

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work, building and operating fish hatcheries and instituting scientific research into various fishery problems, was superseded in 1947 by the Department of Fisheries which in turn was superseded in 1957 by the Department of Recreation and Conservation.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 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.

Regulation and administration of net fishing in the non-tidal waters of the province, including commercial fishing and authority for regulation of the game fisheries in non-tidal waters, is vested in the Fish and Game Branch which operates a number of trout hatcheries and egg-taking stations for restocking purposes.

The Branch co-operates closely with the Fisheries Research Board of Canada. The biological research into those species of shellfish over which the province has control, principally oysters and clams as well as marine plants, is conducted by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada at the Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, B.C., under agreement with the federal and provincial authorities. The object of this research is to encourage the industry to produce better products more economically and to enable the Commercial Fisheries Branch to regulate the various species so that maximum exploitation may be obtained on a sustained-yield basis.

Section 3.—Fishery Statistics

The review of commercial fishing and marketing given in Section 1, pp. 606-609, covers the situation in 1962 and contains estimated figures for that year. However, at the time of the preparation of this Chapter, the latest statistics available in detail for both the primary industry and the fish products industry were those for 1961 contained in the following Subsections.

Subsection 1.—Primary Production

Atlantic Coast fishermen had a better-than-average year in 1961. Although the quantity of all fish landed was down 10 p.c., higher unit prices for most species brought the value received by fishermen up to \$59,004,000 compared with \$59,763,000 in 1960. Lobster, the major money-maker for the third consecutive year, had a landed value of \$18,054,000, followed by cod at \$15,646,000, haddock \$4,647,000, flounder and sole \$3,311,000 and scallops \$3,082,000.

The Newfoundland catch amounted to 503,079,000 lb. valued at \$14,922,000, compared with the record 573,771,000 lb. valued at \$15,856,000 landed in 1960. Strong competition for supplies by freezing plants to meet an expanded export demand for frozen groundfish gave fishermen higher returns for their catch. The cod fishery, with landings of 328,052,000 lb. valued at \$9,028,000 in 1961, remains the top fishery for Newfoundland.

The 1961 Nova Scotia catch of 439,662,000 lb. valued at \$27,741,300 was up 2.5 p.c. over the 1960 quantity but down slightly from the 1956-60 average. Heavier landings of haddock, herring and scallops and higher unit prices for most species gave the fishermen of that province their highest recorded return. Lobster, cod, haddock and scallops, in that order, were the main species. The fact that the annual herring run chose to come up the