

During the year, 170,010,000 pickerel fry and eyed eggs, 73,450,000 whitefish eggs and fry, 2,091,158 trout fingerlings, and 43,786 adult perch and northern pike were distributed in the fishing waters of the Province.

Biological survey parties conducted investigations regarding speckled trout in northern Manitoba, lake and stream surveys in the Porcupine and Duck Mountains, the fishes of South Indian Lake and the sauger-pickerel relationship in the southern part of Lake Winnipeg. The fish in one small lake were poisoned with derrisroot powder and rainbow trout were introduced.

Saskatchewan.—The administration of fisheries in the Province of Saskatchewan comes under the Fisheries Branch of the Provincial Department of Natural Resources with head office at Prince Albert. Most of the fisheries resources are concentrated in the northern half of the Province, where the lakes have always been a source of food to the fur traders, trappers, prospectors and the Cree and Chipewyan Indians who inhabit the area, and also provide food and supplementary income to the settlers and homesteaders on the agricultural fringe.

There are approximately 129 commercially fished lakes in the Province and the principal species of fish include lake trout, whitefish, pickerel, northern pike, sturgeon, cisco, Arctic grayling, goldeye, mullet, perch and burbot. The growth of the filleting industry has been of particular significance, 15 filleting plants having been established since 1945. That the fishery resources are important to mink ranchers in the Province is shown by the fact that in the year ended Mar. 31, 1953, 68 fur-farm fishing licences were issued and 20,280 mink were fed under these licences; 702 domestic licences and 1,502 free licences to Indians were also issued.

There has been marked development recently in sport fishing. For the fiscal year 1952-53 there were 50,113 resident and 6,615 non-resident angling licences sold, compared with 6,000 resident and 1,500 non-resident licences sold in 1945.

The main endeavour in the fish cultural activities in the Province during the past few years has been to extend the range of the Arctic grayling species from the Far North into the Churchill River area, and to introduce eastern brook trout and certain warm-water species into areas where preliminary study seems to indicate suitable environment. To a large extent the indiscriminate planting of fish has been discontinued. A fish hatchery is operated at Fort Qu'Appelle for the hatching of pickerel, rainbow, brown and lake trout, and two experimental ponds have been built to facilitate the study, under controlled conditions, of the introduction of warm-water species from the United States. An experimental hatchery has been established at Lac la Ronge, where Arctic grayling and lake trout eggs have been hatched. An Arctic grayling spawn camp has also been established in the Fond-du-lac River, near Black Lake and a pickerel spawn camp is located on the Montreal River, near Lac la Ronge.

The management of the provincial water areas is conducted on a scientific basis. In 1947, a large-scale biological program was undertaken and more than 100 water areas have since been studied. The main emphasis has been on the study of productivity of the various water areas as well as the inter-relationship of the species and life histories. In so far as known facts will permit, the management of the various lakes has been placed on a sustained-yield basis. Experiments are in progress on the introduction of non-native species into suitable water areas. Where sport-fishing pressure has increased, such as on Lac la Ronge, Last Mountain Lake and Qu'Appelle Lakes, a creel census has been established and the annual harvest is