However, on closer scrutiny it was observed that the fisherman was standing on top of the engine house and the remainder of the dory was completely under water. He had been standing there for about three hours. An investigation is being carried out concerning the actual collision.

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Music has been used on occasion in dairies to content the cows thus giving more milk and also in henneries to inspire hens to lay more eggs or at least to lay regularly. Now, management at Gaultois fresh frozen fish plant are piping music to the production areas of their plant to make the workers feel more contented in the hope that their working capacity will improve. On casual observation it is felt that the music has no direct effect on fish quality - the effect on the workers will be determined later.

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The patrol vessel "Aurelia" recently towed a longliner to port at Burgeo. The fishing boat had developed engine trouble and assistance was requested to get her to safe harbour for repairs.

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A fine of \$200 was imposed on the captain of a Nova Scotia trawler by the Magistrate at Grand Bank after he was found guilty of using undersized mesh in a cod end while fishing for regulated species. The cod end was also confiscated. Conservation and Protection Supervisor Rod Morris conducted the prosecution.

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The cod fishery in the Port aux Basques--Rose Blanche area remained fairly good during the month and some excellent catches of herring were taken by seiners in Bay St. George. In the Port au Choix area shrimp boats went into operation when ice conditions permitted and the Fishery Products Limited plant started production early in the month.

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With the announced ban on the salmon driftnet fishery in the Port aux Basques area there was some doubt for a while as to whether fishermen would remain ashore. However, Mr. J. W. Carroll, Conservation and Protection Director at Ottawa, Mr. W. Hollett, Regional Office, and District Officer George Rendell attended meetings at Burnt Islands with local fishermen and a financial settlement was agreed upon.

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With a shortage of lobster fishing bait in the Bay of Islands area and along the Northern Peninsula the C.G.S. "Arctica" was kept quite active as were telephones at District "C" office. While fewer lobster pots have been set to date than were placed in the water last year to this time, returns have been better with regard to poundage. The price for lobster also is up from last year and at present is averaging about \$1.10 per pound.

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Only thirteen salmon were reported taken by sports fishermen at Bottom Brook and Southwest Brook on the opening date of the sports salmon fishing season. Landings by commercial fishermen were also down but there was a noted improvement in some areas as the month drew to a close.

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In the Port aux Basques area the M.V. "Gander Bay" maintained coastal patrols while the M.V. "Lomond" operated in the Bay of Islands area when weather conditions permitted. During the latter part of the month the "Lomond" was docked at Corner Brook to undergo minor repairs.

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Around mid month a large sperm whale floated ashore about 150 feet from the Bank of Montreal building at Port aux Basques. This

same whale went aground at Port aux Basques about two weeks previous and after being towed 9 miles to sea by a local longliner again returned to the area for a repeat performance.

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To date approximately 20 violations have been registered in District "C" under the Lobster Fishery Regulations with four cases having been heard and the remainder pending. One violator drew a fine of \$75 while judgement in the other three cases is to be handed down shortly.

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Fishery Officer Gordon Gushue suffered a painful accident May 22. While using a power saw, Gordon mistook his own leg for a stump and this mistake cost him five stitches in his knee.

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Around the third week of the month District Officer George Rendell received a telephone call concerning lobster poaching and the caller advised he was calling "unanimously." Also, a request was received for a commercial salmon fishing licence. The request was written on toilet tissue. It hasn't been decided as yet if this was intended as some sort of message.

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BOWLING AWARDS PRESENTED

The Federal Fisheries Bowling League held its annual spring dance and presentation of trophies May 4 at the Royal Canadian Legion Club in Mount Pearl.

Trophies were presented to the winning teams and to the top individual award winners by Regional Director and Mrs. H. R. Bradley. Music for the dance was supplied by the Drifters Orchestra.

The championship team trophies were presented to Frank and Alice Brocklehurst, Bob and Mary Lou Mills and Ruth Downey. The top team in the league finished up the regular schedule with 47 points. Second place team trophies went to Bud Butler, Audrey Burry, and Lew and Flora Samson.

Other trophy winners were as follows: Len Whitten, men's high average; Elizabeth Peet, ladies' high average; Bud Butler and Gary Scott, men's high triple; Flora Samson, ladies' high triple; Len Whitten, men's high single; Elsie Bauld, ladies' high single; Frank Brocklehurst and Mary Lou Mills, most improved bowlers.

