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ADVANCE REPORT
ON THE
FISHERIES
OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
1938



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ADVANCE REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, 1938

The following report on the fisheries of British Columbia for the year 1938 is issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Department of Fisheries.

PRODUCTION

The value of production of the fisheries industry of British Columbia in 1938 was \$18,725,591, compared with \$16,155,439 in the preceding year. These totals represent the value of the fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh, or canned, cured or otherwise prepared. British Columbia is the leading province of Canada with respect to fisheries production, and contributing chiefly to its position of first importance is the immense salmon fishery. The value of the salmon product as marketed was \$14,544,126, an increase over the year 1937 of \$2,636,221, or 18 per cent. Chief among the products of the salmon fishery is canned salmon, which totalled 707,830 1,650,290 cases, valued at \$11,880,300. Compared with the preceding year, the pack of salmon shows an increase of 141,715 cases, and the value an increase of \$2,618,312.3005477. The exports of canned salmon in the year 1938 amounted to 488,400 cwt. (approximately 1,017,500 cases), valued at \$7,128,194. The chief markets for Canadian canned salmon are provided by the United Kingdom (171,320 cwt. or 356,917 cases) and Australia (134,631 cwt. or 280,481 cases). The quantity of salmon landed by British Columbia fishermen during the year was 1,734,664 cwt., an increase over the year 1937 of 42,928 cwt.

Other important kinds of fish (those with a product valued at \$100,000 or more) are halibut, pilchard, herring, ling cod, clams and grayfish. The quantity of halibut taken by British Columbia fishermen represents 74 per cent of the total for Canada and the entire British Columbia catch of this fish is marketed for consumption fresh. The chief items of production of the herring fishery are canned, dry-salted, and meal and oil, and of the pilchard fishery, canned and meal and oil. Large quantities of meal and oil are produced from the catch of grayfish and there is also a small quantity marketed for consumption fresh. There were 310 whales landed in comparison with 317 in the preceding year, and the total value of the products (bone meal, fertilizer and oil) dropped to \$184,074 from \$220,251 in 1937.

The quantity of fish of all kinds, including shell fish, but exclusive of fur seals and whales, taken by British Columbia fishermen during the year was 4,562,864 cwt. and the total value at the point of landing for all kinds, including fur seals and whales, was \$8,668,566, compared with a catch of 4,954,195 cwt. and a landed value of \$7,837,930 in 1937.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND EMPLOYEES

In Primary Operations:

Capital.- The amount of capital invested in the vessels, boats and fishing gear, used in catching and landing the fish during the year 1938 was \$9,000,244, a decrease from the preceding year of \$207,234.

Employees.- The men employed in the fishing operations numbered 10,314, a decrease from 1937 of 870.

In Fish Canning and Curing:

Capital.- The capital investment of the fish canning and curing establishments was valued at \$15,065,019, of which \$11,597,913, or 77 per cent, is credited to the salmon canneries. The total number of establishments in operation in 1938 was 75, this total comprising 38 salmon canneries, 19 fish curing establishments, 10 reduction plants, 4 clam canneries, 2 miscellaneous fish canneries, and 2 freezing plants. Compared with the preceding year, the total number of establishments shows a reduction of 10.

Employees.- The fish canning and curing branch of the fisheries industry of British Columbia gave employment in 1938 to a total of 6,103 persons, compared with 5,583 in the preceding year.

GENERAL TABLES

Summaries of the principal statistical data of the fisheries of British Columbia, for the year 1938, and comparative statistics for preceding years, are contained in the following tables.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia,
1937 and 1938

