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CANADA
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CENSUS OF INDUSTRY
FISHERIES AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS BRANCH

ADVANCE REPORT
ON THE
FISHERIES
OF
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
1939



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DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS, OTTAWA, CANADA

Fisheries and Animal Products Branch

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ADVANCE REPORT ON THE FISHERIES OF

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 1939.

The following report on the fisheries of Prince Edward Island for the year 1939 is issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in co-operation with the Department of Fisheries.

PRODUCTION

The fisheries of Prince Edward Island in 1939 had a product valued at \$950,412, compared with \$930,874 in 1938. These amounts represent the value of the fish as marketed, whether sold for consumption fresh, or canned, cured, etc. More than half the total value in 1939 is credited to the lobster fishery, whose product was valued at \$539,669. Both the catch and the marketed value of the lobster fishery show decreases compared with the preceding year, but increases over the year 1937. In connection with the lobster fishery it might be noted that considerable quantities 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 value as landed are credited to Prince Edward Island, the product and the marketed value thereof are included with the statistics of the provinces where such shipments are marketed. In 1939, Prince Edward Island shipped to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick for marketing, a total of 11,000 cwt. of lobster in shell.

Other important kinds of fish are cod (\$96,858), herring (\$53,858) smelts (\$52,995), and mackerel (\$52,981).

The quantity of fish (including shell fish) taken by Prince Edward Island fishermen in the year totalled 305,661 cwt., with a value at the point of landing of \$683,054, compared with a catch of 294,204 cwt. and a landed value of \$649,074 in 1938. Average prices received by the fishermen showed

only slight changes in comparison with those of the preceding year. Lobsters rose from \$6.44 per cwt. in 1938 to \$6.64 in 1939, cod from 73 cents to 79 cents, and smelts from \$3.55 to \$3.92, but herring dropped from 52 cents to 51 cents and mackerel from \$1.53 to \$1.39.

CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND EMPLOYEES

Capital. - The amount of capital invested in the fisheries of Prince Edward Island in 1939 was \$1,168,253, comprising \$975,378 as the value of the vessels, boats and gear used in the primary operations of catching and landing the fish, and \$192,875 as the investment in fish canning and curing establishments, the latter amount covering the value of land, buildings and machinery, the products and materials on hand, and the cash and operating accounts. In comparison with the preceding year, the total amount of capital shows an increase of \$69,287, or 6 per cent.

Employees. - Employed in the fisheries of the province in 1939 were 3,454 fishermen and 1,332 persons in fish canning and curing establishments - a total of 4,786 for the industry. Compared with the year 1938, the number of fishermen shows an increase of 145 and the number of employees in fish canning and curing establishments, an increase of 98, making for the fisheries industry as a whole an increase in number of employees of 243.

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 1938 and 1939.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1 9 3 8		1 9 3 9	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Cod, caught and landed	cwt.	68,425	\$ 49,880	78,450	\$ 62,263
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	12,396	17,795	11,647	12,958
Green salted	cwt.	21,552	54,144	32,188	79,745
Dried	cwt.	215	1,275	289	1,411
Boneless	cwt.	140	1,120	165	1,335
Cod liver oil medicinal	gal.	1,989	1,352	559	503
Cod oil	gal.	2,888	729	3,037	906
Total value marketed		-	76,415	-	96,858
Haddock, caught and landed	cwt.	386	636	383	556
Marketed fresh	cwt.	386	940	383	1,136
Hake and Cusk, caught and landed	cwt.	49,155	19,747	44,594	18,714
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	11,189	12,080	2,551	1,819
Canned	cases	-	-	2,051	5,370 ⁺
Green-salted	cwt.	16,424	30,463	18,191	30,224
Dried	cwt.	1,146	3,497	674	2,203
Boneless	cwt.	15	60	87	637
Oil	gal.	-	-	1,621	405
Total value marketed		-	46,100	-	40,658
Flounders, Brill, Plaice caught and landed	cwt.	582	457	443	328
Marketed fresh	cwt.	582	582	443	443
Herring, caught and landed	cwt.	56,056	29,174	53,487	27,438
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	4,686	5,085	5,852	5,852
Canned	cases	35	131	-	-
Pickled	bbl.	643	3,011	841	3,866
Used as bait	bbl.	24,563	49,426	21,988	44,026
Fertilizer	bbl.	75	75	568	114
Total value marketed		-	57,728	-	53,858

