

Ontario.—Prior to 1946, the fishery resources of Ontario were administered by the Ontario Department of Game and Fisheries. That Department has since been incorporated into the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests as the Division of Fish and Wildlife and, in dealing with fishery matters, operates under the authority of the Fisheries Act (Canada), the Special Fishery Regulations for the Province of Ontario, the Ontario Game and Fisheries Act and the Regulations connected therewith.

Commercial Fishing.—The commercial fishing industry in Ontario provides employment to about 4,000 persons directly and to many more indirectly, and produces an annual harvest of between 25,000,000 lb. and 35,000,000 lb. of fish. The landed value revenue to licensed fishermen for the production of fish was \$7,034,000 for the year ended Mar. 31, 1951.

The industry, although widely scattered throughout the Province, is centred chiefly on the Great Lakes, particularly Lake Erie which is noted for its whitefish, herring and blue pickerel. Lake Superior continues to be the leading producer of lake trout. Other principal species of fish taken commercially in Ontario are: lake trout, yellow pickerel, herring or ciscoes, sturgeon, pike, catfish (including bullheads), carp and suckers.

Many of the smaller inland lakes are commercially fished, especially those in the northwestern portion of Ontario and careful management of these lakes is essential to ensure continued production.

Fishing boats vary from small craft to 60-ft. tugs, and types of gear used also vary from the most common gill net, pound and trap nets, seines and baited hooks to small hand-operated seines and dip nets.

Recent Developments.—Modern fishing methods and equipment have rapidly entered the fisheries industry in Ontario in the past few years. Diesel-driven steel-hull tugs have replaced the steam-driven wooden tug. New aids to fishing methods have been developed, such as depth-sounding devices, radar, ship-to-shore and ship-to-ship communications, and a better knowledge of the fish and their movements has been established from biological research findings. Modern icing facilities and transportation methods also are in use, as are new types of fishing gear. Nylon gill net is replacing cotton and linen nets and a very efficient and economical trapnet is gradually replacing the pound-net in Lake Erie and other waters.

With the use of these up-to-date fishing methods and equipment in Ontario's fresh-water fishing industry, the administration and management, through excellent co-operation and understanding of the complex problems involved by both the Government and the fishermen, through their local associations and the Ontario Federation of Commercial Fishermen, are working out the best practices in the interest of all concerned and of the industry as a whole.

Angling.—In Ontario, with its estimated water area of 49,300 sq. miles, angling constitutes one of the most widely distributed recreations. There are 144 different kinds of fish in the Province, including such species as lake and speckled trout, yellow pickerel, black bass, pike and maskinonge.

Sport fishing may be considered one of the chief factors concerned with the increase and development of the tourist trade and, while it is difficult to measure the value of this resource, a revenue of \$1,450,180 for the year ended Mar. 31, 1950, was obtained from the sale of angling licences, mainly to non-residents as residents require a licence for Provincial Parks only.