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Canada's Fisheries Resources

BY H. F. S. PAISLEY, DIRECTOR, FISHERIES INTELLIGENCE AND PUBLICITY DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF MARINE & FISHERIES

(For Broadcast under the Auspices of the Professional Institute of the Fish Service on March 25th, 1930, 8.45 to 9 p.m.)

If one spoke of a country called "Bacalao" many who are listening would be at a loss to understand what land was meant. Yet, as a matter of fact, this continent which we now know as North America was once called by that name, "Bacalao". That was the name given it by John Cabot when he first sighted its shores at the close of the 15th century. He found Basque fishermen from Spain and France carrying on the cod fishery off these shores and he applied to the new land their name for codfish—"bacalao".

The fishing industry, indeed, is the oldest industry of the land that is now Canada. There is reason to believe that long before the time of Columbus and Cabot there were European vessels fishing off the Atlantic coast of this country. When Cartier sailed up the St. Lawrence in 1534 he found evidence that fishermen from the Old World had been there before him, Spanish, Portuguese, and French fishermen frequented the waters off Cape Breton Island several centuries ago, and what is now Sydney Harbour was for years known as "Spanish Bay". In 1599 French fishermen established a base at Tadoussac in Quebec, and four years later a grant of the fisheries of Canada was made to Sieur de Monts by the King of France.

That was a long time ago. Nowadays the fish caught by Canadian Commercial fishermen are worth something like fifty-five million dollars a year. A hundred and more foreign countries buy fish and fish products from the Dominion. Last year they paid Canada about thirty-eight million dollars for what they bought. Upwards of 30,000 Canadians are at work in the fishing industry every year—catching fish, drying and curing fish, pickling them, canning them, making fish oil and meal and glue. Taking also into the reckoning the dependents of the people directly engaged in the industry, the fisheries of the Dominion are seen to be a source of support for a population several times greater than that of a city like Ot-

tawa. There is another point to be remembered in this connection. Perhaps some people have thought of the fisheries as making employment only in fishing districts and adjacent country. Actually, the case is that directly and indirectly the fisheries are a widespread source of employment and earnings for people remote from commercial fishing waters as well as for those who live in fishing communities, for people in industrial centres as well as for those in small settlements. The fisheries give employment for workers who make oilskins and rubber boots and other clothing used by the fishermen, for makers of gasoline engines, for builders of vessels and boats and makers of boat and vessel gear, for the producers of nets and rigging, for the people who make the millions of oans and the barrels and casks and other containers in which fish are shipped, and for the railwaymen and other transport workers who handle the scores of millions of pounds of Canadian fish which are marketed annually. Economically, then, the fishing industry is of prime national importance.

Of course the industry was bound to grow. It was bound to grow with the general advancement of the Dominion. Progress was certain as the scientists established that fish are especially valuable foods, because of their richness in vitamins and iodine and other elements. And progress was inevitable because the fishing grounds of the Dominion are probably the most extensive in the world and the fish inhabiting them are unsurpassed anywhere in variety and quality.

Some Canadians may be surprised by the statement that the Dominion's fishing grounds are probably the most extensive in the world. It happens to be so for a reason. Canada's Atlantic coast line northward from Grand Manan in New Brunswick, measures over 5,000 miles, and fish are to be caught along almost every mile of it. In the Bay of Fundy, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and other waters there are over four-fifths of the total area of the fishing grounds of the North Atlantic, or 300,000 square miles. Then, too, there is a water area greater than that of the Mediterranean in Hudson Bay where a survey to determine the value of the fisheries resources is planned by the Dominion Fisheries Branch for the present year.

On the Pacific, the coast line of Canada measures nearly 7,200 miles. The waters teem with salmon and many other excellent food fishes, and yield an annual harvest which gives

which gives British Columbia a sea production equal in marketed value to more than forty-five per cent of the Dominion's fisheries total. Inland are lakes containing more than half the fresh water of the globe. From these lakes and various tributaries great and increasing quantities of fish are annually shipped to market, and add more than eight million dollars to the value of the nation's fisheries production.

Yearly, moreover, additional inland fishing waters are being opened up as settlement advances northward in newer portions of the country, and in this connection it is interesting to note that today fish are shipped to United States cities from waters as remote as Lake Athabasca, which lies some 700 miles north of the international boundary line.

