

Fisheries Stand Eighth Among Canada's Exports

By EUGENE GORMAN
Deputy Minister of Fisheries
A glance at Canada's year book for 1957 - 58 bears out the oft repeated statement that Canada's Fisheries is one of her most valuable assets.

The statistics for the year 1955 are as representative as any to bear this out. The net value of Canada's production at that year was about \$15.8 million of which a very small percentage was provided by the fisheries industry. To be exact the fisheries industry provided about 6-10th of 1 percent of this net value.

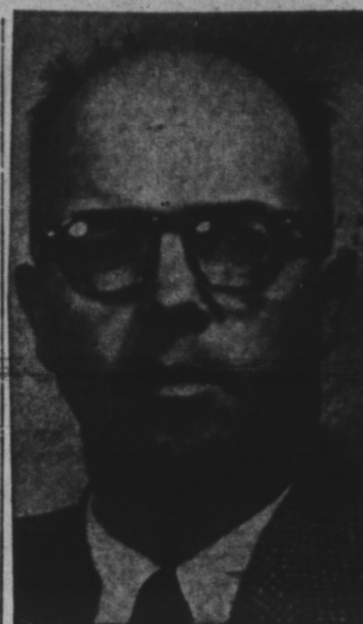
It is rather the export value of Canada's fisheries that indicates its true worth in the Canadian economy. In that year Fisheries provided about 3 percent of the total value of Canada's exports, ranking eighth in value.

In other words the fishing industry constituting a mere 6-10th of 1 percent of the total production yet provided nearly three percent of the nation's export value.

EAST LANDS HALF

The East Coast landed value of approximately \$50 million for that year constituted about 55 percent of the total landed value of Canada's fishermen, about 47 percent of the Capital equipment in primary operations; and we produce about 66 percent of the tonnage and 57 percent of the value of Canada's Fishery.

The most valuable single item in this East Coast fishery is of course Lobster, at approxi-



mately 16 million dollars annually; and the next largest value is derived from the Cod fishery with over 14 millions of dollars.

P. E. I. LANDINGS

Both of these last named items contribute to the importance of the Atlantic Provinces as supplies to export markets, particularly the U. S. Markets. At the moment this market seems to be expanding more rapidly than we are gearing to supply it.

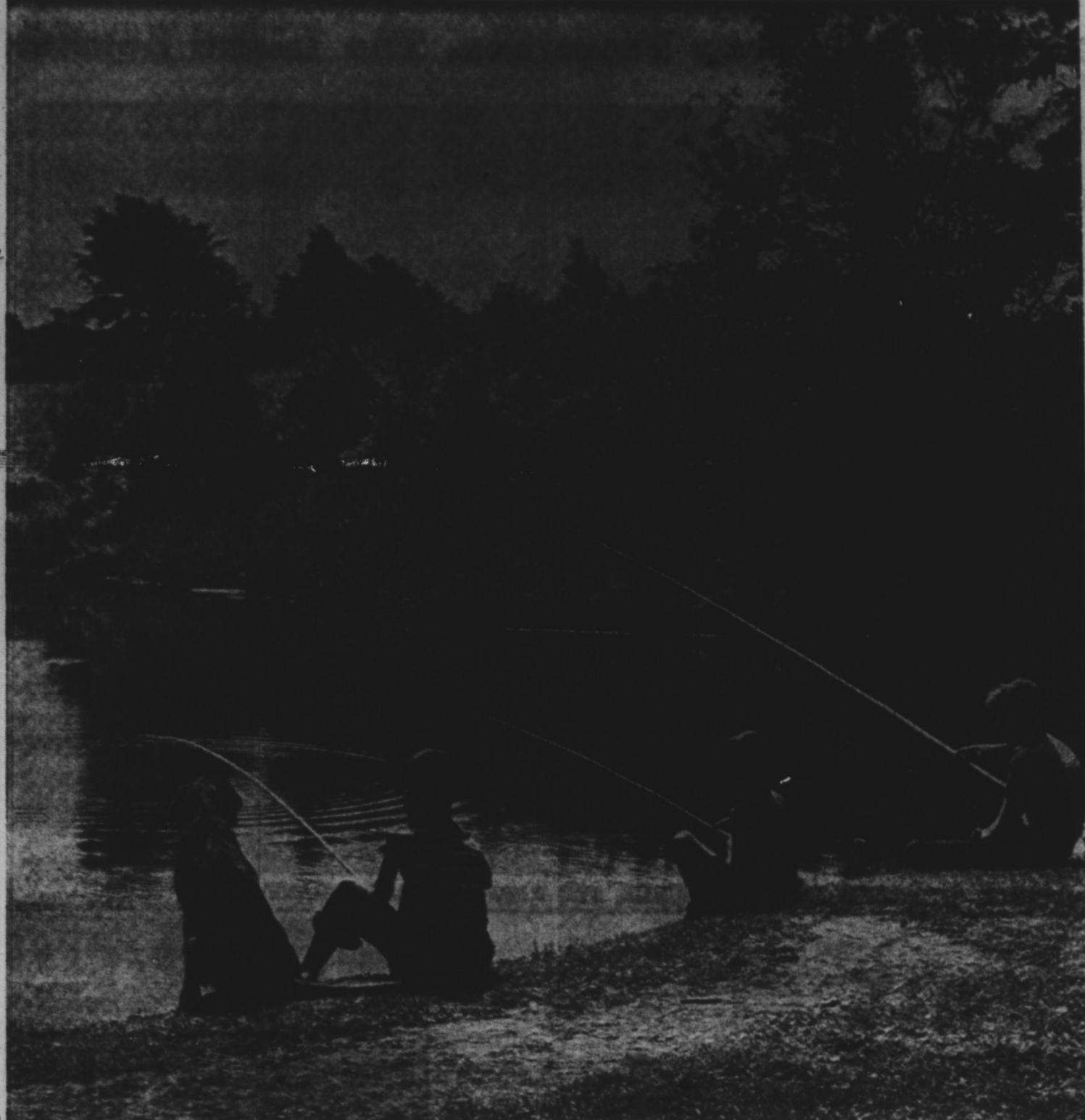
The development and expansion of production and processing facilities to exploit this opportunity merits our most serious attention at this time. Efforts already undertaken in this regard have approved very rewarding.

