

CHAPTER XIII.—FISHERIES AND FURS

CONSPECTUS

	PAGE		PAGE
Part I.—Fisheries	625	SECTION 3. FISHERY STATISTICS	642
SECTION 1. FISHERY RESOURCES	625	Subsection 1. Primary Production.....	642
SPECIAL ARTICLE: Canada's Commercial Fishery Resources and Their Conservation	625	Subsection 2. The Fish Processing Industry.....	646
SECTION 2. GOVERNMENTS AND THE FISHERIES	630	Part II.—Furs	649
Subsection 1. The Federal Government..	631	SECTION 1. THE FUR INDUSTRY	649
Subsection 2. The Provincial Governments.....	635	SECTION 2. PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL FUR RESOURCES AND MANAGEMENT ..	650
		SECTION 3. STATISTICS OF FUR PRODUCTION	650
		SECTION 4. MARKETING OF FURS	654
		SECTION 5. THE FUR PROCESSING INDUSTRY	655

NOTE.—The interpretation of the symbols used in the tables throughout the Year Book will be found on page 1 of this volume.

PART I.—FISHERIES

Section 1.—Fishery Resources

Canada has the enviable position of being the country closest to some of the world's most prolific fishing grounds and as a consequence is a principal fish producer and exporter of fish products. Rich harvests are drawn from the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and from the country's many freshwater lakes and rivers. The following special article, which gives a detailed account of Canada's commercial fisheries resources, places special emphasis on the conservation aspect of the responsibilities of the Department of Fisheries of Canada.

CANADA'S COMMERCIAL FISHERY RESOURCES AND THEIR CONSERVATION*

Every year Canadian fishermen take some 2,000,000,000 lb. of fish and shellfish from the salt and fresh water available to them off the Pacific and Atlantic Coasts and in the rivers and lakes of the inland provinces. The marketed value of this catch is in excess of \$200,000,000. Two-thirds of the output is shipped abroad, putting Canada in third place among the fish-exporting nations, surpassed only by Norway and Japan. The primary fishing industry in Canada supports the families of over 79,000 fishermen, and many thousands of persons employed in processing plants, in transporting and marketing enterprises and in ancillary industries also benefit in varying degrees.

With direct access to three of the world's five oceans, Canada with its coastal islands has a sea front of about 60,000 miles, which is more than twice the length of the equator. Even more remarkable, 260,000 sq. miles of lakes and rivers, half the fresh water of the entire earth, are within Canadian boundaries.

Pacific Fisheries.—On the Pacific, salmon provides the most valuable catch and herring the heaviest landings. Halibut is third in importance, followed by groundfish and shellfish. In 1958, a high year in salmon cycles, total landed value of the Pacific

* Prepared by the Information and Educational Service, Department of Fisheries, Ottawa.