

inshore summer trap fishery, followed by a trawl fishery from small boats in the late summer and early autumn, continues to supply the industry. The bulk of the trap and trawl catches is salted. The family business which combines fishing with processing has disappeared from the Atlantic Coast except in Newfoundland, and even there it is diminishing. Nova Scotia's drying plants depend more and more on raw supplies from Newfoundland, which they receive in salt bulk form. Heavy exports of saltfish go from the Atlantic Provinces to the Caribbean area, with smaller amounts to Italy, Spain and Brazil.

Although schooner fleets are a thing of the past, except for a few vessels sailing from Nova Scotia, modern trawlers and draggers out of ports along the southern coast of Newfoundland and the Atlantic Coast of Nova Scotia fish the banks in all seasons, weather permitting, to supply mixed groundfish to the processing plants in their home ports. These produce fresh and frozen fish and fillets as well as frozen fish blocks to meet a North American demand that increases steadily with the population. Frozen blocks are the raw material of the now important fish-stick industry.

The 1961 Atlantic herring catch was 209,000,000 lb., about one-third of which was comprised of the small-sized herring used by New Brunswick's sardine canneries. Smoke houses and pickling plants produce a variety of herring products and the fish are also in steady demand for lobster bait. The bulk of the catch is taken in purse-seines or weirs. Mackerel and alewives are also utilized by pickling plants but both have provided dwindling catches over the past decade. Mackerel are netted in open water and alewives are trapped as they enter estuaries on their way to freshwater spawning beds.

The Atlantic salmon catch, after a long and fairly steady decline, has been on the increase in recent years. This fish goes exclusively to fresh markets. Before the War, frozen Canadian Atlantic salmon was in demand in Britain but after the War until 1959 it was barred from that market by import restrictions although there was scant surplus for export in any case. In 1959, the import restrictions were lifted and, with improved catches, hopes have risen for resumption of this trade.

Pacific Fisheries.—Salmon is the most valuable of the Pacific fisheries, although the landings of herring are heavier. Halibut is third in importance, followed by other groundfish and shellfish. The proportion of the total landed value provided by salmon gives an indication of the importance of that fishery to British Columbia fishermen. For example, in 1961 the total landed value of the Pacific catch was over \$39,000,000, of which salmon accounted for \$26,000,000. In the high cycle year of 1958, the value of the salmon catch alone was \$37,129,000 and the total landed value was \$51,352,000.

The salmon catch is made up of five species—sockeye, pink, chum, coho and spring. These fish are caught as they return from the sea to their native streams to spawn and die. Sockeye, for instance, return after four years at sea so that, four years after a favourable hatching year on sockeye streams, a heavy catch of this species may be expected. When the peak runs of several different species occur in the same year, fishing is very good. The fish congregate off the mouths of their rivers and move into them in heavy concentrations. Commercial salmon fishing is limited to tide-water and is divided into two efforts—net fishery by seine and gillnet for the canneries and troll fishery for the fresh fish market. Net fishing is pursued in all the protected waters of British Columbia's deeply indented shoreline, and troll fishing off coasts facing the open sea, especially off the western coast of Vancouver Island. Hundreds of seiners and thousands of gillnet and troll boats engage in the fishery every year.

After hatching, sockeye spend a year or two in a lake before going to sea. When caught on their return from the ocean they weigh about six pounds each. This is a summer fishery, usually from mid-June to September. The bulk of the catch is taken by gillnet and the remainder by purse-seine; as sockeye feed on small crustaceans, they are not attracted by the lures of the troll fishery. Landings are smaller than the catch of chums or pinks but more valuable because, with its firm texture and attractive colour, canned sockeye commands the highest consumer price.