+ Part used for fox food.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed

During the years 1938 and 1939 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1 9 3 8		1 9 3 9	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Mackerel, caught and landed	cwt.	10,559	16,146	25,366	35,178
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	5,715	16,771	5,971	11,530
Canned	cases	436	1,886	726	3,122
Pickled	bbl.	180	1,470	828	5,653
Fillets, salted	bbl.	107	1,326	2,034	24,408
Used as bait	bbl.	1,775	3,550	4,134	8,268
Total value marketed		-	25,003	-	52,981
Alewives, caught and landed	cwt.	4,340	2,520	3,102	1,551
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	4,690	4,690	2,912	2,952
Salted	bbl.	50	200	65	260
Total value marketed		-	4,890	-	3,212
Salmon, caught and landed	cwt.	16	160	47	470
Marketed fresh	cwt.	16	240	47	705
Smelts, caught and landed	cwt.	9,608	34,125	9,713	38,082
Marketed fresh	cwt.	9,608	50,725	9,713	52,995
Capelin, Launce and Silver-sides, caught and landed	cwt.	3,078	2,682	1,332	1,096
Marketed fresh	cwt.	3,078	3,078	1,332	1,292
Eels, caught and landed	cwt.	214	806	214	663
Marketed fresh	cwt.	214	919	214	755
Tom cod, caught and landed	cwt.	373	363	299	299
Marketed fresh	cwt.	373	401	299	299
Clams, caught and landed	cwt.	6,942	3,471	5,980	2,990
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	1,440	770	1,526	763
Canned	cases	2,201	12,502	2,227	13,610
Chowder	cases	800	2,800	-	-
Total value marketed		-	16,072	-	14,373
Crabs, caught and landed	cwt.	128	32	144	36
Marketed canned	cases	16	288	18	324

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

1. Quantity and Value of Fish Caught and Marketed

During the years 1938 and 1939 - Con.

Kind of Fish	Unit of measure	1 9 3 8		1 9 3 9	
		Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
			\$		\$
Lobsters, caught and landed	cwt.	71,213	458,762	69,977	464,429
Marketed -					
In shell	cwt.	11,072	117,044	9,745	101,618
Meat	cwt.	11	495	10	400
Canned	cases	24,625	474,397	24,616	474,676
Tomalley	cases	1,559	14,198	1,435	12,975
Total value marketed		-	606,134	-	589,669
Oysters, caught and landed	bbl.	5,242	29,232	4,954	27,850
Marketed fresh	bbl.	5,242	39,193	4,954	37,008
Quahaugs, caught and landed	cwt.	2,145	881	2,222	1,111
Marketed -					
Used fresh	cwt.	1,491	959	1,946	1,533
Canned	cases	108	785	138	963
Total value marketed		-	1,744	-	2,496
Tongues and Sounds, pickled or dried	cwt.	147	322	70	350
Other products		-	100	-	1,000
Total Value -					
Caught and landed		-	649,074	-	683,054
Marketed		-	930,874	-	950,412

2. Quantity (a) and Value (b) of Chief Commercial Fishes, 1936 to 1939.

Kind of Fish		1936	1937	1938	1939	Increase or decrease 1939, compared with 1938 Increase + Decrease -
Lobsters	cwt.	59,236	58,238	71,213	69,977	- 1,236
	\$	614,789	538,792	606,134	589,669	- 16,465
Cod	cwt.	62,120	67,504	68,425	78,450	+ 10,025
	\$	103,867	88,900	76,415	96,858	+ 20,443
Herring	cwt.	56,498	64,923	56,056	53,487	- 2,569
	\$	66,987	66,964	57,728	53,858	- 3,870
Smelts	cwt.	11,843	8,900	9,603	9,713	+ 105
	\$	53,896	40,856	50,725	52,995	+ 2,270
Mackerel	cwt.	10,672	11,164	10,559	25,366	+ 14,807
	\$	28,569	28,958	25,003	52,981	+ 27,978
Hake and Cusk	cwt.	25,597	38,237	49,155	44,594	- 4,561
	\$	25,365	33,026	46,100	40,658	- 5,442

(a) Quantity caught.