Kind of Fish	Unit of Measure	1937		1938	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Cod, caught and landed	Cwt.	14,306	35,645	18,635	45,205
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	6,961	18,144	6,140	23,873
Fresh fillets	Cwt.	1,709	15,630	4,251	42,140
Smoked	Cwt.	152	1,522	105	1,050
Smoked fillets	Cwt.	638	7,656	-	-
Livers	Cwt.	-	-	150	750
Total value marketed		-	42,952	-	67,813
Hake and Cusk, caught and landed	Cwt.	4	12	42	99
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	4	14	42	104
Whiting, caught and landed	Cwt.	17	42	20	58
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	17	50	20	62
Halibut, caught and landed	Cwt.	117,212	927,067	120,247	840,667
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	117,212	1,094,214	120,247	1,041,165
Livers	Cwt.	1,782	94,405	3,049	155,420
Meal	Ton	42	1,269	-	-
Liver oil	Gal.	-	-	750	18,750
Viscera oil	Gal.	-	-	815	57,050
Oil	Gal.	843	168	-	-
Total value marketed		-	1,190,056	-	1,272,385
Flounders, Brill, Plaice, caught and landed	Cwt.	650	1,980	2,176	5,759
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	650	2,339	2,176	6,767
Skate, caught and landed	Cwt.	668	2,004	694	2,072
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	668	2,438	694	2,467
Soles, caught and landed	Cwt.	5,605	28,221	6,554	38,251
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	4,633	26,705	5,435	29,679
Fresh fillets	Cwt.	324	6,496	373	8,000
Total value marketed		-	33,201	-	37,679

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia,
1937 and 1938 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of Measure	1937		1938	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Herring, caught and landed	Cwt.	1,929,795	440,303	1,328,913	316,184
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	23,511	53,717	34,855	61,316
Canned, round	Cases	27,365	87,259	23,356	75,908
Canned, kippered	Cases	-	-	20	140
Smoked	Cwt.	129	933	52	405
Kippered	Cwt.	3,472	24,829	2,955	23,083
Dry-salted	Cwt.	203,401	203,401	149,700	142,115
Pickled	Bbl.	68	761	20	296
Used as bait	Bbl.	29,335	63,645	19,317	43,564
Meal	Ton	14,427	460,139	9,624	370,052
Oil	Gal.	1,283,658	286,782	929,158	138,386
Total value marketed		-	1,181,466	-	855,265
Pilchards, caught and landed	Cwt.	961,485	421,613	1,035,369	452,999
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	33	150	19	50
Canned	Cases	40,975	110,351	69,473	232,311
Used as bait	Bbl.	1,045	1,090	310	620
Meal	Ton	8,483	277,122	8,891	320,467
Oil	Gal.	1,707,276	513,906	2,195,850	313,559
Total value marketed		-	902,619	-	867,007
Bass, caught and landed	Cwt.	18	54	32	72
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	18	65	32	86
Perch, caught and landed	Cwt.	509	3,607	544	3,827
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	509	3,722	544	3,942
Salmon, caught and landed	Cwt.	1,691,736	5,275,666	1,734,664	6,331,410
Marketed (a) -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	261,363	1,761,104	218,654 273,194	1,597,206 1,984,371
Canned	Cases	1,508,577	9,261,988	1,650,290 1,707,830	11,830,300 12,267,465
Smoked	Cwt.	81	2,007	26	350
Kippered	Cwt.	100	1,300	113	1,269
Dry-salted	Cwt.	108,983	314,853	80,295	223,648
Mild cured	Cwt.	26,238	440,403	19,684	355,554
Pickled	Cwt.	23	276	802	10,025
Roe	Cwt.	9,360	24,982	9,087	20,196
Used as bait	Cwt.	237	564	50	123
Meal	Ton	1,845	58,838	1,229	46,148
Oil	Gal.	169,239	41,590	114,797	22,142
Total value marketed		-	11,907,905	-	14,544,126

(a) The difference in quantity between the catch and the catch marketed is due chiefly to importations of salmon from Alaska, which were used in canning.

