



gave work to 5,600 people; 30,000,000 lobsters is a normal catch. The difficulty of enforcing regulations as to the capture of undersized and spawning lobsters offers a constant problem in connection with the output, but the recent decline is now thought to have been arrested. In New Brunswick the canning of "sardines" (locally young herring and not a distinct type of fish) is second only to lobstering. Oysters, once plentiful everywhere, are now found in diminished quantities, but the Dominion Department of Fisheries is encouraging oyster farming; favourable areas in Prince Edward Island waters are to be seeded under expert direction.

The fishing population of the Maritime Provinces is a specialized and stable industrial class. The coast fisheries are operated from April to November, or to January in sheltered districts, and, though the larger vessels work all winter, several thousand men are available for a time each year for other employment. This they find about the small plots of land which most of them own or occupy, in the lumber camps of New Brunswick or about the collieries of Nova Scotia. A few from Lunenburg and other centres engage in the West Indian trade. Apart from restrictions of weather and closed seasons the prevailing method of paying the men on shares has a further tendency in years of low catches or prices to drive them into secondary occupations.

Inland Fisheries.—The Great Lakes and tributary waters of the St. Lawrence form a second great division of the Canadian fisheries. Whitefish, trout, perch, pickerel and lake herring are the most important commercial fishes of Ontario, though pike, sturgeon and coarse fish yield a fair return. The value of the inland fisheries of Quebec lies chiefly in the output of the eel and pickerel fisheries. The season on the Great Lakes lasts from six to eight months and, though fishing through the ice is followed by many, a large number depend on miscellaneous employment between the seasons. Moving westward, lake Winnipeg, lake Winnipegosis, lake Manitoba and the smaller lakes to the north and west furnish most of the fish products of Manitoba. Whitefish and pickerel are the chief products,