The right of fisheries legislation for all parts of the country belongs to the Dominion, but in some cases the administration of the fisheries rests with provincial authorities. The tidal fisheries of the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, the fisheries of the Magdalen Islands in Quebec, and the non-tidal fisheries of Nova Scotia are administered by the Dominion. At present this is true, too, of the Prairie Province fisheries.

In addition to administering the fisheries which are under Dominion control, the Fisheries Branch administers the laws governing the preparation of canned fish, pickled fish, and fish otherwise cured. Canned fish must be produced in accordance with the requirements of the Meat and Canned Foods Act, and pickled fish and fish otherwise cured are prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Fish Inspection Act.

Through vigilant enforcement of these measures by specially trained officers, the Fisheries Branch ensures proper standards of cleanliness in plant operation and high quality of product. Another important part of the work of the Fisheries Branch is found in the fish cultural operations of its Fish Culture Division and Canadians may take pride in the fact that their country led the way in work of this kind in the New World. Thirty fish hatcheries and some fifteen related establishments are conducted by the Division which, by means of annual distribution of hundreds of millions of eggs, fry and fingerlings maintains and increases the stock of fish in various waters, introduces fish to waters to which they are not native, and stock new waters. Incidentally, it may be noted that one of the recent successful undertakings of the Fish Culture Division has been the introduction of Eastern Speckled Trout into formerly barren waters of famous Jasper Park.

Continual fisheries research work is carried on by scientists on the staff of the Biological Board of Canada, which is under the authority of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries. At St. Andrew's New Brunswick, and Nanaimo, British Columbia, the Board conducts biological stations where investigations are made into problems of fish life. At Halifax, Nova Scotia, and at Prince Rupert, British Columbia, it has fisheries experimental stations which take up questions related to the practical side of the fishing industry and conduct experiments to solve fishermen's problems and to develop improved methods of handling and processing fish.

It was at stations of the Biological Board that successful work was recently done to determine the most efficient and economical method of employing the "rapid freezing" process for freezing fish. Fresh fish treated by this process is frozen in such a way that, if properly stored, it will retain its full natural flavour not simply for days, but for weeks and even for months, and will lose none of its original firmness of tissue. Several methods of "rapid freezing" are being developed, but the one mostly in use at present employs the indirect application of brine at sub-zero temperature.

So effective is the "rapid freezing" process that experts served at table with fish frozen in this way are unable to tell if fish taken fresh from the water. Fish fillets frozen according to the method developed under the Biological Board are now regularly available in several cities packed in cartons and parchment paper. As the "rapid freezing" process is put to wider use and its application is now steadily increasing, all varieties of fish will become available to consumers in all parts of the country as fresh and delicious as when it came from the net, and with all its health-giving properties undiminished. Indeed, exportation will also be possible to all parts of the world which are reached by transportation services equipped with adequate cold storage facilities.

It is the discovery of the richness of fish, especially sea fish, in certain health-giving and health-causing elements which has been causing doctors and dietitians to emphasize more and more the importance of including

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Central Guardian

APPEAL DISMISSED—On Thursday last a prohibition appeal case was brought before His Honour Judge Duffy. The appeal, which was brought by the Chief Prohibition Inspector in a case against Mrs. Fields, was dismissed with costs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT—The Sisters of St. Vincent's Orphanage gratefully acknowledge a donation of \$5 from Roseneath Women's Institute.

SUMMERSIDE AND RETURN—On Sunday, March 23rd, a car driven by Mr. Arthur Burns made the trip from Summerside to Charlottetown, returning Monday morning. He was accompanied by Mr. George Inman, Jr. The return trip was made in 2 1/2 hours.

RECEIVES HIGH PRICE FOR FOX—The many friends of Mr. John Spencer will be glad to learn that he has received such a nice price for one fox pelt being 70 pounds. \$340.00. This fox pelt was one of 15,400 and came 5th at C. M. Lampson and Co., Ltd. January sale 1930. The above fox was reared in 1928 in Mr. Spencer's ranch.

