

**Collection of Statistics.**—The fisheries statistics of Canada are issued under an arrangement for statistical co-operation between the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the Dominion Department of Fisheries and those branches of the different Provincial Governments having jurisdiction with regard to fisheries. Under this arrangement, the statistics of the catch and of the products marketed in the fresh state or domestically prepared are collected by the local fishery officers, checked in the Department of Fisheries and compiled in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the case of manufactured fish products, schedules similar to those of other sections of the Census of Industry are sent by the Bureau to the operators of canneries, fish-curing establishments, etc., the fisheries officers assisting in securing expeditious and correct reports.

### Section 4.—The Modern Fishing Industry.\*

The existing fishing industry of Canada is in the main the growth of the past half century. No comparable figures of production are available for years prior to the confederation of the provinces, but about 1836 the production of fish in what are now the three Maritime Provinces had an estimated value of something like \$1,500,000, while the production of Lower Canada was probably worth \$1,000,000. In 1870 the total was \$6,600,000 and this was more than doubled by 1878. In the '90's it passed \$20,000,000 and in 1912, \$34,000,000. The highest figure was reached in 1918, with over \$60,000,000, but this was in a period of greatly inflated prices. Between that year and 1921 the total value of the products of the fisheries decreased and in the latter year was back to \$34,000,000. From 1921 to 1926 a steady increase to \$56,000,000 took place and in the following three years the value fluctuated around the \$50,000,000 mark. The world-wide depression affected the markets for fish products so that the value dropped to \$25,957,109 in 1932. In 1933 conditions commenced to show improvement and by 1935 the value of output had advanced to \$34,427,854, an amount 33 p.c. greater than the value shown in 1932, the low year of the depression. The figures given represent the total values of fish marketed, for consumption fresh, or as dried, canned, or otherwise prepared.

The number of employees, which was 74,882 in 1931, rose steadily to 83,436 in 1934, but dropped to 82,918 in 1935, while the value of the capital investment of the industry, which was \$45,325,514 in 1931, fell to \$40,912,857 in 1933, but rose again to \$43,585,502 in 1934 and to \$43,617,888 in 1935.†

Among individual fish products the cod and the salmon long disputed the primacy; in the past 30 years the salmon has definitely taken the lead, and the heavy pack and relatively high price of lobsters have, in recent years, sent cod down to third place. The value of output of the salmon fishery in the period 1869 to 1935 was approximately 448 million dollars and that of the cod fishery, 287 million. This has, of course, affected the relative standing of the provinces, British Columbia now occupying the leading place that in earlier times belonged to Nova Scotia. 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 1935, \$34,427,854, shows an increase of only 1.2 p.c. over the figure of \$34,022,323 in 1934.

\* Revised by Miss F. A. Brown, Chief, Animals and Animal Products Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This Branch publishes an Annual Report on the Fisheries Statistics of Canada, together with advance summaries on fish caught, marketed, and prepared, by provinces. These may be obtained from the Dominion Statistician.

† For detailed historical statistics of the fisheries, see pp. 54-58 of Fisheries Statistics of Canada, 1935, obtainable from the Dominion Statistician.