

Salmon, halibut and herring are the principal species harvested in the Pacific Coast fisheries although a variety of other fish and shellfish are also taken. The catches of the five Pacific salmon—sockeye, chinook, coho, chum and pink—are regulated for conservation purposes, and extensive biological and engineering facilities are maintained in order to safeguard and develop these important stocks. Halibut, which are fished in the Gulf of Alaska and the Bering Sea, are also closely protected by regulations to maintain stocks at optimum levels. Herring are plentiful and are landed in quantity for reduction into fish meal and oil. Atlantic herring catches surpassed those on the Pacific Coast for the first time in 1966, and the combined landings amounted to almost one third of the total Canadian fish catch. Although much effort has been put into the fishery for Pacific groundfish, there appears to be considerable scope for future expansion.

The most important species taken in Canada's freshwater fisheries include whitefish, perch, pickerel, lake trout, herring, pike, suckers, sauger and smelt. Smaller and coarser species have become plentiful in the Great Lakes since native trout stocks were decimated by the parasitic sea lamprey, but some recovery is indicated as effective control of lamprey is achieved.

## Section 2.—Commercial Fishing and Marketing, 1966

During 1966, landings in the Canadian commercial fisheries achieved records in both quantity and value. The total catch of 2,600,000,000 lb. had a value to fishermen of \$177,000,000, representing increases over 1965 of 8 p.c. in quantity and 10 p.c. in value. Estimated conservatively, the marketed value of fishery products exceeded \$340,000,000. Both the Atlantic and Pacific regions had record results but only minor changes occurred in the freshwater fisheries.

In British Columbia, salmon landings of 170,000,000 lb. were higher than expected and fishermen were paid a record \$38,600,000 for their catch. Both net and troll fishermen reported high returns and the catch of coho, at 38,700,000 lb., was valued at \$11,900,000, the highest on record. The canned salmon pack reached 1,819,000 cases and was the largest since 1958. Halibut landings were 3 p.c. lower than in 1965 but the average price moved up from 34 cents a pound to 35.8 cents, and brought the fishermen a gross return of \$11,500,000. On the other hand, herring landings fell sharply from 444,000,000 lb. in 1965 to 307,600,000 lb. in 1966; as in 1965, a strike by fishermen, this time late in the year, was a major contributing factor to the lower catch. Landings of groundfish, other than halibut, reached the record level of 49,300,000 lb., an increase of 25 p.c. over 1965. The value to fishermen of groundfish landings was \$3,400,000.

In the Atlantic region, landings of 1,900,000,000 lb. had a value to fishermen of \$98,000,000, increases over 1965 of 230,000,000 lb. and \$400,000. All provinces except Quebec recorded increased landings and landed values. The catches of flounders, haddock and redfish were higher than in 1965 although most of the increase was accounted for by the herring catch which amounted to 550,000,000 lb. compared with 405,000,000 lb. in the previous year. The higher landed value of these species, however, was almost totally offset by lower quantities and reduced prices of lobsters and scallops. Inshore fishermen in some areas, notably lobster fishermen in the Northumberland Strait and cod fishermen on the Quebec north shore, experienced smaller catches in 1966.

In Newfoundland, landings reached 665,100,000 lb., valued to the fishermen at \$26,300,000. A relatively poor cod trap fishery was balanced by higher landings from the growing deepsea fleet and landings of most other groundfish species, except haddock, were substantially higher than in 1965. Herring landings more than doubled in volume and value, reaching 63,900,000 lb. worth \$733,000. The catch in Nova Scotia, boosted by large gains in herring landings, at 695,000,000 lb., was more than 100,000,000 lb. higher than in 1965 but, because of lower shellfish landings and a decrease in prices, the value to fishermen, at \$45,400,000, was \$3,000,000 lower than in the previous year. Heavier landings in New