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FISHERIES STATISTICS

of

BRITISH COLUMBIA

1926

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### PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1926.

The following preliminary report on the fisheries of British Columbia is issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

#### PRODUCTION

The value of the fisheries production of British Columbia in 1926 was \$27,367,109, compared with \$22,414,618 in 1925. These figures represent the value of the fish marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh or canned, cured, etc. The value for 1926 is the largest in the history of the industry, the principal item contributing to the increase being canned salmon, which exceeded the previous high year for quantity (1924) by 320,642 cases, and for value (1925) by \$3,972,198. The catch of salmon in 1926 amounted to 2,125,555 cwt., and the value marketed was \$18,776,762, or 69 per cent of the total value of the fisheries production of the province in that year. There was again a slight decrease in the catch of halibut, but the marketed value showed an increase over the preceding year of \$651,901. Next in importance is herring, with a decrease both in catch and in marketed value. The production of fish oil and meal is becoming an important part of the fisheries industry of British Columbia, the output of these items in 1926 having a total value of \$1,325,672. Pilchard oil is of chief importance with 1,898,721 gal., valued at \$734,078, while the quantity of pilchard meal was 7,948 tons, valued at \$371,365. Fish oil, fish meal and fish fertilizer, n.e.s., made chiefly from greyfish and herring, had an output valued at \$196,208.

#### CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND EMPLOYEES

##### PRIMARY OPERATIONS:

Capital.— The amount of capital represented by the vessels, boats, nets, traps, piers and wharves, etc. engaged in the primary operations of catching and landing the fish was \$9,609,209, an increase over the preceding year of \$2,778,844, or 41 per cent. The increase in capital is due chiefly to the increase in the number and value of sailing and gasoline vessels and sail and row boats.

Employees.— The number of men employed in these operations in 1926 was 12,162, compared with 9,944 in 1925.

##### FISH CANNING AND CURING ESTABLISHMENTS:

Capital.— The capital investment of the fish canning and curing establishments, comprising land, buildings and machinery; materials, supplies and products on hand; and cash and operating accounts, had a total value in 1926 of \$22,002,056, compared with \$14,844,219 in 1925. The salmon canneries accounted for 79 per cent of the total value in 1926 and 62 per cent in 1925. The total number of establishments in operation in 1926 was 165, including 77 salmon canneries, 3 clam canneries, 67 fish curing establishments and 18 reduction plants. The number of salmon canneries shows an increase of 12, reduction plants an increase of 6, and fish curing establishments and clam canneries each an increase of 1.

Employees.— The number of persons employed in the establishments in 1926 was 8,051, an increase over the preceding year of 613.

Detailed statistics of production, capital equipment and employees are given in the following tables.

## 1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia, 1925 and 1926.

Kind		1925		1926	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Cod, caught	Cwt.	31,636	190,684	39,105	249,388
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	31,306	262,326	38,943	335,789
Fresh fillets	"	10	150	-	-
Green-salted	"	-	-	17	205
Smoked fillets	"	100	1,560	64	765
Total value marketed		-	264,036	-	336,759
Hake and cush, caught	Cwt.	1	2	4	12
Marketed fresh	"	1	3	4	24
Whiting, caught	Cwt.	185	677	101	404
Marketed fresh	"	185	1,048	101	637
Halibut, caught	Cwt.	318,240	3,121,818	315,095	4,068,868
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	318,202	3,291,538	314,907	4,542,310
Smoked	"	19	281	94	1,410
Total value marketed		-	3,891,819	-	4,543,720
Flounders, brill, plaice, etc. caught	Cwt.	3,738	11,841	1,152	3,355
Marketed fresh	"	3,738	20,914	1,152	6,303
Skate, caught	Cwt.	978	2,939	955	2,988
Marketed fresh	"	978	4,259	955	4,290
Soles, caught	Cwt.	4,978	33,646	6,518	34,217
Marketed fresh	"	4,978	36,404	6,518	45,675
Herring, caught	Cwt.	1,437,875	992,167	1,301,269	999,388
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	19,973	64,511	11,070	45,024
Canned	Cases	391	1,564	433	1,948
Smoked	Cwt.	5,622	49,208	6,199	53,847
Dry-salted	"	1,083,174	1,528,196	938,647	1,331,141
Pickled	Bbl.	52	484	80	1,192
Used as bait	"	25,598	74,022	30,359	95,582
Total value marketed		-	1,717,985	-	1,528,734
Pilchards, <sup>1</sup> caught	Cwt.	318,973	221,557	969,958	848,062
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	-	-	36	357
Canned	Cases	37,182	178,121	26,731	119,525
Used as bait	Bbl.	4,045	4,790	2,950	7,375
Total value marketed		-	182,911	-	127,257
Bass, caught	Cwt.	25	109	51	306
Marketed fresh	"	25	126	51	306
Perch, caught	Cwt.	1,042	7,529	923	8,091
Marketed fresh	"	1,042	9,693	923	9,804
Salmon, caught	Cwt.	1,873,376	7,141,829	2,125,555	8,562,576
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	204,319	1,623,042	189,302	1,551,015
Canned	Cases	1,720,622	12,385,098	2,065,955	16,357,296
Smoked	Cwt.	655	6,438	834	12,915
Dry-salted	"	138,454	485,507	139,858	517,563
Mild cured	"	27,770	460,922	13,950	293,096
Pickled	"	450	6,075	1,584	38,156
Roe	"	972	3,531	1,533	4,059
Used as bait	"	512	3,272	893	2,662
Total value marketed		-	14,973,885	-	18,776,762