(b) Value marketed.

3. The Lobster Pack of Prince Edward Island, 1920 - 1939.

Year	No. of Cases	Value	Average Value per case
		\$	\$ cts.
1920	40,322	1,381,474	34.26
1921	31,155	634,744	20.37
1922	42,220	1,267,731	30.02
1923	43,831	1,278,945	29.18
1924	26,814	631,575	25.42
1925	34,121	958,492	28.09
1926	29,442	877,955	29.82
1927	27,896	801,542	28.73
1928	25,077	635,427	25.34
1929	28,399	686,940	24.19
1930	31,935	635,961	19.91
1931	37,055	683,247	18.44
1932	44,490	711,119	15.98
1933	32,895	512,138	15.57
1934	30,214	624,771	20.68
1935	25,170	556,596	22.11
1936	22,345	563,286	25.20
1937	20,952	497,846	23.76
1938	24,625	474,397	19.26
1939	24,616	474,676	19.28

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

4. Value of the Fisheries of Prince Edward Island, 1920 to 1939.

Year	Value	Year	Value
	\$		\$
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
1928	1,196,681	1938	930,874
1929	1,297,125	1939	950,412

5. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, 1938 and 1939.

In Primary Operations	1938		1939	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
		\$		\$
Sailing vessels:-				
20 - 40 tons	1	1,000	1	500
10 - 40 tons	4	1,800	2	900
Gasoline vessels:-				
10 - 20 tons	6	3,600	6	3,600
Boats:-				
Sail and row	722	8,220	756	8,510
Gasoline)+	1,673	377,400	1,678	401,250
Diesel)			4	1,200
Carrying boats	8	3,000	9	3,000
Herring gill nets)			2,335	20,145
Mackerel gill nets)+	3,114	24,062	758	7,255
Salmon gill nets)			63	630
Salmon trap nets	1	600	2	1,200
Trap nets, other	4	860	2	1,000
Smelt gill nets)+	2,380	16,963	3,042	13,497
Smelt bag or box nets)			224	9,180
Tubs of trawl	1,330	26,600	1,419	28,380
Hand lines	1,918	3,836	1,928	3,856
Crab traps	40	40	40	40
Lobster traps	391,045	391,045	396,550	396,550
Oyster rakes	339	1,017	346	1,038
Quahaug rakes	101	303	84	252
Fishing piers and wharves	37	34,200	39	42,200
Ice houses	27	5,875	23	5,675
Small fish and smoke houses	305	18,020	307	25,520
Total	-	918,441	-	975,378

+ Not given separately prior to 1939.

Prince Edward Island Fisheries

5. Capital Equipment of the Fisheries, 1938 and 1939 - Concluded.

In Fish Canning and Curing	1 9 3 8		1 9 3 9	
	Number	Value	Number	Value
Lobster canneries	64	\$ 139,325	60	\$ 147,375
Clam canneries	4	9,000	3)	12,500
Other fish canneries	-	-	2)	
Fish curing establishments	10	32,200	6	33,000
Total	78	180,525	71	192,875

6. Employees in the Fisheries, Prince Edward Island, 1938 and 1939.

	1 9 3 8			1 9 3 9		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
Men employed on vessels, boats, etc.	3,309	-	3,309	3,454	-	3,454
Persons employed in fish canning and curing establishments	543	691	1,234	561	771	1,332
Total	3,852	691	4,543	4,015	771	4,786

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