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia,
1937 and 1938 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of Measure	1937		1938	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Smelts, caught and landed	Cwt.	385	3,286	737	6,431
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	385	3,523	737	6,894
Sturgeon, caught and landed	Cwt.	82	1,313	187	2,603
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	82	1,386	187	3,013
Black cod, caught and landed	Cwt.	13,410	54,011	8,463	34,444
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	10,328	60,793	5,887	38,672
Smoked	Cwt.	1,633	21,912	1,288	16,854
Livers	Cwt.	298	12,546	397	14,521
Liver oil	Gal.	-	-	50	1,250
Total value marketed		-	95,251	-	71,297
Ling cod, caught and landed	Cwt.	42,858	238,186	46,516	208,508
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	42,750	254,172	46,486	248,895
Smoked	Cwt.	54	729	15	180
Livers	Cwt.	518	20,916	830	33,661
Liver oil	Gal.	-	-	31	775
Total value marketed		-	275,817	-	283,511
Red and Rock cod, caught and landed	Cwt.	1,801	5,562	6,874	17,474
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	1,801	7,554	6,806	19,242
Smoked	Cwt.	-	-	34	408
Livers	Cwt.	11	422	26	436
Liver oil	Gal.	-	-	88	2,200
Total value marketed		-	7,976	-	22,286
Capelin, launce and silversides, caught and landed	Cwt.	-	-	38	444
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	-	-	38	444

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia,
1937 and 1938 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of Measure	1937		1938	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Grayfish, caught and landed	Cwt.	113,220	32,428	159,690	27,087
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	3,920	1,274	45,951	2,310
Livers	Cwt.	1,789	10,702	9,333	49,271
Meal	Ton	833	26,740	1,262	42,807
Oil	Gal.	124,464	28,074	113,360	18,802
Total value marketed		-	66,790	-	113,190
Octopus, caught and landed	Cwt.	202	866	223	927
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	202	923	223	1,016
Oulachons, caught and landed	Cwt.	120	300	209	716
Marketed fresh	Cwt.	120	337	209	760
Abalone, caught and landed	Bbl.	53	133	-	-
Marketed canned	Cases	53	477	-	-
Clams, caught and landed	Cwt.	46,078	51,208	76,633	69,260
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	27,018	31,465	42,169	40,426
Canned	Cases	12,587	63,906	22,155	122,082
Total value marketed		-	95,371	-	162,508
Crabs, caught and landed	Cwt.	8,052	31,631	7,942	25,328
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	4,948	27,252	4,337	21,156
Canned	Cases	1,546	24,936	2,157	33,416
Total value marketed		-	52,188	-	54,572
Oysters, caught and landed	Bbl.	2,332	36,199	2,979	36,258
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Bbl.	1,745	30,329	1,365	28,157
Canned	Cases	587	5,870	1,426	9,296
Total value marketed		-	36,199	-	37,453

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed, British Columbia,
1937 and 1938 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of Measure	1937		1938	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Shrimps, caught and landed	Cwt.	1,212	13,911	1,504	15,333
Marketed -					
Used fresh	Cwt.	652	9,670	864	12,431
Canned	Cases	222	5,760	460	6,554
Total value marketed		-	15,430	-	18,985
Fur seals, caught and landed	No.	2,671	12,431	1,367	3,076
Skins marketed	No.	2,671	12,431	1,367	3,076
Whales, caught and landed	No.	317	220,251	310	184,074
Marketed -					
Bone meal	Ton	268	5,896	273	6,006
Fertilizer	Ton	527	17,128	512	15,360
Oil	Gal.	662,355	197,227	543,378	162,708
Total value marketed		-	220,251	-	184,074
Other fish products		-	4,262	-	104,819
Total Value -					
Caught and landed		-	7,837,930	-	8,668,566
Marketed		-	16,155,439	-	18,725,591

