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ADVANCE REPORT

ON THE

FISHERIES

OF

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

1937



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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, OTTAWA, CANADA
Census of Industry
Fisheries, Furs and Dairy Statistics Branch

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ADVANCE REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1937.

The following report on the fisheries of Prince Edward Island for the year 1937 is issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Department of Fisheries.

PRODUCTION

The value of output of the fisheries of Prince Edward Island in the year 1937 was \$870,299, compared with \$953,029 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.

The lobster fishery is of first importance, the marketed value of its product amounting to \$538,792, or 62 per cent of the total for all kinds. The canned product accounts for nearly the whole of the marketed value of the lobster fishery - only small quantities are marketed in shell and as meat. It should be noted that considerable quantities of lobsters taken by Prince Edward Island fishermen are purchased each year by canners in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and that while the quantity caught and the landed value are credited to Prince Edward Island, the product and the marketed value are included with the totals of the provinces where such shipments are marketed. In 1937 the total quantity of lobsters in shell shipped from Prince Edward Island to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for marketing was 13,959 cwt.

The cod, herring, smelt and oyster fisheries are also of importance in Prince Edward Island, although their combined total marketed value amounts to less

than one-half of the value of the lobster fishery. Compared with the preceding year, lobsters, smelts and oysters show decreases in quantities caught, while increases are recorded for cod and herring. In the case of marketed value, decreases are shown for lobsters, cod, herring and smelts, but the oyster fishery records a small increase.

The catch of fish of all kinds, including shell fish, by Prince Edward Island fishermen in 1937 totalled 275,250 cwt., with a value at the point of landing of \$713,632, compared with a catch of 248,138 cwt. and a landed value of \$725,417 in 1936. Average prices per cwt. at the point of landing for the principal kinds of fish in 1937 and 1936 were as follows, the prices for 1936 being placed within brackets: lobsters, \$9.01 (\$9.18); cod 74 cents (78 cents); herring 55 cents (52 cents); smelts, \$3.28 (\$3.16); oysters, \$5 (\$5.13).

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND EMPLOYEES

Primary Operations:

Capital.— The value of the vessels, boats and gear used in the fisheries of Prince Edward Island in the year 1937 was \$949,957, compared with \$963,362 in the preceding year. The two principal items in order of value are lobster traps (\$426,510) and gasoline and diesel boats (\$382,770).

Employees.— The number of men employed in the operations of catching and landing the fish during the year was 3,310, an increase over 1936 of 217.

In Fish Canning and Curing:

Capital.— The number of plants in operation in 1937 was 86 and the capital investment was valued at \$200,675. Compared with the preceding year the number of establishments shows a decrease of 7, while the value of capital records a decrease of \$18,444.

Employees.— The fish canning and curing industry in the province gave employment in 1937 to a total of 1,162 persons, compared with 1,334 in the preceding year. The total for 1937 comprises 18 salaried employees, 1,074 wage-earners, and 70 persons classified as piece-workers.

GENERAL TABLES

Statistics of the fisheries of the province are given in detail in the following tables.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed,
during the years 1936 and 1937.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1936		1937	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Cod, caught and landed	cwt.	62,120	48,581	67,504	49,868
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	17,030	34,447	14,856	27,879
Fresh fillets	cwt.	35	350	43	420
Green-salted	cwt.	20,688	62,956	21,948	55,199
Smoked fillets	cwt.	15	150	-	-
Dried	cwt.	635	2,298	446	2,254
Boneless	cwt.	415	3,320	198	1,666
Cod liver oil, medicinal	gal.	-	-	98	59
Cod oil	gal.	1,580	346	5,046	1,423
Total value marketed (a)		-	103,867	-	88,900
Haddock, caught and landed	cwt.	715	1,185	403	642
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	610	2,200	373	1,557
Fresh fillets	cwt.	35	350	10	110
Total value marketed		-	2,550	-	1,667
Hake and Cusk, caught and landed	cwt.	25,597	10,623	38,237	14,244
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	2,032	1,962	3,261	2,752
Canned	cases	-	-	150	600
Green-salted	cwt.	8,600	17,957	13,236	21,711
Dried	cwt.	1,888	5,326	2,755	7,963
Boneless	cwt.	20	120	-	-
Total value marketed		-	25,365	-	33,026
Flounders, Brill, Plaice, caught and landed	cwt.	185	185	198	189
Marketed fresh	cwt.	185	185	198	198
Herring, caught and landed	cwt.	56,498	29,372	64,928	35,752
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	5,159	6,896	4,310	4,760
Pickled	bbl.	775	4,475	558	2,232
Used as bait	bbl.	24,417	55,526	29,274	59,774
Fertilizer	bbl.	90	90	198	198
Total value marketed		-	66,987	-	66,964

(a) A certain quantity was purchased for Nova Scotia plants and recorded as marketed in that province.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed,

