

pay one-third of the express charges on less than car-lot shipments of fresh fish from Halifax and Port Mulgrave. Previously the shorter haul from Gloucester and Boston had allowed American fresh fish to enjoy the Canadian market free from competition. As a result, shipments of fresh cod, which in 1900 had been practically nil and only 12,389 cwts. in 1905, advanced to 43,548 cwts. in 1910 and 202,235 in 1918. But following the removal of government aid the shipments have fallen to 166,530 cwts. in 1919 and 118,755 in 1920.

The Government has always pursued the policy of protecting Canadian fisheries. Close seasons were long enforced to prevent the capture of spawning fish or where a bed, say of oysters, is seriously depleted it may be left idle for a period. When licenses are issued occasion is taken to specify the minimum size of the fish to be captured and the size of mesh in the nets. But these regulations have lost much of their efficacy because some of Canada's principal fishing grounds are shared with the United States, whose fishermen do not feel bound to observe the restrictions under which Canadians operate. The full force of fisheries regulation does not extend beyond territorial waters.

Fishing Bounties.—Under what is known as the Halifax Award, made on November 23, 1877, a sum of \$4,500,000 was paid by the United States to Canada as compensation for the use of the Canadian fisheries by American fishermen. Later, in an Act of 1882 (45 Vict., c. 18), passed for the development of the sea fisheries and encouragement of the building of fishing vessels, provision was made for distributing annually \$150,000 in bounties, representing the interest on the above sum, among the owners of fishing vessels and among the 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, the details of the expenditure being settled each year by Order in Council. For the year 1920, payment was made on the following basis: to owners of vessels entitled to receive bounty, \$1 per registered ton, not to exceed \$80; to vessel fishermen entitled to receive bounty, \$7.60 each; to owners of boats measuring not less than 13 feet keel \$1 per boat; to boat fishermen entitled to receive bounty, \$6.10 each. The claims received numbered 9,671 of which 9,664 were paid as compared with 13,068 received and 13,061 paid in the previous year. The total amount paid was \$152,519. Details of the distribution of bounties are given for the years 1917 to 1920 in Table 75.

Fish Culture.—Government assistance to the fishing industry takes various forms. For many years the government has conducted fish hatcheries with a view to restocking the waters which have been overfished. In 1920 there were in operation 35 main hatcheries, 11 subsidiary hatcheries and 6 salmon retaining ponds, from which the total distribution during the year amounted to no less than 750,386,790 eggs, fry and older fish, including 418,290,750 whitefish distributed mainly in Ontario and Manitoba, but also in British Columbia, and 145,753,600 pickerel, distributed in Ontario and Manitoba. Sockeye salmon to the number of 90,175,369 were distributed in British