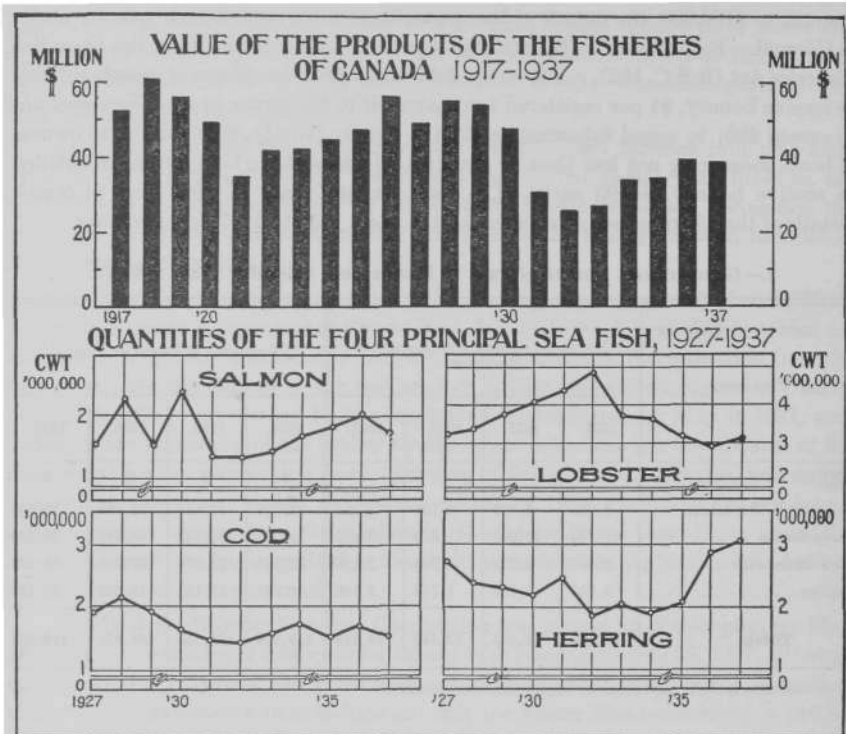


### Section 4.—The Modern Fishing Industry.\*

The latter half of the nineteenth century saw the commencement of expansion in the commercial fishing industry of Canada. In 1844 the estimated value of the catch was only \$125,000. It doubled in the following decade and by 1860 had passed the million mark. Ten years later it reached \$6,000,000 and this was again more than doubled by 1878. By 1900 it had reached a total of \$21,000,000 and the growth continued with little interruption until 1918, when it reached the high record of \$60,000,000. Since then there have been decreases in value, due to lower prices rather than to smaller catches. In 1937 the value was \$38,976,294. It will be understood that the figures given represent the total value of fish as marketed,



whether in a fresh, dried, canned, or otherwise prepared state. The numbers of employees engaged in the industry have increased in proportion to the catch, amounting in some years to over 90,000, and the capital investment has gone as high as \$64,000,000. In 1937 the number of employees was 84,025, and the capital investment, \$44,926,764.

Among the different kinds of fish, the cod of the Atlantic and the salmon of the Pacific, in the earlier years of the fishing industry, disputed the primacy; since 1895 salmon has definitely taken the lead, and the heavy packs and high prices of lobster have, in more recent years, sent cod down to third place. The value of output of the salmon fishery in the period 1869-1937 was approximately \$474,000,000,

\* Revised by Miss F. A. Brown, Chief of the Fisheries 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.