

About sixteen species of flatfish, in addition to halibut, are found in British Columbia waters. Although they belong to the flounder and dab families, they are popularly known as 'soles'. The largest is the brill and other important species are the lemon sole and rock sole or 'rough-back'. These species are caught extensively off the west coast of Vancouver Island, in Queen Charlotte Sound, in Hecate Strait and in Georgia Strait and are marketed as fresh or as frozen sole fillets. The stocks could support an increase in catch but, as with the other Pacific groundfish except halibut, an increase would make little difference in the total Canadian groundfish catch.

Dogfish belong to the shark family and in their predatory activities cause great damage to fishing gear and netted fish. The Pacific dogfish industry reached a peak in 1944 when there were nearly 8,000,000 lb. of dogfish livers landed worth \$2,700,000 plus an additional amount for meal and fertilizer. In the past decade, however, competition from Japanese liver products and the development of synthetic vitamin A have caused a decline in the industry. The consequent increase in dogfish stocks has brought requests for a subsidy to assist a fishery for meal and oil as a means of reducing the damage done by dogfish to other fisheries.

During the past five years there has been a rapid growth of a British Columbia trawl fishery specifically for scrapfish for fur farms, as the demand for mink feed outgrew the supply of horse meat and fillet scraps. This fishery concentrates on the turbot or arrow-tooth sole and, when winter weather prevents fishing on the more exposed grounds, on the whiting or big-eye. Smaller quantities of hake and other species are also utilized.

Section 2.—Governments and the Fisheries

The British North America Act gave the Federal Government full legislative jurisdiction for the coastal and the inland fisheries of Canada and under this Act laws are made for the protection, conservation and development of the fisheries throughout the country. However, the provinces have, by agreement, assumed administrative responsibilities in varying degree. Consequently, though all the regulations governing fishing are made by the Federal Government, the work of administering the fisheries (enforcing the different laws and regulations, inspecting fish products, issuing licences, etc.) is done without duplication of staff either by federal or by provincial officers, according to arrangement.

Specifically, all tidal or sea fisheries except those of the Province of Quebec are administered by the Federal Department of Fisheries, and the freshwater or non-tidal fisheries with some exceptions are administered by the provincial departments. Quebec takes responsibility for all its fisheries including those in salt waters. Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta look after their freshwater species. In British Columbia provincial government control extends to the freshwater forms and the Federal Government is responsible for marine and anadromous species. In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and the Yukon and Northwest Territories, the Federal Government maintains complete control; administration of the fisheries of the National Park areas throughout Canada is the responsibility of the Canadian Wildlife Service, Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. (See pp. 27-28.)

Subsection 1.—The Federal Government*

The work of the Federal Government in the conservation, development and general regulation of the nation's coastal and freshwater fisheries is performed by three agencies under the Minister of Fisheries:—

- (1) The Department of Fisheries proper with headquarters at Ottawa, Ont., and area offices under Chief Supervisors at Vancouver, B.C., Winnipeg, Man., Halifax, N.S., and St. John's, Nfld.
- (2) The Fisheries Research Board of Canada with headquarters at Ottawa and eight stations across Canada.
- (3) The Fisheries Prices Support Board with headquarters at Ottawa.

* Revised by the Department of Fisheries, Ottawa.