

the \$50,000,000 mark. The prevailing world-wide depression has affected the markets for fish products; the value dropped to \$48,000,000 in 1930 and to \$30,500,000 in 1931. These figures represent the total values of fish marketed, whether in a fresh, dried, canned, or otherwise prepared state.

The number of employees, which was 80,450 in 1929 and 79,558 in 1930, fell to 74,903 in 1931 and the capital invested in the industry which was \$60,000,000 in 1918 and \$62,579,000 in 1929, reached \$64,026,297 in 1930 but decreased to \$45,350,514 in 1931.¹

Among individual fish products the cod and the salmon long disputed the primacy; if the record is taken back to early times, the cod is the most valuable fishery; in the past 30 years, however, the salmon has definitely taken the lead, and the heavy pack and relatively high price of lobsters have more than once sent cod down to third place as in 1927, 1929 and 1930. Halibut, for a number of years prior to 1931, occupied fourth place among the chief commercial fishes but in 1931 dropped to fifth place, yielding fourth place to herring. These changes have, of course, affected the relative standing of the provinces, British Columbia now occupying the leading place that in earlier times belonged to Nova Scotia, and producing in recent years fish products to nearly half the total value. The yearly record of production since 1870, the total production by provinces for the past six years, and the record by values of principal fish products for the past five years in descending order of importance, are shown in Tables 2, 3 and 4. The aggregate value of production in 1931, \$30,517,306, shows a decrease of 36.2 p.c. from the figure of \$47,804,306 in 1930. The wide variations in prices from year to year make total values misleading. On the other hand, the quantities of different kinds of fish are stated in many different units and the total volumes of production are difficult to compare. An effort is made to overcome these difficulties in Table 7 by working out what the values would be in 1931 if prices had remained the same as they were in 1930. On this basis, the decrease due to smaller quantities was 21.2 p.c. and that due to lower prices 15.0 p.c.

¹ For detailed historical statistics of the fisheries, see pp. 53-56 of Fisheries Statistics of Canada, 1931, obtainable from the Dominion Statistician.

2.—Total Values of the Products of the Fisheries of Canada, 1870-1931.

NOTE.—From 1870 to 1906 inclusive, years ended June 30; from 1908 to 1917 (a) inclusive, years ended Mar. 31; since and including 1917 (b), calendar years. No statistics are available for the nine months' period ended Mar. 31, 1907.

Year.	Value.	Year.	Value.	Year.	Value.	Year.	Value.
	\$		\$		\$		\$
1870.....	6,577,391	1886.....	18,679,288	1902.....	21,959,433	1918.....	60,259,744
1871.....	7,673,199	1887.....	18,386,103	1903.....	23,101,878	1919.....	58,508,479
1872.....	9,570,116	1888.....	17,418,510	1904.....	23,516,439	1920.....	49,241,339
1873.....	10,754,997	1889.....	17,665,256	1905.....	29,479,562	1921.....	34,931,935
1874.....	11,681,886	1890.....	17,714,902	1906.....	26,279,485	1922.....	41,800,210
1875.....	10,350,385	1891.....	18,977,878	1908.....	25,499,349	1923.....	42,565,545
1876.....	11,117,000	1892.....	18,941,171	1909.....	25,451,085	1924.....	44,534,235
1877.....	12,005,634	1893.....	20,686,661	1910.....	29,629,169	1925.....	47,942,131
1878.....	13,215,678	1894.....	20,719,573	1911.....	29,995,433	1926.....	56,360,633
1879.....	13,539,254	1895.....	20,199,338	1912.....	34,667,872	1927.....	49,123,609
1880.....	14,499,976	1896.....	20,467,423	1913.....	33,389,464	1928.....	55,050,973
1881.....	15,817,162	1897.....	22,783,546	1914.....	31,297,748	1929.....	53,518,521
1882.....	16,824,092	1898.....	19,667,121	1915.....	31,294,631	1930.....	47,804,216
1883.....	16,958,192	1899.....	21,891,706	1916.....	35,800,708	1931.....	30,517,306
1884.....	17,766,404	1900.....	21,557,639	1917 (a).....	39,208,378		
1885.....	17,732,973	1901.....	25,737,153	1917 (b).....	52,312,044		