

found in somewhat diminished quantities. The canning of sardines, which are young herrings and not a distinct type of fish, in New Brunswick has been second only to lobstering and during 1924 exceeded the lobster catch in value.

The fishing population of the Maritime Provinces is a specialized and stable industrial class. The coast fisheries are operated from April to November, or to January in sheltered districts; and though the larger vessels work all winter, several thousand men are available for a time each year for other employment. This they find about the small plots of land which most of them own or occupy, in the lumber camps of New Brunswick or in the collieries of Nova Scotia. A few from Lunenburg and other centres engage in the West Indian trade. Apart from restrictions of weather and close seasons, the prevailing method of paying the men on shares has a further tendency in years of low catches or prices to drive them into subsidiary occupations.

In view of the various disabilities attaching to the industry, an Act of the Provincial Legislature of Nova Scotia was passed in 1905, which provided for the organization of fishermen's unions or "stations" throughout the province, in affiliation with a central body, to meet annually for the discussion of common problems such as transportation facilities, the cordage supply, prices, methods of catching and curing fish, etc. Several successful conventions were held. In New Brunswick similar legislation was enacted. After a few years' existence, however, the unions ceased to operate, and fishing activities are again prosecuted independently by the various individuals and firms interested.

Inland Fisheries.—The Great Lakes and tributary waters of the St. Lawrence are a second great division of the Canadian fisheries. Whitefish, trout, pickerel and lake herring are the most important commercial fishes of Ontario, though pike, sturgeon and coarse fish yield a fair return. The Quebec inland fisheries are comparatively unimportant. The story of the Great Lakes fisheries is one of reckless early depletion and subsequent slow recovery from restocking. Single hauls of 90,000 whitefish were once common; in the Detroit river the fish used to be driven into pens where they were captured or dried by the hundreds of thousands, and were used later as fertilizer. All this reaped its due reward in barren waters and a demoralized market. The season on the Great Lakes lasts from six to eight months, and though fishing through the ice is followed by many, a large number depend on miscellaneous employment between the seasons. Moving westward, lake Winnipeg, lake Winnipegosis, lake Manitoba and the smaller lakes to the north and east furnish most of the fish products of Manitoba. Whitefish and pickerel are the chief products, but pike, tullibee, goldeye and many other varieties abound. In Saskatchewan and Alberta, commercial fishing is confined to the regions north of the Saskatchewan river, where whitefish in large quantities are taken. The problem of transportation is keenly felt; some of the greatest lakes of the continent—Reindeer, Athabaska, Great Slave, Great Bear—and hundreds of smaller bodies of water are still beyond reach from a marketing point of view. The lakes of the west, however, repeating the part which the St. Lawrence played in the days of the French *régime*, and the cod banks in the history of New England, have assisted greatly in the settlement of the country by providing a much needed food supply for the pioneers.

Pacific Fisheries.—In British Columbia there is an interior fishing region which corresponds in the main to the prairie section; in the early history of the province it is doubtful if the fur trade (which opened the door by way of the Rocky mountains to later enterprise) could have established its footing but for these