

Cold Storage of Fish.—The stocks of frozen fish held in Canada during 1953 followed the normal seasonal pattern. During the first four months, when activity in the industry was reduced because of weather conditions, stocks gradually declined. As summer operations began and production of frozen fish increased, stocks rose and continued to do so until the end of October. Production declined with the coming of winter and a greater proportion of the demand for frozen fish was supplied out of stocks.

Stock figures at the beginning of each month in 1952 and 1953 for the 10 provinces were as follows:—

<u>Month</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
	'000,000 lb.			'000,000 lb.	
Jan. 1.....	44.5	54.7	Aug. 1.....	55.4	50.5
Feb. 1.....	35.5	45.8	Sept. 1.....	60.1	58.6
Mar. 1.....	33.1	38.4	Oct. 1.....	66.3	59.8
Apr. 1.....	27.4	34.3	Nov. 1.....	66.6	60.9
May 1.....	29.7	32.7	Dec. 1.....	60.5	57.4
June 1.....	35.0	37.3			
July 1.....	46.0	46.7	AVERAGES.....	46.7	48.1

The holdings of frozen fish reflect the level of production as well as the market at a given time. The demand for some frozen products was not as great in 1953 as in 1952 and, despite slightly reduced supplies of fish for freezing, average monthly holdings of frozen fish were higher than those of the previous year. Dressed Pacific halibut stocks in 1953 showed the greatest increase over 1952; production of this product was high but demand was somewhat lower. Holdings of Atlantic cod fillets were larger in the first four months of 1953 than in the same period of the previous year. Canadian fillets experienced more intensive competition in the United States market from other producers which in turn reduced demand for the Canadian product. Lower than normal output during the summer and autumn period and an improved market caused stocks to decrease below 1952 levels.

Average monthly holdings of the main fish products in 1952 and 1953 for the 10 provinces were as follows:—

<u>Group and Product</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1953</u>
	'000,000 lb.	
FROZEN, FRESH SEAFISH—		
Salmon, Pacific, dressed and filleted.....	8.4	7.1
Halibut, Pacific, dressed.....	7.5	9.3
Herring, Atlantic, round.....	5.5	5.7
Cod, Atlantic, filleted.....	4.4	4.0
TOTALS, FROZEN, FRESH SEAFISH ¹	38.9	40.9
FROZEN, FRESH INLAND FISH—		
Whitefish, dressed and filleted.....	1.4	1.1
Tullibee, round or dressed.....	0.8	0.7
Pickerei (yellow pike) dressed and filleted.....	0.6	0.7
TOTALS, FROZEN, FRESH INLAND FISH ¹	5.1	4.7
FROZEN, SMOKED FISH—		
Cod, Atlantic, filleted.....	1.5	1.0
Sea herring, dressed.....	0.7	0.8
Haddock, dressed.....	0.2	0.2
TOTALS, FROZEN, SMOKED FISH ¹	2.7	2.5
GRAND TOTALS.....	46.7	48.1

¹ Totals include other items not listed.