

CHAPTER XIV.—THE FISHERIES

CONSPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
SECTION 1. THE CANADIAN FISHING GROUNDS.....	472	SECTION 3. FISHERY STATISTICS.....	480
SECTION 2. GOVERNMENTS AND THE FISHERIES.....	475	Subsection 1. Primary Production....	480
Subsection 1. The Federal Government.	475	Subsection 2. The Fish-Processing In- dustry.....	483
Subsection 2. The Provincial Govern- ments.....	479	SECTION 4. NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES..	485

NOTE.—*The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found facing p. 1 of this volume.*

The immense fishery resources of Canada are derived from the waters of the North Pacific and North Atlantic, and from numerous lakes and rivers of her inland provinces. Adjacent to the most prolific sea-fishing grounds on the globe, Canada ranks high in fishery production, and leads the world in monetary returns from the export of her fishery products.

The fishery is Canada's oldest primary industry, and is important to the economic life of the coastal provinces as well as the inland areas adjacent to waters where commercial fishing is pursued. Latest figures show that 113,000 persons are provided full or seasonal employment in the fisheries. Of this number 93,000 (including Newfoundland 35,000) are directly engaged in fishing, while the remaining 20,000 are employed in fish processing.

Section 1.—The Canadian Fishing Grounds*

Canada's fishing grounds fall naturally into three main divisions: Atlantic, Pacific and Inland, each with its own special characteristics.

Atlantic Fisheries.—The Atlantic fisheries of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Quebec together account for more than one-half the marketed value of all Canadian fish.

Cod is the most valuable Atlantic catch and is taken by the fishermen of the five provinces, with Newfoundland and Nova Scotia predominating. Other 'groundfish', so called because they feed at the sea bottom, are often taken with the cod. They include haddock, pollock, hake, cusk, rosefish and catfish. The flat-fish which inhabit the deep waters and are caught by Atlantic fishermen include: halibut, plaice, yellowtail, witch, flounder and skate. Lobsters come second in value among Atlantic fishery products and are caught mainly off Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but are also found in the waters off Quebec and Newfoundland. Other types of shellfish are clams and quahaugs, of which New Brunswick and Nova Scotia both produce considerable quantities, oysters chiefly from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island and scallops from Nova Scotia. Mussels, winkles and crabs are marketed on a smaller scale. Of the fish species occurring in schools (pelagic fish) and those entering the river estuaries, herring is the most important. Immature herring landed in southwestern New Brunswick

* Revised by the Department of Fisheries, Ottawa.