

the Petite Cascapédia River, the Matane River and the Port Daniel River. The Ministry co-operates with sportsmen through a joint committee composed of departmental officials and the directors of the larger fish and game associations. The committee studies the maintenance of satisfactory fishing and hunting conditions and other problems arising out of the ever-changing conditions of modern life and their effect on the wildlife of the province.

The Biological Bureau of the province, located at the University of Montreal, operates two stations for practical work in the study of problems connected with marine life. One is located in Mont Tremblant Park and the other in Laurentide Park.

Ontario.—The fishery resources of Ontario are administered by the Fish and Wildlife Branch, Department of Lands and Forests. The Branch 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. An all-time high catch of about 60,000,000 lb. was recorded in 1956. 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, bullhead, carp, sucker and smelt. 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 gillnets, pound-nets and trap-nets, seines and baited hooks to small hand-operated seines and dip-nets. Fishing methods and equipment have been modernized extensively 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. Trawling for smelt is being carried out experimentally in Lake Erie. This fishing technique is new in the Ontario fishery but has been proven very efficient in harvesting smelt on a year-round basis in this lake.

Most Ontario fishermen are 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, which perform important services 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.—The sports fishery in Ontario is rapidly becoming one of the major industries of the province. With an estimated freshwater area of some 68,490 sq. miles, the province is one of the most attractive fishing areas on the Continent. Excellent angling opportunities are available for such prized fish as lake, speckled, rainbow and brown trout, yellow pickerel, black bass, pike and maskinonge. It is difficult to measure the total value of the sports fishing industry 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. The management of this valuable resource is administered by a well-trained field staff of conservation officers and biologists located in the 22 forestry districts of the province.

Provincial Hatcheries.—Ontario operates 20 hatcheries and rearing stations and excellent results have been produced in the culture and distribution of various species of game and commercial fish. The primary species reared in these operations include