<sup>1</sup> Part used in the preparation of fish oil and meal.



3

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia, 1925 and 1926-Con.

Kind		1925		1926	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Smelts, caught	Cwt.	780	7,300	1,281	15,160
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	780	7,434	1,281	17,161
Sturgeon, caught	Cwt.	274	5,006	275	5,254
Marketed fresh	"	274	5,604	275	5,737
Trout, caught	Cwt.	42	462	33	330
Marketed fresh	"	42	602	33	494
Black Cod, caught	Cwt.	14,956	81,660	10,358	56,637
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	7,966	63,055	3,978	38,959
Green-salted	"	484	7,796	39	506
Smoked	Cwt.	3,001	43,464	3,151	49,912
Total value marketed		-	114,315	-	89,371
Red Cod, caught	Cwt.	2,960	14,373	3,891	15,924
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Cwt.	2,807	17,745	3,891	26,013
Smoked	Cwt.	57	800	-	-
Smoked fillets	Cwt.	5	80	-	-
Total value marketed		-	18,625	-	26,013
Eels, caught	Cwt.	3	18	-	-
Marketed fresh	"	3	18	-	-
Greyfish, <sup>1</sup> caught	Cwt.	74,040	22,212	78,380	23,514
Octopus, caught	Cwt.	586	3,768	379	2,449
Marketed fresh	"	586	5,056	379	3,052
Oulachons, caught	Cwt.	361	1,520	405	1,756
Marketed fresh	"	361	2,147	405	2,086
Tom Cod, caught	Cwt.	23	62	-	-
Marketed fresh	"	23	92	-	-
Mixed Fish, caught	Cwt.	5	25	-	-
Marketed fresh	"	5	30	-	-
Clams and Quahaugs, caught	Bbl.	26,527	90,508	12,813	40,455
Marketed-					
Used fresh	Bbl.	4,496	26,721	3,352	19,994
Canned	Cases	22,031	135,043	9,461	85,415
Total value marketed		-	161,764	-	105,409
Crabs, caught	Cwt.	6,979	35,785	8,389	45,855
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	6,979	50,605	8,389	63,295
Oysters, caught	Bbl.	1,468	22,905	2,357	34,122
Marketed fresh	"	1,468	23,107	2,357	35,746
Shrimps, caught	Cwt.	1,157	16,035	664	9,377
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	1,157	23,331	664	13,125
Fur Seals, caught	No.	4,465	46,590	2,824	26,748
Skins marketed	No.	4,465	52,373	2,824	29,550
Whales, caught	No.	351	309,608	269	270,127
Marketed-					
Whalebone and meal	Tons	347	7,260	340	9,633
Whale Oil	Gal.	556,939	266,651	468,206	223,864
Whale fertilizer	Tons	835	35,697	666	36,630
Total value marketed		-	309,608	-	270,127

<sup>1</sup> Used in the preparation of fish oil and meal.

