

35 lakes and about 16,040,000 whitefish fry were stocked in three lakes. In addition to the rainbow trout stocked in Thomson Lake, 187,605 fingerlings were stocked in nine water areas.

Alberta.—The Commercial Fisheries Branch and the Fish and Wildlife Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests administer commercial and game fishing, respectively, under authority of the Fisheries Act (Canada) and the Fishery Act (Alberta).

Commercial Fishing.—Regulations under the Fishery Act (Alberta), designed to improve the packing, handling, processing, storage and quality of commercial fish, have been well received and supported by the Alberta industry.

Approximately 6,500 sq. miles of water area yielded some 12,500,000 lb. of fish with a market value of \$1,650,000 in the year ended Mar. 31, 1960. Whitefish is by far the most valuable; about 67 p.c. of this species taken during 1959-60 was exported to the United States. Expansion of domestic markets in recent years has resulted in a considerable drop in exports. Other commercially utilized fishes of Alberta in order of value to the fishery market are: walleye, northern pike, yellow perch, tullibee, lake trout, burbot and sucker. Although tullibee represent about 45 p.c. of the total catch, they are used primarily for animal food and so rank well below more desirable species in market value.

Research and management activities are being carried on in the fields of basic lake productivity, population structure and harvest, and age-growth studies on commercial species.

Sport Fishing.—The management of trout streams of the North Saskatchewan and South Saskatchewan river systems is being continued on an alternate year, open-and-closed basis. Surveys have shown that adequate harvests of trout are being realized by this type of management, while protection of breeding stocks, sufficient for natural reproduction, is afforded. Hatchery trout are being utilized almost exclusively for stocking lakes and beaver ponds where natural reproduction is limited or non-existent. There is no closed season on trout, except on streams requiring special regulations for management purposes. Minimum size limits have been removed on all game fish species in the province. Catch limits on trout and Arctic grayling have been reduced recently, while the catch limit on Rocky Mountain whitefish has been increased to encourage the harvest of this widely distributed species. The program of reclaiming lakes by use of commercial fish toxicants is being continued and an evaluation of one of these reclamation projects is being carried out with very encouraging results. Research pertaining to the survival of hatchery-reared trout in streams is also continuing at the provincial biological station at Gorge Creek.

British Columbia.—A Fisheries Office, which was organized in 1901-02 and became very active in fish culture work, building and operating fish hatcheries and instituting scientific research into various fishery problems, was superseded in 1947 by the Department of Fisheries which in turn was superseded in 1957 by the Department of Recreation and Conservation. Commercial fisheries are represented today as the Commercial Fisheries Branch of the Department of Recreation and Conservation. Broadly speaking, the administrative and regulative jurisdiction over the fisheries of British Columbia rests with the federal authority. The ownership of the fisheries in the non-tidal waters is vested in the Crown in the right of the province, as are the shell fisheries such as oyster fishing and clam fishing in the tidal waters. The province administers these fisheries although the regulations covering them are made under federal Order in Council on the advice and recommendation of the province.

The Provincial Fisheries Act provides for the taxation of the fisheries and, under civil and property rights, for the regulation and control of the various fish processing plants under a system of licensing. Provision is also made for arbitration of disputes regarding fish prices that may arise between the fishermen and operators of the various licensed plants. The administration of the Act involves the collection of revenue and the supervision of plant operations.