RUNAWAY—Yesterday forenoon a milk team became affrighted on Dorchester Street East and ran away after going a short distance the team standing by the curb. The harness of the former snapped off, the horse continuing up the street. Not a bottle of milk was damaged in either team.

PERSONALS

Dr. G. F. Dewar and Mrs. Dewar, of this city arrived in Saint John yesterday morning, passengers on board the C. N. S. S. Lady Hawkins from Bermuda.

Mr. C. E. Shaw, supervisor of the fruit and vegetable branch, Charlottetown, has left for Boston to spend a few days there in connection with his business.

Mr. and Mrs. George E. Sherren with Mr. and Mrs. A. Stuart Dickson, city, returned after a very pleasant visit to Crapaud, attending the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Sherren, on March 17.

ing fish regularly and frequently in the diet.

Protein is the chief food constituent of fish and it has been pointed out by Dr. Donald K. Tressler, of the famous Mellon Institute of Research, that fish protein resembles that of the highly nutritious chicken meat. Not only is fish protein so nutritious but fish contain higher amounts of vitamins than are found in many other foods. They include valuable inorganic elements, and their high content of iodine makes them effective preventives of goitre.

It is because fish are so high in vitamin content that their use in the diet helps to prevent and cure rickets as well as certain affections of the eye. In this connection a word or two may be quoted from a recent statement by Dr. J. A. Amyot, Canada's Deputy Minister of National Health. "Fish" says Dr. Amyot "is especially rich in vitamin D, which is so necessary for the development of bone. The use of vitamin D prevents rickets. The existence of this vitamin in fish oils suggests the importance of fish as a diet for the young". A similar point is made by Dr. Alton Goldbloom, one of the lecturers in the Faculty of Medicine at McGill University, while Dr. E. McCollum of Johns Hopkins University wrote that development of "bone defects" are rare among children where fish forms a prominent article of diet.

In a paper by Dr. R. E. McKechnie, of Vancouver, which was presented at the Pan-Pacific Surgical Conference at Honolulu last summer, it was pointed out that the absence of iodine from the human system renders the body vulnerable to the invasion of the organism which is the probable cause of goitre. Dr. Tressler expressed a similar view when he wrote in one of his books that the prevalence of goitre is "roughly inversely proportional to the iodine content of food and drinking water." Most common foods contain relatively little iodine while, on the other hand, fish, especially sea fish, are rich in iodine, so that, as Dr. Amyot says in his statement, the fact that goitre is less prevalent among people living near the sea coasts than among inland dwellers is due to the greater consumption of fish by the former group.

Some sixty different varieties of fish and shellfish are obtainable from Canada's commercial fisheries. All of them may be obtained all the year round—fresh or frozen or in prepared form. There is no season of the year when the Canadian housewife or chef cannot obtain fine flavoured fish products of unsurpassed quality, abundant in nourishment, and rich in elements which protect against disease and build up health and strength.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SUPT. OF EDUCATION

BY PROFESSOR H. H. SHAW

Amounts expended per capita of Enrolment and Average Attendance for Public Schools by Districts and Government respectively for the year 1929.

	Ch'town and Side Districts	all other Districts	Total for Province
Enrolment	2,617	14,563	17,180
Average Attendance	2,192	9,952	12,144
Percentage of Attendance	84	68	70.6
Expended by Districts	\$54,363.88	133,405.35	\$187,769.23
Expended By Gov't	34,456.50	211,153.70	245,610.20
Total	\$88,820.38	\$344,559.05	\$433,379.43

	By Districts	By Government	Total
Expenditure per pupil enrolled:			
By Districts	\$ 20.77	\$ 9.16	\$ 29.93
By Government	13.16	14.50	27.66
Total	\$ 40.51	\$ 34.57	\$ 75.07

	By Districts	By Government	Total
Expenditure per pupil in attendance:			
By Districts	\$ 24.80	\$ 13.36	\$ 38.16
By Government	15.71	34.57	50.28
Total	\$ 40.51	\$ 34.57	\$ 75.07

ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

The enrolment of the past year still indicates a decreasing school population. This decrease has been steadily taking place since 1889. The attendance however is increasing the percentage last year being 70.6 the highest yet recorded. This improvement in attendance is found chiefly in the larger grade schools. In the one room district school the attendance is not satisfactory. Where the classes are small there is not the same incentive to pupils to maintain their standing by regular attendance. Unfavorable weather and distance afford a ready excuse for careless children to remain at home and indifferent parents readily acquiesce, particularly when child labor can be found helpful in the varied operations of the farm. The development of the potato industry also makes demands on the older pupils which interferes greatly with school attendance. A shorter midsummer and longer fall holidays is being generally asked for. A few districts still adhere to spring holidays which, occurring near the end of the school year, seriously disorganize the work and prevent many pupils from reaching the standard of achievement aimed at for the end of the year.

