

fully ten times that size, and other ocean waters, comprise not less than 200,000 square miles, or over four-fifths of the area of the fishing grounds of the North Atlantic. In addition there are on the Atlantic seaboard 15,000 square miles of inshore waters controlled entirely by the Dominion. Large as are these areas, they represent only a part of the fishing grounds of Canada. The Pacific coast of the Dominion measures 7,180 miles in length and is exceptionally well sheltered; whilst throughout the interior is a series of lakes which together contain more than half of the fresh water on the globe, Canada's share of the Great Lakes alone amounting to over 34,000 square miles, a total which of course does not include lake Winnipeg (9,457 square miles), lake Manitoba and others of even greater area.

Still more important than the extent of the Canadian fishing grounds is the quality of their product. It is an axiom among authorities that food fishes improve in proportion to the purity and coldness of the waters from which they are taken. Judged by this standard, the Canadian cod, halibut, herring, mackerel, whitefish and salmon are the peers of any in the world. It is possible, therefore, to state that by far the most valuable fisheries of the western hemisphere, if not of the globe, belong to Canada.

It will be seen from the above that it is impossible to deal adequately with the Canadian fisheries in the aggregate; they are those of a continent rather than of a country, and are of corresponding diversity. Omitting the enormous Hudson Bay and peri-Arctic region, which extends from Ungava to Alaska and the fish resources of which are not known, the Canadian fisheries may be divided into Atlantic, inland and Pacific fisheries.

**Atlantic Fisheries.**—These were the first Canadian fisheries in point of time, and until 1918 they remained the most important in aggregate value of product. Cod, halibut, haddock, hake, herring, mackerel, lobster, oyster, and hair seal fisheries are included. The estuarine and inland waters of the Maritime Provinces and of Quebec are sometimes considered as distinct; if they are added the list of products would embrace the salmon, the shad, the gaspereau (alewife), the smelt, the striped bass, the tom cod, the trout and the maskinonge. Conditions are fairly uniform throughout these fisheries, which are commonly divided into the inshore and deep-sea fisheries. The inshore or coastal fishery is carried on in small boats, usually motor-driven, with crews of two or three men, and in small vessels with crews of from four to seven men. The means of capture employed by boat fishermen are gill nets and hooks and lines, both hand lines and trawls; trap nets, haul seines and weirs are operated from the shore. Haddock as well as cod is a staple product; during the spring and summer it is split and salted, but the important season is the autumn, when the fish are shipped fresh or else smoked and sold as finnan haddie. The deep-sea fisheries are worked by vessels of from 40 to 100 tons, carrying from 12 to 20 men, operating with trawl lines from dories. The fleets operate on the various banks, such as Grand Bank, Middle Ground and Banquereau. The vessels, built by native hands, remain at sea sometimes for months at a time, and, in the hands of sailors who have no superior, seldom come to grief. When they return, the fish, principally cod, which have been split and salted on board, are taken ashore, washed and dried. The West Indies are the chief market for this product. No cod fish in the world stands the tropical climate like that cured by Nova Scotian fishermen. Steam trawling, as it is carried on in the North Sea, was introduced on the Atlantic coast of Canada