

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

## Subsection 1.—Primary Production

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-dollar mark. Ten years later it reached \$6,000,000 and this was again more than doubled by 1878. By 1900 it had reached almost \$22,000,000 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. The figures given represent the total value of fish as marketed, whether in a fresh, dried, canned, or otherwise prepared state.

## 2.—Values of the Products of the Fisheries of Canada, 1870-1939

Year	Value	Year	Value	Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$		\$		\$
1870.....	6,577,391	1906.....	26,279,485	1918.....	60,259,744	1929.....	53,518,521
1875.....	10,350,385	1907.....	25,499,349	1919.....	56,508,479	1930.....	47,804,216
1880.....	14,499,979	1908.....	25,451,085	1920.....	49,241,339	1931.....	30,517,306
1885.....	17,722,973	1909.....	29,629,169	1921.....	34,931,935	1932.....	25,957,109
1890.....	17,714,900	1910.....	29,965,142	1922.....	41,800,210	1933.....	27,496,946
1895.....	20,199,338	1911.....	34,667,872	1923.....	42,565,545	1934.....	34,022,323
1900.....	21,557,639	1912.....	33,389,464	1924.....	44,534,235	1935.....	34,427,854
1901.....	25,737,153	1913.....	33,207,748	1925.....	47,942,131	1936.....	39,165,055
1902.....	21,959,433	1914.....	31,264,631	1926.....	56,360,633	1937.....	38,976,294
1903.....	23,100,878	1915.....	35,860,708	1927.....	49,123,609	1938.....	40,492,976
1904.....	23,516,439	1916.....	39,208,378	1928.....	55,050,973	1939.....	40,072,985
1905.....	29,479,562	1917.....	52,312,044				

In the early days of the industry Nova Scotia held the leadership among the provinces, but British Columbia now occupies first place with 44 p.c. of the total value of products; Nova Scotia second with 22 p.c., and New Brunswick third with nearly 13 p.c.

## 3.—Values of the Products of the Fisheries of Canada, by Provinces, 1934-39

Province	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island.....	963,926	899,685	953,029	870,299	930,874	950,412
Nova Scotia.....	7,673,865	7,852,899	8,905,268	9,229,834	8,804,231	8,753,548
New Brunswick.....	3,679,970	3,949,615	4,399,735	4,447,688	3,996,064	5,082,393
Quebec.....	2,306,517	1,947,259	2,108,404	1,892,036	1,957,279	2,010,953
Ontario.....	2,218,550	2,852,007	3,209,422	3,615,666	3,353,775	3,007,315
Manitoba.....	1,465,358	1,258,335	1,667,371	1,796,012	1,811,124	1,655,273
Saskatchewan.....	219,772	252,059	367,025	527,199	468,646	478,511
Alberta.....	245,405	225,741	309,882	433,354	492,943	430,724
British Columbia.....	15,234,335	15,169,529	17,231,534	16,155,439	18,672,750	17,698,989
Yukon.....	14,625	20,725	13,385	8,767	5,290	4,867
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>34,022,323</b>	<b>34,427,854</b>	<b>39,165,055</b>	<b>38,976,294</b>	<b>40,492,976</b>	<b>40,072,985</b>

The cod of the Atlantic and the salmon of the Pacific were rivals for first place in the earlier years of the fishing industry; since 1895 salmon has definitely taken the lead, and the heavy packs and high prices of lobster have, in more recent years, brought that fish to second place. In 1939 herring, with an exceptionally large catch, took third place in order of marketed value, and cod was fourth.

In Table 4 the quantities given are those of primary products caught, but the values are those of all products marketed, both primary and secondary. The grand

\* Revised by Miss F. A. Brown, Chief of the Fisheries and Animal Products Branch, Dominion Bureau of Statistics. For a list of the publications of this Branch see Chapter XXVIII.