

SHIPS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Trawlers are expected to hike fishing income



THIS STEEL TRAWLER BUILT AT BATHURST, N.B., IS A SMALLER VERSION OF THE P.E.I. SHIPS

Additional late this year of two steel stern trawlers to the Island's dragger fleet is expected to increase considerably the fish harvest of the province.

Fisheries Minister Leo Rossiter announced that the first trawler, now under construction at Bathurst, N.B., is expected to be launched Aug. 31 and the second will be launched in October.

"We expect that the first trawler will be ready for fishing by mid-October," he said, "and the second will join the fleet in late November."

The trawlers are being built for the Fishermen's Loan Board at a cost of \$250,000 each. The federal government pays 50 per cent of the cost of construction.

"Actually," said Mr. Rossiter, "when we consider the federal grant, we are getting two trawlers for the price of one."

Mr. Rossiter said the new-type vessels have a number of advantages over the type used here now. "In a good year," he said, "the trawlers can harvest between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 pounds of sea products, compared to 1,000,000 to 1,250,000 pounds for a wooden dragger.

"Upkeep of the new trawlers costs less and their life expectancy is about 10 years greater than our present draggers. The steel trawlers can range farther to sea and can fish later in the year than wooden ships."

Mr. Rossiter added that the trawlers will be able to catch red fish, or ocean perch, which are not taken now to any great extent by the present fleet. There is a good market for red fish," he said.

Dealing with other aspects of his department, Mr. Rossiter said he was carrying out extensive studies of possible fisheries processing expansion. As a result of the studies, a brief will be prepared for submission to the federal government, seeking financial assistance.

Mr. Rossiter said his department is working with provincial research director Hartwell Daley in compiling information and updating a 1957 study made of provincial fisheries.

EXPANSION PROGRAM

"We expect to have the studies completed next month and I will call on the federal government to embark on an extensive promotion and expansion program for the whole fishing industry," the minister said.

He added that "if our economy is to accelerate, our resources must be promoted. The fisheries industry is a natural resource right on our own doorstep."

Another possibility being investigated by the department of fisheries is the catching of the swordfish and sharks in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. "I have heard that about 10 ships, not ours, are doing this kind of fishing now off our province and I understand market prices are very good.

"If this type of fishing is found to be economically feasible, I hope some of our fishermen will take advantage of it."

Mr. Rossiter said his department's policy of providing bait



MR. ROSSITER

holding stations has not been taken advantage of by fishermen and "for that reason we plan to switch to giving assistance in the setting up of ice-making machines so that fishermen will have plenty of ice to keep their catches fresh."

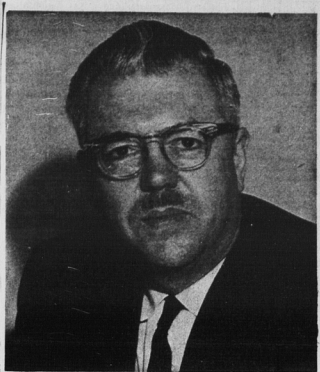
The department is also investigating the possibility of securing drying machines for fish mops. "Tests are now being made on dryers," Mr. Rossiter said, "and we hope to have the results soon."

Promotion of greater use of all nets will be carried out by the department. "Gill netting," the minister said, "worked very well in the past year and we are looking to this new fishing method to create greater production."

Mr. Rossiter feels that this year will be known as the year the province took great strides toward having its fisheries become "more scientific."

"Fishing prospects in the Maritimes were never better," he said, "and demand for fish and fish products are growing. I think that in the next few months this province will move into the forefront of new and exciting developments."

The value of sea products landed by Island fishermen last year was \$4,691,029. Weight of sea products landed was 54,973,374 pounds.



FISHERIES MINISTER ROBICHAUD
MINISTER PREDICTS
NEW FISHERIES ERA

"Canada's fisheries stand on the threshold of a new era. I am convinced that the long term future of the industry is promising and that the fisheries can and must be made to make their full contribution to the prosperity of an expanding Canada."

This is the view of the Hon. H. J. Robichaud, member of parliament for Gloucester, New Brunswick, and newly appointed minister of fisheries in the Liberal Government.

The Minister sees much to do in the days ahead particularly in the field of international fisheries. He expressed the conviction that "any action taken will be to ensure that the industry, the fishermen themselves, and following generations of Canadians enjoy the best possible benefits from the resource."

Born in November, 1911 at Shippegan, in the constituency which he has represented in the House of Commons since 1953, Mr. Robichaud is of French Acadian stock. He received his education at Ste. Famille Academy, Sacred Heart University, Bathurst, N.B., and St. Joseph's University, St. Joseph's, N.B., where he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He was married in 1937 to the former Gertrude Ledger of Lower Carleton, N.B., and they have nine children. Their home is in Carleton, N.B.

P. E. I. FISHING CAPITAL

20 draggers keep Souris busy port

The seat of government for Prince Edward Island is the city of Charlottetown and the county seat of King's County is located in Georgetown, but, the fishing capital of Prince Edward Island is located in Souris. Resting on the shores of Colville Bay, surrounded by a farming community, Souris has a population of about fifteen hundred persons, maintained mainly, either directly or indirectly by the fishing industry.