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia, 1925 and 1926 - Concluded.

Kind		1925		1926	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Miscellaneous Products:-					
Pilchard oil	Gal.	1	-	1,898,721	734,078
Fish oil, n.e.s.	"	350,506	313,085	230,850	88,031
Pilchard meal	Tons	1	-	7,948	371,365
Pilchard fertilizer	"	1	-	533	24,021
Fish meal, n.e.s.	"	4,094	202,854	1,746	94,020
Fish fertilizer, n.e.s.	"	455	20,825	316	14,157
Total Value-					
Caught and Landed		-	12,382,635	-	15,325,363
Marketed		-	22,414,618	-	27,367,109

1 Not shown separately in 1925.

2. Quantity<sup>1/</sup> and Value<sup>2/</sup> of the Chief Commercial Fishes, British Columbia Columbia 1922-1926.

Kind		1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Salmon	Cwt.	1,509,075	1,514,765	1,965,159	1,873,376	2,125,555
	\$	13,073,927	11,936,668	13,027,251	14,973,885	18,776,762
Halibut	Cwt.	293,184	334,667	331,382	318,240	315,095
	\$	3,918,441	6,271,993	5,427,542	3,891,819	4,543,720
Herring	Cwt.	1,002,519	1,035,823	1,157,625	1,437,875	1,301,269
	\$	850,734	1,338,450	1,392,580	1,717,985	1,528,734
Cod	Cwt.	28,190	29,251	40,530	31,636	39,105
	\$	812,871	203,056	288,829	264,036	336,759
Pilchards 3/	Cwt.	20,342	19,492	27,485	318,973	969,958
	\$	106,055	92,036	82,881	182,911	127,257
Clams	Pbl.	11,974	14,466	20,030	26,527	12,813
	\$	68,206	87,216	153,472	161,764	105,409

1/ Caught and landed. 2/ Marketed. 3/ Part used in the manufacture of fish oil and meal.

2. Value of the Fisheries Production of British Columbia 1907-1926.

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
1907	6,122,923	1917	21,518,595
1908	6,465,038	1918	27,282,223
1909	10,314,755	1919	25,301,607
1910	9,163,235	1920	22,329,161
1911	13,677,125	1921	13,953,670
1912	14,455,488	1922	18,849,658
1913	13,891,398	1923	20,795,914
1914	11,515,086	1924	21,257,567
1915	14,538,320	1925	22,414,618
1916	14,637,346	1926	27,367,109

4. Capital Equipment, British Columbia, 1925 and 1926,

In Primary Operations	1925		1926	
	No.	Value	No.	Value
		\$		\$
Steam trawlers	3	180,000	3	180,000
Steam vessels and tugs	7	160,000	8	159,500
Sailing and gasoline vessels	437	2,489,100	610	4,333,158
Sail and row boats	2,899	260,193	3,345	334,124
Gasoline boats	2,874	1,722,950	3,341	2,171,270
Carrying smacks and scows	155	172,950	281	313,900
Gill nets, seines, trap nets, etc.	4,948	1,651,143	5,642	1,923,458
Tubs of trawl	1,302	42,940	1,199	40,640
Lines	6,593	47,979	7,352	51,764
Crabtraps	4,802	18,910	4,215	15,445
Oyster plant and equipment	1	26,000	1	26,000
Fishing piers and wharves	14	11,300	11	8,600
Ice houses	6	12,750	10	14,100
Small fish and smoke houses	32	34,150	31	37,250
Total Value	-	6,830,365	-	9,609,209

In Fish Canning and Curing	1925		1926	
	No.	Value	No.	Value
		\$		\$
Salmon Canneries	65	9,163,223	77	17,298,716
Clam Canneries	2)		3	139,391
Fish Curing Establishments	66)	3,784,492	67	2,597,320
Reduction Plants	12	1,896,504	18	1,966,629
Total	145	14,844,219	165	22,002,056

5. Number of Employees, British Columbia, 1925 and 1926.

	1925	1926
	No.	No.
In primary operations	9,944	12,162
In fish canning and curing establishments	7,438	8,051

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