

## F I S H E R I E S.

The inshore or coastal fishery is carried on in small boats with crews of from two to three men ; also in a class of small vessels with crews of from four to seven men. The means of capture employed by boat fishermen are gill-nets, hooks and lines, both hand-line and trawl ; and from the shore are operated trap-nets, haul-seines and weirs. The commercial food fishes taken inshore are the cod, hake, haddock, pollock, halibut, herring, mackerel, alewife, shad, smelt, flounder and sardine. The most extensive lobster fishery known is carried on along the whole of the eastern shore of Canada, whilst excellent oyster beds exist in many parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, notably on the north coast of Prince Edward Island and in the Northumberland strait. The salmon fishery is predominant on the Pacific coast ; but a very extensive halibut fishery is carried on in the northern waters of British Columbia in large, well-equipped steamers and vessels. The method of capture is by trawling, dories being used for setting and hauling the lines, as in the Atlantic deep-sea fishery. Herring are in great abundance on the Pacific coast, and provide a plentiful supply of bait for the halibut fishery. In the inland lake fisheries the various means of capture in use comprise gill-nets, pound-nets, seines and hook-and-line. The principal commercial fishes caught are whitefish, trout, pickerel, pike, sturgeon and fresh water herring.

**Capital Invested.**—The estimated total capital invested in the fisheries amounted in 1912-13 to \$24,388,459, as compared with \$20,932,904 in 1911-12. Of the total for 1912-13 the sum of \$20,442,714 was invested in connection with the sea fisheries and \$3,945,745 in connection with the inland fisheries. The value of the vessels and boats is represented by \$7,744,038 in 1912-13 as against \$6,198,578 in 1911-12, and the value of the fishing gear, canneries, fish-houses and other fixtures by \$16,644,421 in 1912-13 as against \$14,734,326 in 1911-12. Table 29 shows the distribution of capital amongst the various descriptions of vessels, boats, nets, traps, etc., used in both sea and inland fisheries for the fiscal year 1912-13.<sup>1</sup>

**Number of Fishermen.**—There were 88,408 persons employed in the fishing industry during the year 1912-13, as compared with 91,132 in 1911-12, a decrease of 2,724. On vessels there was an increase of 20 men ; but the number of men in boats decreased by 865 and of those engaged in the fishing industry on shore by 1,879. Of the total in 1912-13, 65,081 were fishermen, who manned 1,669 vessels and tugs and 34,501 boats. The number of fishermen employed in vessels was 9,076 and in boats 56,005. The remaining workers, numbering 23,327, were employed on shore in canneries, fish-houses, etc.<sup>1</sup>

**Fishing Bounties.**—Under an Act of 1882 (45 Vict., c. 18), passed for development of the sea fisheries and encouragement of the building of fishing vessels, provision was made for the distribution in bounties of \$150,000 annually among the owners of fishing vessels and fishermen engaged in fishing from boats in the deep sea fisheries of Canada. An Act of 1891 (54-55 Vict., c. 42) increased the amount to \$160,000. By Order in Council of January 25, 1913, made under the provisions of the

<sup>1</sup> For similar statistics of previous years see Canada Year Book of 1911 p. 390.