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

2. Quantity and Value of Chief Commercial Fishes, British Columbia,
1935 to 1938

Kind of Fish		1935	1936	1937	1938	Increase or decrease 1938 compared with 1937 Increase + Decrease -
Salmon	Cwt.	1,789,431	1,995,499	1,691,736	1,734,664	+ 42,928
	\$	12,099,275	13,387,344	11,907,905	14,544,126	+ 2,636,221
Halibut	Cwt.	101,927	105,918	117,212	120,247	+ 3,035
	\$	940,862	1,039,879	1,190,056	1,272,385	+ 82,329
Pilchards	Cwt.	911,411	889,037	961,485	1,035,369	+ 73,884
	\$	670,328	667,313	902,619	867,007	- 35,612
Herring	Cwt.	1,008,507	1,620,625	1,929,795	1,328,913	- 600,882
	\$	580,031	1,142,397	1,181,466	855,265	- 326,201
Ling cod	Cwt.	62,841	68,932	42,858	46,516	+ 3,658
	\$	326,029	392,147	275,817	283,511	+ 7,694
Clams	Cwt.	35,804	51,446	46,078	76,633	+ 30,555
	\$	61,886	88,422	95,371	162,508	+ 67,137
Grayfish	Cwt.	76,800	116,140	113,220	159,690	+ 46,470
	\$	46,668	69,719	66,790	113,190	+ 46,400
Black cod	Cwt.	9,698	7,196	13,410	8,463	- 4,947
	\$	65,862	53,497	95,251	71,297	- 23,954
Cod	Cwt.	16,691	8,099	14,306	18,635	+ 4,329
	\$	56,461	25,936	42,952	67,813	+ 24,861
Crabs	Cwt.	6,708	6,329	8,052	7,942	- 110
	\$	44,525	38,855	52,188	54,572	+ 2,384

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

3. Value of the Fisheries of British Columbia 1921 to 1938

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
1921	13,953,670	1930	23,103,302
1922	18,849,658	1931	11,108,873
1923	20,795,914	1932	9,909,116
1924	21,257,567	1933	12,001,471
1925	22,414,618	1934	15,234,335
1926	27,367,109	1935	15,169,529
1927	22,890,913	1936	17,231,534
1928	26,562,727	1937	16,155,439
1929	23,930,692	1938	18,725,591

4. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, British Columbia, 1937 and 1938

In Primary Operations	1937		1938	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Steam vessels	6	150,000	6	150,000
Sailing, gasoline and diesel vessels	308	2,802,790	256	2,317,900
Gasoline and diesel boats	6,858	4,119,124	6,540	3,917,197
Sail and row boats	1,230	61,290	1,294	60,675
Collecting vessels and scows	224	351,050	209	547,875
Gill nets	39	6,900	32	5,800
Salmon drift nets	5,887	933,695	6,899	1,214,556
Salmon trap nets	5	75,000	5	75,000
Salmon purse seines	208	259,200	262	301,200
Salmon drag seines	21	10,750	9	5,350
Small draggers	-	-	15	6,850
Seines, other	59	141,250	44	118,800
Smelt nets	41	2,150	51	2,850
Shrimp nets	28	2,350	23	1,975
Oulachon nets	27	810	28	840
Skates of gear	2,433	50,675	1,844	42,205
Otter trawls	13	2,150	-	-
Hand lines	14,306	112,680	14,290	115,034
Crab traps	8,651	33,182	6,688	26,455
Fishing piers and wharves	10	11,500	10	11,000
Freezers and ice houses	11	28,800	10	26,300
Small fish and smoke houses	44	50,200	42	50,900
Other gear	-	1,932	-	1,482
Total Value	-	9,207,478	-	9,000,244

BRITISH COLUMBIA FISHERIES

4. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, British Columbia, 1937 and 1938
(Concluded)

In Fish Canning and Curing	1937		1938	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Salmon canneries	37	8,377,110	38	11,597,913
Clam canneries	2)	143,688	4)	421,194
Other fish canneries	2)		2)	
Fish curing establishments	31)	2,459,651	19)	2,377,645
Freezing plants	2)		2)	
Reduction plants	11	858,717	10	668,267
Total	85	11,839,166	75	15,065,019

5. Number of Employees in the Fisheries of British Columbia,
1937 and 1938

--	1937			1938		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Men employed on vessels, boats, etc.	11,184	-	11,184	10,314	-	10,314
Persons employed in fish canning and curing establishments	3,229	2,354	5,583	3,445	2,658	6,103
Total	14,413	2,354	16,767	13,759	2,658	16,417

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