during the years 1936 and 1937 - Cont'd.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1 9 3 6		1 9 3 7	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Mackerel, caught and landed	cwt.	10,672	14,016	11,164	18,079
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	6,225	19,919	6,021	17,623
Canned	cases	175	695	350	1,913
Pickled	bb1.	309	2,376	127	1,102
Fillets, salted	bb1.	242	2,499	440	5,550
Used as bait	bb1.	1,215	3,080	1,385	2,770
Total value marketed		-	28,569	-	28,958
 Alewives, caught and landed	cwt.	344	172	1,663	875
Marketed fresh	cwt.	344	344	1,663	1,514
 Perch, caught and landed	cwt.	-	-	50	25
Marketed fresh	cwt.	-	-	50	50
 Salmon, caught and landed	cwt.	21	210	10	100
Marketed fresh	cwt.	21	210	10	150
 Smelts, caught and landed	cwt.	11,843	37,408	8,900	29,220
Marketed fresh (a)	cwt.	11,542	53,896	8,860	40,856
 Capelin, Launce and Silversides, caught and landed	bb1.	707	1,283	685	1,298
Marketed fresh	bb1.	707	1,414	685	1,341
 Eels, caught and landed	cwt.	190	730	361	1,373
Marketed fresh	cwt.	190	730	361	1,892
 Tom cod, caught and landed	cwt.	295	295	240	240
Marketed fresh	cwt.	295	295	240	360
 Clams, caught and landed	bb1.	1,914	1,672	3,505	3,505
Marketed -					
Used fresh	bb1.	514	514	691	691
Canned	cases	1,400	6,042	2,218	11,050
Chowder	cases	-	-	600	2,400
Total value marketed		-	6,556	-	14,141
 Crabs, caught and landed	cwt.	80	20	144	36
Marketed canned	cases	10	240	18	360

(a) A certain quantity was purchased for Nova Scotia plants and recorded as marketed in that province.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed,

during the years 1936 and 1937 - Concl'd.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1 9 3 6		1 9 3 7	
		Quantity	Value \$	Quantity	Value \$
Lobsters, caught and landed	cwt.	59,286	544,365	58,238	524,847
Marketed -					
In shell	cwt.	2,743	35,939	2,064	26,153
Meat	cwt.	-	-	62	2,858
Canned	cases	22,345	563,286	20,952	497,846
Tomalley	cases	1,499	15,564	1,155	11,935
Total value marketed		-	614,789	-	538,792
Oysters, caught and landed	bbL.	6,742	34,614	6,478	32,402
Marketed fresh	bbL.	6,742	43,067	6,478	44,020
Quahaugs, caught and landed	bbL.	783	686	937	937
Marketed -					
Used fresh	bbL.	69	69	465	465
Canned	cases	635	3,060	472	3,360
Total value marketed		-	3,129	-	3,825
Tongues and Sounds, pickled or dried	cwt.	65	460	120	885
Other products		-	376	-	2,400
Total Value of Fisheries -					
Caught and landed		-	725,417	-	713,632
Marketed		-	953,029	-	870,299

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

2. Quantity (a) and Value (b) of Chief Commercial Fishes, 1934 to 1937.

Kind of Fish		1934	1935	1936	1937	Increase or Decrease 1937 compared with 1936 Increase + Decrease -
Lobsters	cwt.	76,582	63,876	59,286	58,238	- 1,048
	\$	674,186	605,107	614,789	538,792	- 75,997
Cod	cwt.	46,423	45,451	62,120	67,504	+ 5,384
	\$	84,445	85,269	103,867	88,900	- 14,967
Herring	cwt.	48,525	31,525	56,498	64,928	+ 8,430
	\$	53,872	44,502	66,987	66,064	- 23
Smelts	cwt.	8,238	10,015	11,843	8,900	- 2,943
	\$	40,360	49,560	53,896	40,856	- 13,040
Oysters	bb1.	10,160	10,014	6,742	6,478	- 264
	\$	60,061	60,246	43,067	44,020	+ 953
Hake and Cusk	cwt.	15,448	18,739	25,597	38,237	+ 12,640
	\$	17,817	16,657	25,365	33,026	+ 7,661

(a) Quantity caught.

(b) Value marketed.

3. Value of the Fisheries from 1918 to 1937.

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
1918	1,148,201	1928	1,196,681
1919	1,536,844	1929	1,297,125
1920	1,708,723	1930	1,141,279
1921	924,529	1931	1,078,901
1922	1,612,599	1932	988,919
1923	1,754,980	1933	842,345
1924	1,201,772	1934	963,926
1925	1,598,119	1935	899,685
1926	1,358,934	1936	953,029
1927	1,367,807	1937	870,299

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

4. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, 1936 and 1937.

In Primary Operations	1 9 3 6		1 9 3 7	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Sailing, gasoline and diesel vessels	6	3,300	8	4,400
Sail and row boats	833	9,395	356	3,560
Gasoline and diesel boats	1,662	374,500	1,678	382,770
Carrying boats and scows	16	8,500	12	3,900
Gill nets	3,053	29,320	3,057	23,617
Salmon trap nets	2	1,200	2	1,200
Trap nets, other	3	660	2	60
Smelt nets	3,463	21,459	2,190	16,246
Tubs of trawl	1,044	20,880	1,257	25,140
Hand lines	2,395	4,790	2,335	4,670
Crab traps	40	40	40	40
Lobster traps	431,955	431,955	426,510	426,510
Oyster rakes	253	753	469	1,417
Scallop drags	3	45	7	105
Quahaug rakes	65	195	79	237
Fishing piers and wharves	36	34,000	36	34,000
Freezers and ice houses	32	6,425	31	6,075
Small fish and smoke houses	306	15,945	316	16,010
Total Value	--	963,362	--	949,957

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

4. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, 1936 and 1937 - Concl'd.

In Fish Canning and Curing	1 9 3 6		1 9 3 7	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Lobster canneries	84	188,675	74	166,075
Clam canneries	2)	6,500	3)	9,400
))	
Other fish cannery	1)		1)	
Fish curing establishments	6	23,944	8	25,200
Total	93	219,119	86	200,675

5. Employees in the Fisheries, 1936 and 1937.

Employees	1936	1937
	Number	Number
Men employed on vessels, boats, etc.	3,093	3,310
Persons employed in fish canning and curing establishments	1,334	1,162
Total	4,427	4,472

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