

test netting of planted lakes, whitefish investigations and quality tests, pollution studies, creel census, spawning habits of sport and commercial fish, bottom fauna and fish feeding, lake and river surveys, tagging to determine migratory trends and environmental effects and analyses of trends in fish populations.

Saskatchewan.—Saskatchewan's fishery resource, based on approximately 32,000 sq. miles of water area, has contributed much to the economic and recreational development of the province. The Fisheries Branch of the Department of Natural Resources, with head office at Prince Albert, is responsible for the administration of the fisheries.

Its main objective is to encourage multi-use (harvest) of the fishery, taking into consideration the interests of the various groups concerned—anglers, commercial fishermen and mink ranchers. The Branch plans policies and develops programs that will ensure the proper management and utilization of the fishery; interprets and explains policies, programs and regulations to the public; administers the Acts and Regulations, both federal and provincial, and adapts regulations to meet changing conditions. Its five Divisions deal with commercial fisheries, sport fisheries, fisheries research, spawn camps and the Fish Culture Station.

A record commercial production of 14,998,581 lb. was achieved in Saskatchewan in 1962. The province continues to be one of Canada's largest producers of whitefish and lake trout; 7,388,751 lb. of whitefish and 1,987,475 lb. of lake trout were harvested during the year. Market demand remained firm, returning a gross value of \$3,114,798 from which the fishermen received \$1,477,448 on the lake. The 14 processing plants operating in the province produced 2,045,879 lb. of fillets. Quality control and plant standards are maintained.

During the year, 1,162 domestic fishing licences were issued, with an estimated take of 1,162,000 lb. of fish. In addition, about 500,000 lb. were harvested under the 486 free Indian permits issued; 66 mink ranchers were licensed to permit the feeding of fish to 9,502 mink breeders and used an estimated 5,169,088 lb. of coarse fish (mainly suckers, marias and cisco).

Sport fishing is considered to be one of Saskatchewan's main outdoor attractions. In addition to the summer fishing activities, winter angling is on the increase. During 1962-63, a total of 96,904 angling licences were sold, 87,608 of them to residents of the province.

Continuing the fisheries research program instituted in the province 15 years ago, 11 research projects were undertaken during 1962-63; three reports, covering the survey of 11 lakes, were completed and depth-sounding maps were completed on four other lakes. In connection with the brine shrimp industry, 44 lakes were examined; brine shrimp eggs and shrimp were found to be present in 39 of these lakes. Limnological and fisheries surveys were continued on lakes in the Precambrian area along the highway from Lac la Ronge to the Churchill River and the Hanson Lake road, and on Provincial Park lakes. The creel census project on Lac la Ronge was conducted for the thirteenth consecutive year.

The first phase of the fish culture program entailed the taking of lake trout, northern pike and walleye (pickerel) eggs at the Lac la Ronge spawn camps; arctic grayling eggs were taken at the Black Lake spawn camp, near Lake Athabasca; whitefish eggs were taken from Lepine Lake in the vicinity of Pierceland; and rainbow and eastern brook trout and kokanee eggs were secured from the United States. The second phase of the program was the incubation and hatching of these eggs at the Fish Culture Station at Fort Qu'Appelle and the final phase was the transportation of the fry, fingerling and adult fish from the Fish Culture Station to the lakes selected for stocking. During the year, a total of 96 lakes were stocked with 15,664,150 fry, 645,298 fingerlings and 15,260 yearlings and adults.

Alberta.—Commercial and game fishing is administered by the Fish and Wildlife Division of the Department of Lands and Forests under authority of the Fisheries Act (Canada) and the Fishery Act (Alberta).