

FISHERIES.

11.—Quantities and Values of Cross-ties and Poles purchased by Railway and Electric Companies, 1911 and 1912.

Purchased by	1911.			1912.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Average Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Average Value.
	No.	\$	\$ cts.	No.	\$	\$ cts.
Steam Railways:						
Cross-ties.....	13,799,982	5,368,330	0 39	20,825,209	9,131,675	0 49
Telephone and telegraph poles.....	521,572	764,398	1 47	549,560	830,793	1 51
Electric Railways:						
Cross-ties.....	589,242	172,439	0 29	483,362	242,194	0 50
Telephone and telegraph poles ¹	64,131	291,879	4 55	58,996	282,731	4 74
Total Cross-ties.....	14,389,224	5,540,769	0 39	21,308,571	9,373,869	0 44
Total telephone and telegraph poles.....	585,703	1,056,277	1 80	608,556	1,113,524	1 83

¹Includes poles purchased by Power and Light Companies.

Fisheries.—It is no exaggeration to state that Canada possesses the most extensive fisheries in the world. Abundant supplies of all the principal commercial food fishes, including salmon, lobsters, herring, mackerel, sardines, haddock, cod, hake and pollock, are caught in Canadian territorial waters. The coast line of the Atlantic provinces from the Bay of Fundy to the Straits of Belle Isle, without taking into account the lesser bays and indentations, measures over 5,000 miles; and along this great stretch are to be found innumerable natural harbours and coves, in many of which valuable fish are taken in considerable quantities with little effort. On the Pacific coast, the province of British Columbia, owing to its immense number of islands, bays and fiords, which form safe and easily accessible harbours, has a sea-washed shore of 7,000 miles. Along this shore, and within the limits of the territorial waters, there are fish and mammals in greater abundance probably than anywhere else in the world. In addition to this immense salt-water fishing area there are in the numerous inland lakes not less than 220,000 square miles of fresh water abundantly stocked with many species of excellent food fishes. The Canadian waters of the Great Lakes, viz., Lakes Superior, Huron, Erie and Ontario, form only one-fifth of the total area of the larger fresh water lakes of Canada.

On the Atlantic coast the fisheries may be divided into two distinct classes: the deep-sea and the inshore or coastal fisheries. The deep-sea fishery is pursued in vessels of from 40 to 100 tons, carrying crews of from 12 to 20 men. The fishing grounds worked