

for the distribution of the sum of \$150,000 annually among fishermen and fishing vessels entitled to the same. By 54-55 Vic. (1891), chap. 42, this amount was increased to \$160,000. The number of claims paid during the year 1891 was 18,506, and the amount paid \$156,892. The bounty was paid on the basis of \$1.50 per ton to vessels, \$3 per man to boat fishermen, and \$1 per boat to the owners, and the number of vessels which received bounty was 705, of 26,533 tons, the number of boats 17,701, and the number of fishermen 33,507. The total amount of bounty paid since 1882 has been \$1,571,503, as follows:—

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|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|
| 1882..... | \$ 172,285 | 1888..... | \$ 150,186 |
| 1883..... | 130,345 | 1889..... | 158,526 |
| 1884..... | 155,719 | 1890..... | 158,241 |
| 1885..... | 161,539 | 1891..... | 160,000 |
| 1886..... | 160,904 | | |
| 1887..... | 163,758 | | |
| | | Total..... | \$ 1,571,503 |

670. There were twelve government fish hatcheries in operation in 1892, situated at Fraser River, B.C., Sydney, Bedford and Bayview, N.S., St. John River and Miramichi, N.B., Restigouche, Gaspé, Tadoussac and Magog, Que., and Newcastle and Sandwich, Ont. The total number of fry distributed in the spring of the year was 134,908,000, comprising 11,449,000 salmon, 4,799,000 salmon trout, 54,860,000 whitefish, 300,000 speckled trout and 63,500,000 lobsters. The great benefit of these hatcheries to the fisheries generally is now scarcely denied, and the remarkably heavy runs of salmon on the Fraser River in recent years are attributed by many to the operations of the hatchery there. It is estimated that since 1868 the following fry have been distributed from the different hatcheries, 221,933,000 salmon, 451,380,000 whitefish and 231,215,000 pickerel.

671. The lobster hatchery which was established at Bayview, Pictou County, N.S., in 1891, and which is the first of its kind on the American continent, has proved a complete success. About 7,000,000 eggs were distributed in that year and 63,500,000 in 1892 along an area of about 60 miles of coast, at the rate of about one million to the mile. Proper rocky bottoms were carefully selected, which it is hoped will afford the young lobsters sufficient protection to enable them to arrive at maturity.

672. The work of establishing and re-stocking oyster beds at Shediac, N.B., and Tracadie, N.S., has been undertaken by the Government, under the superintendence of an expert from England.

673. The total expenditure by the Fisheries Department during each of the fiscal years ended 30th June, 1889, 1890, 1891 and 1892, was:

Expenditure, Fisheries Department, 1889-1892.