

Canada's share in this new program. The Committee is giving equal emphasis to general fisheries research and lamprey control. In the general program, research is being conducted into stocks of whitefish and lake trout and the possible utilization of the less popular species that enter the nets of the commercial fishermen. Hydrographic surveys are an important aspect of this work. In the lamprey control program, devices are being installed at the mouths of rivers frequented by lampreys at spawning time. The installations are electrified weirs which paralyse the lamprey and prevent it from reaching suitable spawning areas.

Manitoba's commercial fishing industry is based on a rich heritage of lakes and streams. Lake Winnipeg, the seventh largest fresh-water lake in North America, provides almost one-half of the Province's total catch. From this lake comes the Selkirk whitefish which is in great demand in the United States. The famous Winnipeg goldeye also first made its appearance from Lake Winnipeg catches. Of the three-score fish-producing lakes, most important are Lake Manitoba, Lake Winnipegosis, Lake St. Martin, Lake Dauphin, South Indian Lake, Gods Lake, Island Lake and the Manitoba portion of Reindeer Lake. In Alberta and Saskatchewan where the number of full-time fishermen in past years has been few, the commercial fishing industry is growing steadily. The total catch in Saskatchewan is now around 10,500,000 lb. and in Alberta about 10,000,000 lb.

Lake Athabasca, straddling the Alberta-Saskatchewan border, yields about 500,000 lb. of whitefish, lake trout and other fish each year to the Chipewyan and Cree Indians. Since 1926 its commercial output has totalled 20,000,000 lb. of fish. Lac La Ronge in Saskatchewan has been fished since 1922 and its current commercial production is nearly 1,000,000 lb. a year. Reindeer Lake, located across the Saskatchewan-Manitoba border, is another rich provider and in one year when fishing was intense, fishermen hauled out 2,500,000 lb. It is not known what the lake could stand on a sustained basis but its record over the past 14 years shows that its catch of whitefish and lake trout represents 10 p.c. of the entire production of the Province. Lesser Slave Lake in Alberta has yielded up to 5,000,000 lb. of fish a year while other northern lakes such as Wollaston, Big Peter Pond and Ile à la Crosse each produce annually about 500,000 lb.

The gill net is the chief fishing gear used in the Prairie Provinces. In the summer operation, fishermen operate motor-driven boats and skiffs. In the winter the nets are set through holes cut in the ice and the fishermen establish camps on the ice right at the fishing grounds; usually staying out a week at a time under semi-Eskimo conditions. Living accommodation is a caboose which is hauled to the camp-site.

Quebec's fresh-water commercial fisheries are based on the streams and rivers which flow into the St. Lawrence River, although some of the northern waters are also fished. In addition to the fresh-water species found in other provinces, Quebec fishermen catch a number of salt-water fish which frequent the rivers at certain periods. Eels and sturgeon rank as the most valuable of Quebec's inland fisheries. Most of the catch of eels is caught around the Isle of Orleans, near Quebec, and in the Richelieu River at Iberville. About 500,000 lb. are taken annually and shipped frozen in boxes or in trucks equipped with special fresh-water tanks to brisk markets in the United States. Shipments are also made to European countries. In New Brunswick, the fresh-water fishing industry is a small enterprise compared to the tidal fisheries and the total production of alewives, shad, eels, salmon and suckers amounts to 500,000 lb. annually.