SCHOOL PROPERTIES

The reports of the Inspectors indicate a steady improvement in school properties and a more general appreciation of the importance of better equipment for the schools. To encourage the beautification of school grounds the Horticultural Society of Canada offers yearly the Silver Cup so generously contributed by His Honor Lieutenant Governor Hears, to the school showing the greatest improvement and beautification of school property during the year, and a prize to the pupil writing the best essay descriptive of the same.

Last year the cup was won by Launching School while the prize for the essay was awarded to Alice Annear, a pupil of Lower Montague School. The Richards' Prize given to the schools of Lots 11, 12 and 13 for the best kept properties were awarded:

- First to Mt. Pleasant School.
- Second to Northam School.
- Third to Freland School.

The great difficulty in beautifying school grounds arises from the frequent changes of teachers and the long midsummer holiday, when much attention is necessary for the care of the garden. Considerable voluntary work must be done by some interested parties if it is to be a success and credit is due to those who have so generously contributed their labor and talent to this work.

The Experimental Farm has generously offered its assistance in supplying seed, bulbs, and shrubs and in advising the most suitable layout and placement of grounds and it should be the aim of citizens to make their school not only a pleasant place for the children but a real community center for the recreation and culture of all the people of the district. The public should form a part or be near to the school. Ample grounds should be provided for community sports and, properly planted with trees and shrubs it should in time be the public park and garden of the community, the pride and delight of all.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The importance of the work being done in the schools by the nurses of the Canadian Red Cross Society cannot be too highly commended. In addition to the chief nurse there is now a district nurse for each county and an organizer of Junior Red Cross Branches. At the end of the year there were 181 of these branches with 3565 members. In their visits to the schools the nurses examine the children and report on physical defects for guidance of parents and teacher, give health talks to the classes and make suggestions for improving the school buildings in respect to lighting, seating, and general hygienic conditions. Largely as a result of their outspoken warnings in regard to the need of smallpox vaccination a campaign was carried out during the year with the result that today 78 per cent of the children enrolled in the Public Schools have been given this protection against that dread disease instead of only 15 per cent as formerly obtained.

The number of pupils with defective eyesight calls attention to the proper lighting of the school room, and the discovery of unexpected weaknesses afford an explanation to teachers of the backwardness or irritability of pupils. In addition to the study of health rules and practice of health habits, exercises in Physical Drill are compulsory in all schools and a stimulus to this work is provided by the prizes and certificates given by the committee of the Strathcona Trust Fund.

This committee awards two prizes to each Inspectorate. The first prize is given to the school showing the greatest proficiency in Physical Drill and the second prize to the school showing the greatest improvement made during the year in this respect. The prizes were awarded last year as follows:

STRATHCONA PRIZES

Inspectorate	1st Prize	2nd Prize
No. 1	Misouche School	Woodstock School
No. 2	Freeland School	O'Brien Road School
No. 3	Linkletter School	Lower Bedeque School
No. 4	Pleasant Valley School	Indian River School
No. 5	West Royalty School	South Milton School
No. 6	Village Green School	New Argyle School
No. 7	Melville School	South Finette School
No. 8	Cornwall School	Iona School
No. 9	Granville School	Gowan Brae School

The School Days Library Commission organized by Mr. Adam Andrew has placed libraries in 54 schools as follows:

Prize	Queens	King's
Darnley	Darnley	Beach Point
Middletown	Cornwall	Murray River
Montrose	DeSable	Geppereaux
Mt. Pleasant	Donaldston	Highbank
Skinner's Pond	Dupastaffne	Iona
Kinkora	Hunter River	Panmure Island
Melville	Melville	Mt. Mary
Indian River	Millview	Heatherdale
Kensington	New Haven	Cardigan
Freland	New London	Launching
Fernwood	North West	
O'Brien Road	Royalty School	
	Stanchol	
	Anglo Justice	

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- New Glasgow
- Pleasant Valley
- South Winsloe
- South Milton
- East Royalty
- Rose Valley
- Spring Park
- Mt. Stewart
- York Point
- Vernon
- Springvale

The new course of study requires that pupils shall read two or more books of supplementary material in addition to the prescribed text and the school library is the economical method of providing this material. In fact it is an absolute necessity of equipment now for each school.