The marketed value of P. E. I. fishery has moved to \$2.7 million in 1949, to a value of \$5.2 million in 1956. A substantial

amount of this increase is derived from entirely new activity. For example, the 1949 landings show approximately \$179,000 derived from this item. Similarly haddock landings in 1949 were somewhat over \$5,000 whereas the 1956 landings showed nearly \$140,000 derived from this item. While the general outlook is indeed optimistic to those concerned in the development of our fisheries resources, there are, however, some problems of considerable concern to us. Chief among these is the problem of the rising cost of production to the fisherman. Although his gross return shows a steady increase throughout the years, he has been unable, particularly in the last year or two, to retain a net percentage of his return commensurate with this expansion.

SUGGESTED SOLUTIONS
His position in this regard might be bettered by one or a combination of various solutions, three of which we might mention. First solution might be that

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



FISHING CAN BE FUN TOO

Provincial Minister Extends His Greetings

"It is a privilege indeed, on this occasion, to bring a message to the fishing industry of this Province.

"As we glance over the statistical results of the 1958 season, many of these are most satisfying, some few points may be a little disturbing, and still other results should prompt us to renewed effort in the expansion of our fishery.

"We have much to be thankful for in the 1958 season, both on the National scene and in the Provincial picture.

"On the National scene we note that the landings from sea fisheries rose about on percent to 1.56 billion pounds; but the landed value showed an increase of 35.3 percent, rising to a value of \$101.6 million to the fishermen.

"The chief cause of this tremendous increase was, of course, the heavy landing of sock-eye salmon and herring on the West Coast. On the Atlantic seaboard the 1958 landing dropped 9.2 percent from the 1957 landing of 1.34 billion pounds. In spite of this however, the value rose by 1.6 percent to \$51.4 million.

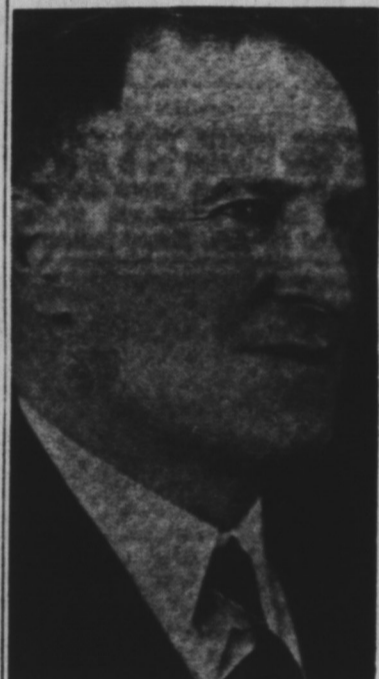
COD CATCH DOWN

"The cod catch was down 17.9 percent in poundage and 12 percent in value from that of 1957. Haddock landings decreased also dropping 21.7 percent in poundage, but the value of haddock decreased only by 3.3 percent reflecting the higher price for this variety of fish during the period.

"The lobster landing in the Atlantic seaboard decreased by 4.2 percent in quantity, but increased 9.3 percent in value. 42.7 million pounds of lobster were landed for a value of 15.89 million dollars.

INCREASED VALUE

"In our Provincial Fisheries the 1958 season brought a decrease of 1.4 percent in quantity but an increase of 5.8 percent in value. Our lobsterery accounted for



HON. DOUGALD MACKINNON
over 66 percent of the total value from our sea fisheries.

"The 1958 landing of lobster was 6.6 percent below that of 1957, but the value increased by 2 percent. It is interesting to note

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that our off shore fleet has developed to the point where it provided, in 1958, approximately 58 percent of the ground fish landing of the Province.