The inshore fishing fleet centered in Souris is not as large as in years past, but, due to improved methods of fishing, the pounds landed are as large or larger. A great number of inshore fishermen from this town are still active in this business, but, fish out of other ports in the Eastern King's area. All of these fishermen take active part in all aspects of inshore fishing, such as lobster, cod, hake, herring, smelts, eels, and mackerel.

STARTS IN MAY

The season for these fishermen starts around the first of May each season, with the lobster fishing industry. This port for most fishermen as they go all out to make the majority of their income during the two months of the limited season. Because of the high expense involved in outfitting for the lobster catches, the size of the catch, and the price for this shellfish, in many cases, decide whether or not the individual fishermen will end the season with a profit or loss.

After the lobster season ends

the fishermen must take their boats ashore for a complete overhaul. Then they start in on the cod and hake. This aspect of the fishing trade lasts until late fall, with the length of the season depending mainly on weather conditions. A good fall, with little wind could see the season last until late in November. Some seasons, however, have seen fishermen being forced to tie up early in September. Early in the fall, some of the fishermen stop going after the cod and hake and prepare to try for mackerel. Going after this particular fish is a big gamble.

First of all, the fish comes in what is usually termed a "run", and nobody knows for certain just when these runs will occur. Another problem is that the runs vary in size, and could be here today and gone tomorrow. Weather conditions are a major menace. Over the years, many large "runs" are reported to have been missed because the conditions prevented it or fishermen from getting out while the "runs" were on.

GOOD RECORD

Despite these adversities, the inshore fishing fleet in Souris has maintained, over the years, as good a record as any other center on the Island. The main income from the fishing industry, however, comes from the "dragger fleet" fishing out of this town. The home bases of a few of the draggers is in Murray Harbour and Rustico, but these draggers also fish out of Souris. During the season, there are 20

Continued on Page Eight A

ALL ROADS ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

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SOURIS ON JULY 5th & 6th

FOR THE

FISHERIES EXHIBITION AND REGATTA



FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

- FISHERIES DISPLAYS • COMMERCIAL AND FISHING SUPPLIES DISPLAYS
- TOURS OF 3 FISH PLANTS • BOAT RACES • WATER SKIING
- QUEEN OF SEA CONTEST • CORONATION DANCE, ON FRIDAY
- REGATTA DANCE ON SATURDAY • TUG OF WAR • WATER SPORTS

RIDES and AMUSEMENTS

- LIGHT LUNCHES ON FRIDAY • LOBSTER SUPPER ON SATURDAY

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This Advertisement Inserted on Behalf of the Souris Fisheries Exhibition and Regatta by:—

EASTERN FISHERIES LTD.

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ALL OF SOURIS, P. E. I.

Loan board ready to help fishermen

The Fishermen's Loan Board of Prince Edward Island is making continued efforts in the development and expansion of its land fisheries.

At present there are 19 draggers, operating out of Souris which land approximately 12 million pounds annually with a landed value of \$400,000.

The leading dragger at Souris last year made 24 trips and brought in a total of 1,087,595 pounds for a value of \$37,683.41.

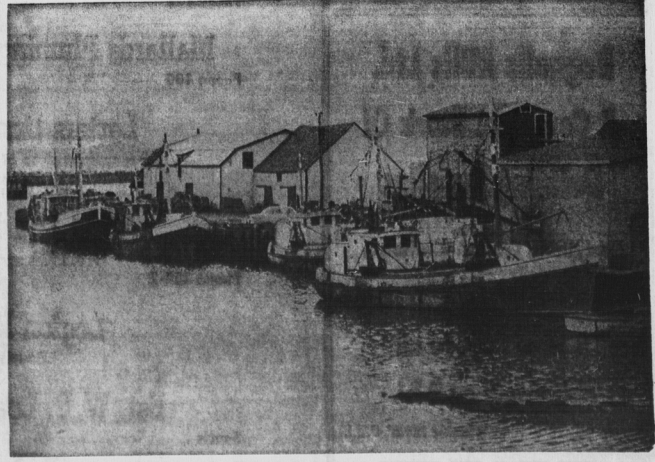
A major development of the present Board has been the decision to construct two steel stern trawlers which would be 82 feet overall length, breadth 22 feet and a carrying capacity fish hold of 6,000 cubic feet. These vessels are under construction at Bathurst Marine Limited, Bathurst, New Brunswick, and are expected to be in operation in late summer or early fall. These boats will be fishing out of Souris during open season and move to southern Nova Scotia during the winter months.

During the 1962 period 70 loans were approved for an amount of approximately \$44,000. The qualification of an applicant to receive a loan is to be a Canadian citizen and a resident of the Province on the past five years. The Fishermen's Loan Board loans 50 per cent on inshore boats which do not qualify for federal subsidy with interest at 4 per cent.

Under development and promotion there is possibility of seal fishing for herring in the Strait. Commercial trout farming and sea fishing. During the winter months there were different short courses held, throughout the province, for the hanging and mending of nets.

Some 11 meetings of the board were held during 1962.

The Board members are as follows: A. Wall in a Gaudet, chairman, John O'Connor, secretary, James Burden, Paul Gallant, Harvey Huff, Alice Stewart, John McNeill, and Ulic Poirier.



ECONOMY OF SOURIS DEPENDS ON DRAGGERS KEEPING FISH PLANTS BUSY