

Ontario.—The fishery resources of Ontario are administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Lands and Forests. The Division operates under the authority of the federal Fisheries Act, 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 for about 3,200 persons directly and for many more indirectly, and produces an annual yield of from 35,000,000 lb. to 45,000,000 lb. of fish. In 1956 an all-time high catch of about 60,000,000 lb. was recorded. The industry, although widely scattered throughout the province, is centred chiefly on the Great Lakes, particularly Lake Erie which is noted for its blue and yellow pickerel, white bass, whitefish and perch. Other principal species of fish taken commercially are lake trout, herring or cisco, sturgeon, pike, catfish (including bullheads), carp and suckers. Over one hundred smaller inland lakes are commercially fished, principally those in the northwestern portion of the province, and careful management of these lakes is essential to ensure continued production.

The types of fishing boats in use vary from small craft to 60-foot tugs, and types of gear vary from the most common gill-nets, pound-nets and trap-nets, seines and baited hooks to small hand-operated seines and dip-nets. Fishing methods and equipment have been rapidly modernized during the past few years. Diesel-driven steel-hull tugs have replaced steam-driven wooden tugs. Such aids as depth sounding devices, radar, ship-to-shore and ship-to-ship communications have been developed and a better knowledge of the fish and their movements has been established from biological research findings. Modern icing facilities and transportation methods are in use as well as new types of fishing gear.

Ontario fishermen are largely organized into various local associations. These associations are, in turn, represented by the Ontario Council of Commercial Fisheries and by the Lake Erie Fisheries Council, who perform an important service to the industry. The Ontario Fishermen's Co-operative and its member groups are of interest also in the organization of the fishery in the province.

Angling.—In Ontario with its estimated freshwater area of 68,490 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, speckled, rainbow and brown trout, yellow pickerel, black bass, pike and maskinonge. It is difficult to measure the value of sport fishing to the province but the annual revenue from the sale of angling licences alone (mainly to non-residents, as residents require a licence for Provincial Parks only) is in the neighbourhood of \$2,500,000. To maintain Ontario's reputation for excellent game fishing the wise management of this renewable resource is a prime factor, and a well-trained field staff of conservation officers and biologists is located in the 22 forestry districts of the province.

Provincial Hatcheries.—Ontario operates 21 hatcheries and rearing stations and excellent results have been produced in the culture and distribution of the various species of commercial and game fish. Millions of fry, fingerlings and yearlings comprising whitefish, herring, pickerel, trout (lake, speckled, brown and Kamloops), maskinonge, bass and ouananiche are distributed annually. Three of the finest trout-rearing stations on this Continent are located in Ontario at Dorion near Port Arthur, at Sault Ste. Marie, and at Hill Lake near Englehart.

Fisheries Research.—Research in Ontario is carried on in the Great Lakes where commercial fisheries problems are being investigated and in inland waters where game fish populations are being studied. At the South Bay Mouth Station, Manitoulin Island,