"Preliminary figures indicate that the ground fish landing for this season was about 20.7 million of pounds. The preliminary results from the 13 draggers operating show that they brought in over 10 million pounds. This provided a value to those fishermen of well over \$300,000.00, and employment in the processing of their fish to the extent of \$275,000.00.

"These figures are a tribute to the fishermen who have laboured so hard and diligently to provide the results mentioned. They cannot help but encourage us to further efforts in the development of our fisheries.

- SEASIDE CAVES
Riverport in Lunenburg County, N.S., has large caves worn into the cliffs by the sea.

URANIUM OUTPUT
South Africa produced 7,000 tons of uranium oxide in 1958, compared with Canada's 12,000 tons and the United States' 9,000 tons.

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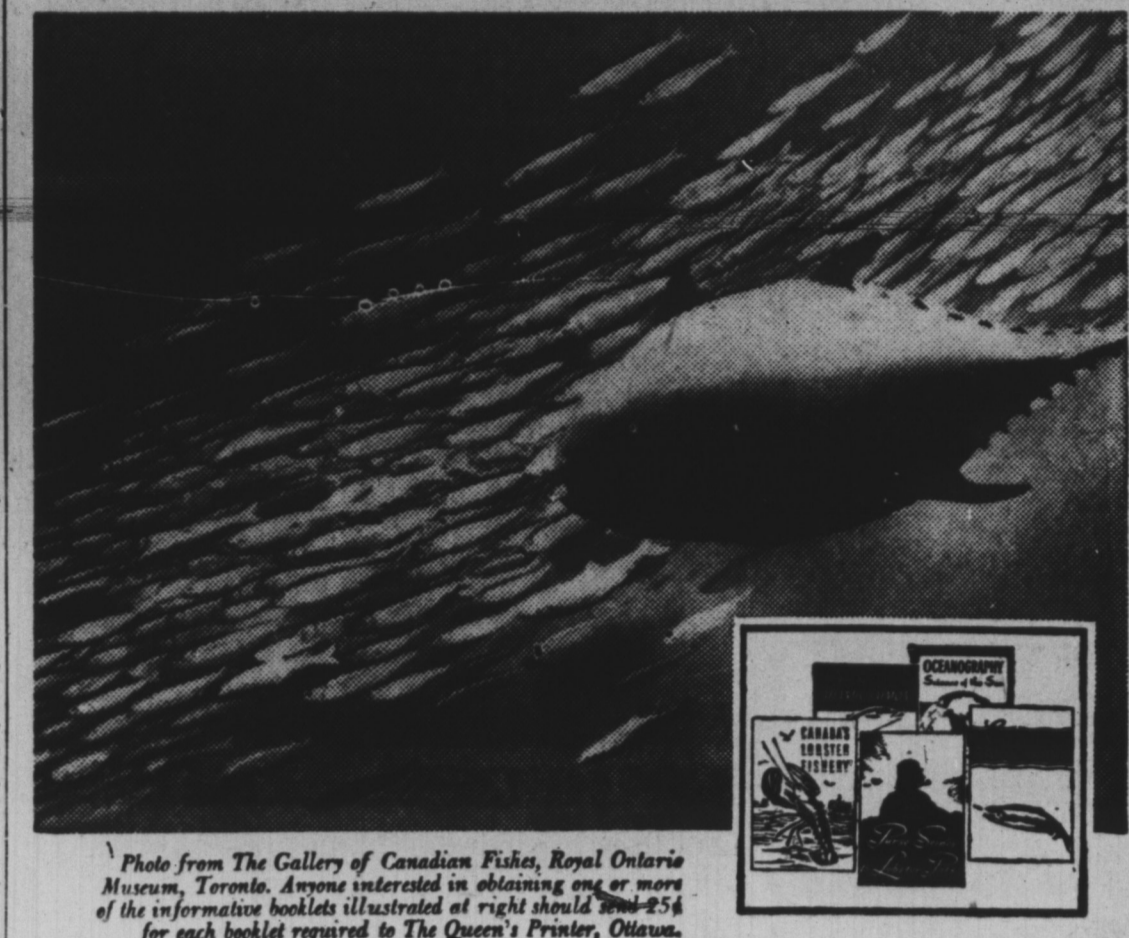


Photo from The Gallery of Canadian Fishes, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. Anyone interested in obtaining one or more of the informative booklets illustrated at right should send 25¢ for each booklet required to The Queen's Printer, Ottawa.



We've gone fishing for facts

Education and information is an important part of the Department of Fisheries' work—telling the facts about Canada's fishing industry.

Fish are a great national resource... vital to this country's economy. Canada's welfare—which means yours—depends on keeping them in plentiful supply. The educational program of the Department is designed to tell Canadians what's being done to preserve the nation's extensive fish stocks and how valuable they are as a basic food resource.

This work is carried out through the daily and weekly press; radio and television; magazines; educational publications; recipe pamphlets for housewives; exhibitions; permanent fishery displays; film and filmstrip showings; and illustrated educational talks to fishermen and consumers.

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