

Dragger fleet tied closely with the economy of Souris

Fishing and mainly dragger use Souris as their home port, fishing is about the largest, or, and land all their fish there, the at least, the second largest industry for the Eastern King's area, and specifically the town of Souris. While the draggers

the. New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Holland, Ireland, still is mainly composed of men from this area. The local men spend all their money in this area, while the other manage to spend a goodly share of their earnings also. Thus, about 80 per cent of wages earned by dragger fishermen is kept in the area. Nor does money from the draggers end there. Equipment purchased by the fleet is bought from local companies, who have local people employed. All food

supplies (and each dragger need about \$100 worth each week) is purchased from local stores, again employing local people. Fuel and ice, and other necessities are purchased locally, with local employees again benefiting. The fish purchased from the dragger fleet is bought by local companies, and the people employed by the companies come from various sections of Eastern King's County.



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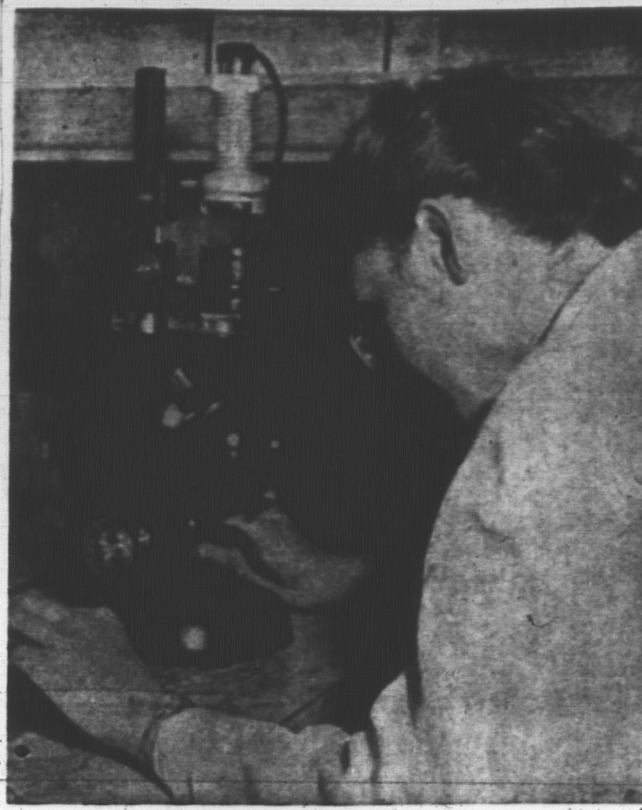
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Canadian chart assists fishermen

In order to assist Canada's east coast fishermen to substantially increase their catches a new type Canadian chart—a fisheries chart—has recently been issued by the Canadian Hydrographic Service.

The new chart, number 4041, covers the Atlantic Coast banks of Banquereau and Misaine, which lie off Nova Scotia between Scataria and Sable Islands. It is essentially an accurately detailed picture of the shape and depth of the sea bottom enabling fishermen to select the most favorable areas and banks for fishing. The chart is drawn on a scale of 1:300,000, or about four miles to the inch, and is thus four times the scale of previous Canadian charts covering the area.

The idea for the new chart grew out of an investigation by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, which revealed the inadequacy of existing charts to meet the requirements of fishermen.

The appearance on the market during the past 10 years, of larger and better equipped boats using other trawls, has drawn more and more Canadian fishermen away from the traditional inshore fishing areas to the more productive off-shore banks. The efficient operation of such boats is dependent upon a detailed knowledge of depths and the bottom.

To provide the fishermen with this knowledge, the Canadian Hydrographic Society, a division of the Marine Sciences Branch of the federal Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, made a survey of the continental shelf off Nova Scotia.

It took hundreds of thousands of soundings which it accurately positioned by modern elec-

tronic means, and combined this data with details of the nature of the sea floor.

The new chart enables fishermen to pick out likely areas to fish, and through the use of small contour intervals to avoid those areas where the bottom is uneven. It illustrates depths primarily by contour lines. The contour lines are shown as a solid blue line spaced at 10 fathom intervals to a depth of 100 fathoms; at 20 fathom intervals to 200 fathoms; and thereafter at every 100 fathoms to a depth of 1,000 fathoms. General depths are indicated in three shades of blue.

Depths of less than 10 fathoms are shown as dark blue; the extensive fishing banks, of between 10 and 50 fathoms, by a medium blue, and the areas over 50 but less than 100 fathoms by light blue.

The new chart is available in two versions: L 106-4041, which shows the decra lattice for the Cabot Strait chain, and 4041-L, which shows the three 10 or 15 rates covering the area. They may be obtained from chart dealers or from the Marine Distribution Office, Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, Ottawa.

Scientific research increasing

The trend towards increased application of scientific research to public needs, in fisheries as in other fields, was noted by Fisheries Minister H.J. Robichaud at the annual meeting

of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. Mr. Robichaud, referring to last January's Federal-Provincial Conference on Fisheries Development, said that an important outcome of that meeting was the establishment of closer working relations between the Board and other components of the Ministry of Fisheries as well as with the fishing industry and the provinces. He emphasized the broad responsibility of the Board to carry out fisheries research wherever necessary. The Minister expressed pleasure at the fact that the Board was re-examining operational procedures and relationships with the universities. This was necessary, he said, in order to keep the Board in a strong position for our fast changing and increasingly complex environment, and was especially true just now when the structure of federal government science in Canada is under general re-orientation.

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