Pupils leaving school before reaching the higher grades, must depend on their future self-education upon the impetus received during their years in the elementary school. If during that time they have learned how to they have acquired the means of continuing their education throughout their life. It is therefore important that pupils in the grades have ready access to the book treasures which are their rightful heritage. There are books that belong to childhood, Myths, Fairy Tales, Folk Lore and Legends. These the childhood of the race evolved and these the children of today should have and enjoy. There are tales of adventure and exploration, biographies of heroes in all ages which inspire youth with courage and devotion to duty, and there are books of science, poetry and history which appeal to the older pupils. To give the right book to the right child at the right time, becomes the responsibility of the school and this can best be accomplished through the school library.

The generous assistance of Mr. Andrew together with that of many pupils of our Island schools who have achieved success abroad encourages us to hope that all our schools will shortly be equipped with a fair school library, and that local appreciation of its usefulness will insure its maintenance and enlargement.

The School Days Library Commission has submitted the following list of donors and the Department gratefully acknowledges their generous aid in providing this necessary equipment for our public schools.

Adam Andrew	San Francisco, Cal	\$2,000.00
Murdoch A. MacDonald	Bristol, Conn.	5.00
Mrs. Edwin M. Merriman	Dorchester, Mass.	5.00
Mr. Young	California	25.00
Mrs. Smith Johnson	Brookline, Mass.	5.00
Mrs. Mary J. Arthur	San Francisco, Cal	50.00
Dr. Wellington Dixon	Montreal	50.00
Russell Clark, M. P. P.	Mt. Stewart	50.00
H. Cox M. P. P.	Morell	50.00
Jon. J. P. MacIntyre	Charlottetown	25.00
William Avery	San Francisco	100.00
R. H. Gordon, M. P. P.	Montrose	50.00
Lucas Allen M. P. P.	Summerside	25.00
Mrs. L. M. Montgomery MacDonald	Ontario	25.00
I. W. Marchbank	San Francisco	50.00
Richard R. Bell	Los Gatos, Cal	25.00
Margaret A. MacLeod	Groton, Mass.	10.00
Frank W. Andrew	Cladstone, Mich.	10.00
Hon. B. W. LePage	Charlottetown	10.00
Mary C. Wright	Stratton, Maine	2.00
J. C. MacLeod	Littleton, Maine	100.00
C. B. MacNeill	Vancouver	10.00
E. N. Conrad	MacRorie, Sask.	2.00

SANSON'S PEN WINS

Notes on the PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND EGG LAYING CONTEST FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 20, 1930.

Mr. William Sanson's B. R. pen 10 led the contest for the week with 61 eggs, 68.9 points; Mr. Preston MacLeod's R. I. Reds were second with 60 eggs, 66.6 points and Mr. H. C. Muttar's B. R. pen 9 were third with 58 eggs, 66.6 points.

Mr. James Tuplin's B. R. hen 9 still leads in individual laying with 108 eggs, 118.5 points; The Kensington Baby Chick Hatchery hen No 9 is second with 109 eggs, 113.5 points and Mr. A. L. Rogers B. R. hen No 9 is third with 97 eggs, 100.8 points. The pens leading in total production are:

- 1st, Kensington Baby Chick Hatchery, B. R. 720 eggs, 783.1 points.
 - 2nd, Preston MacLeod, R. I. R. 605 eggs 664.6 points.
 - 3rd, A. L. Rogers, B. R. 640 eggs 643.4 points.
 - 4th, H. C. Muttar, B. R. 564 eggs 628.6 points.
- The total eggs laid for the week was 1079 and to date 10190.

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