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INSPECTION BRANCH NOTES

The floating laboratory M.V. "Belle Bay" returned to St. John's May 30 following completion of a four and one-half month

assignment visiting processing plants between Harbour Breton and Port aux Basques. Laboratory personnel from St. John's and Grand Bank who staffed the vessel for six surveys wish to express their appreciation for assistance given by district office staff and inspection officers in Districts "B" and "C".

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Murray Chaplin and Doug Downey were assigned to the "Belle Bay" May 15-26.

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Wayne Saint was transferred from the St. John's laboratory to a permanent position in the Catalina laboratory on May 1, while Basil LeDrew was taken on strength May 15 as a summer student at the same laboratory.

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John Tarrant and Gerald Brown joined the permanent staff of headquarters laboratory May 8.

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Scientific Regulation Officers from the four districts met with the Chief of Inspection, lab personnel, and the Inspection Engineer May 9-10 for discussions related to changes of emphasis in the field and lab programs.

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Ten salt fish quality advisors whose jobs will be to assist the Canadian Saltfish Corporation and fishermen in upgrading the quality of salt fish attended a familiarization course at Regional Headquarters May 24-29.

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Inspection Branch Engineer Doug Newbury visited plants in the Catalina area, Branch, St. Bride's and Placentia during the month and completed arrangements for hiring summer students to assist in Fishing Vessel Inspection surveys.

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Dr. C. M. Blackwood, Director, Inspection Branch, Ottawa, visited the region May 25-26.

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PERSONNEL BRANCH NOTES

Vincent J. Butt joined the staff May 15 as a Conservation and Protection Officer. Mr. Butt will be undergoing training throughout the region prior to permanent posting at Churchill Falls.

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R. G. Simmons took up a new posting May 8 as Conservation and Protection Officer at Goose Bay where he will work with W.J.N. Duggan.

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Cal Whelan of Resource Development Branch returned from educational leave May 15 and we understand he has successfully obtained his Masters degree. Congratulations.

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On May 19 Charles Hodder returned to his position on the "Cape Freels" after an extended absence due to illness.

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Mrs. Patricia Lundrigan transferred to the Department of Transport May 8.

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R. K. Janes, Cook on the M.V. "Belle Bay", resigned and was struck off strength May 13.

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Gordon Slade returned to St. John's May 20 to spend the weekend holiday with his family and to carry out a few assignments at Regional Office. He returned to Ottawa May 28. It is expected that Gordon will return to the region around the end of June - we'll keep our fingers crossed.

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On May 20, F. N. Clarke, Manager of the Bait Service, returned to St. John's after an extended holiday in Europe which incorporated a sea voyage to the continent on the S.S. "Alexandr Pushkin". We understand he and Mrs. Clarke thoroughly enjoyed the period away from our winter weather which was climaxed by a snow storm on May 10 necessitating fifteen minutes early closing to permit staff to get home ahead of the peak traffic - especially staff whose cars were equipped with summer tires.

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We were all sorry to hear of the illness of Johnny Mulcahy who was flown from the sealing front to the hospital at Twillingate from where he was transferred to St. Clare's Mercy Hospital in St. John's May 1. We understand he is still hospitalized following surgery but we wish him a speedy recovery.

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The Civic Holiday in the Newfoundland Region will be observed on Monday, July 10. Notification has been sent to all staff.

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An Appeal hearing convened May 18 against a promotion in the Inspection Branch. As the month closed notification was received from the Appeals Branch that the Appeal was dismissed.

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VISITS EUROPE WITH NAVAL RESERVE

A recent edition of the St. John's Daily News carried a photograph of Private Brendan Paul, a member of the Naval Reserve of

H.M.C.S. Cabot, and son of B. A. Paul, Conservation and Protection Supervisor with District "A".

The photograph showed Brendan pausing on a street in Lisbon, Portugal, to talk to a local housewife. Private Paul was a crewmember on board the Maritime Command's operational support ship "Preserver" which was taking part in NATO fleet exercises in the eastern Atlantic. The "Preserver" was away from her home port in Halifax in company with other Canadian and NATO warships for more than a month during which time they also visited England.

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