

# Indications Show Atlantic Ocean Warming Up Off New England

GLOUCESTER, MASS.—Data gathered by the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries indicate that the Atlantic Ocean, in the area of the New England fishing banks, may be warming up.

A downward trend in sea water temperatures in this region started in 1953; analysis of conditions in 1968 showed mark-

ed increases over the 1967 temperatures—as much as one degree centigrade for the annual average of inshore surface temperatures.

The BCF studies indicate further that the temperature trends are more than just a surface phenomenon—they relate to the movement of warm slope water onto the Continental Shelf.