

many anglers are now fishing over the entire year. About 100,000 licensed fishermen, 15,000 of them from outside the province, spent an estimated \$11,000,000 in pursuit of this sport. Although their catch of about 5,000,000 lb. a year is considerably less than the commercial fishing yield, the monetary value to the province of the sport fisheries is higher. Extensive water areas are reserved for sport fishing only but others are managed for both types of use. Walleye (pickereel), northern pike and the various trout species are the main species taken. Either or both of the first two species occur in nearly every body of water in the province but trout require a more specialized habitat and occur only in select lakes and rivers.

**Saskatchewan.**—Approximately 32,000 sq. miles of water, about one eighth of the province's area, provide the basis for Saskatchewan's fishery resource, a resource that contributes much to the economic and recreational activity of the province. Administration of the fisheries is the responsibility of the Fisheries Branch of the Department of Natural Resources which has, at Prince Albert, five main divisions—Commercial Fisheries; Sport Fisheries; Research; Spawn Camp; and Fish Culture Station. The Branch plans policies and develops programs that will ensure the proper management and utilization of the fishery resource; 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 objective is to encourage efficient multi-use of the fishery, taking into consideration the interests of the various groups concerned—anglers, commercial fishermen, mink ranchers and the public generally.

The commercial catch in Saskatchewan averages about 14,500,000 lb. annually and consists mainly of whitefish and lake trout. In 1963 the total catch of 14,089,000 lb. had a gross value of \$2,710,000 from which the fishermen received \$1,300,000 on the lake. This was a slight decline from the previous year, a result of the botulism scare in the United States which adversely affected the whitefish market. Eighteen local fishermen co-operatives, with approximately 1,200 licensed fishermen (66 p.c. of the total), marketed 6,547,000 lb. of Saskatchewan's commercial production (46 p.c. of the total). During the year, 545 free Indian fishing permits and 1,016 domestic fishing licences were issued, resulting in a catch of about 1,400,000 lb. of fish, all species; the 60 mink ranchers licensed to fish for 8,637 mink breeders had an estimated production of 4,796,000 lb. of rough fish (suckers, burbot and ciscoes).

The Fish Research Division provides information for the development of fisheries management policies and programs. Study projects are conducted to determine productivity of water bodies; to secure information on abundance and relationship of fish species; to investigate ecology and assess factors that may affect environments of fish; to develop techniques with a view to achieving maximum harvest of fish populations without prejudice to continued production; and to develop techniques that will facilitate rehabilitation and stocking of small water bodies. Eleven research projects were undertaken during 1964 and work on eight lakes was completed. Limnological and fisheries surveys were continued on lakes along the highway from Lac la Ronge to the Churchill River on the Hanson Lake road and on provincial park lakes. The creel census project on Lac la Ronge was conducted for the 14th consecutive year. Spawn camps were operated at Lac la Ronge and Black Lake for the taking of lake trout, northern pike, walleye and Arctic grayling eggs. These, along with rainbow and eastern brook trout eggs secured from the United States, were incubated and hatched at the Fish Culture Station at Fort Qu'Appelle. Seventy-four water bodies were stocked with more than 30,000,000 fry, fingerling, yearling and adult-size fish. The heaviest fry stocking took place at Tobin Lake (Squaw Rapids Reservoir), where 7,000,000 walleye and 410,000 northern pike were released.

**Sport Fisheries.**—One of the leading outdoor recreational activities in Saskatchewan is angling. During 1963-64, 93,694 angling licences were sold, bringing in a total revenue of \$246,162; 82,971 of the angling licences were sold to residents of the province.