

lie in the streams, there can be no just complaint if the men who fish for them also lie."

Vast Extent and Value of our Fisheries.

Gentlemen, I need hardly remind you that our fish are amongst the finest, and our fisheries the most varied in the world. They extend over an enormous area. They are not the fisheries of a single country like the fisheries of Germany, or Austria or Norway, they are the fisheries of a continent, well-nigh as vast as Europe. Apart from the wide-spreading waters of two oceans, the Atlantic on the east, the Pacific on the west, the inland lakes and rivers which we possess, include more than half the fresh water of the globe. All these waters abound in fish.

Compared with the other great national industries of our dominion they rank fifth. First stands agriculture, of an annual value of \$208,000,000; next mining, valued at about \$86,000,000 per annum; lumber recorded at \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000; live stock, \$75,000,000; while the fisheries yield an annual return of from \$30,000,000 to \$35,000,000. These last figures are larger than those usually given in official reports in the Blue Books (\$25,000,000 to \$27,000,000) but official statistics have never given adequate credit to the fisheries of the more remote areas and the amounts used by Indians, Eskimos, Hudson Bay Posts, &c.

Further, while the Fisheries have an annual value less than half that of mining, they employ twice as many men; and, though lumbering yields every year three times the amount in dollars of the fisheries, yet the fisheries engage three times as many men. It must not be forgotten that other industries are essential to the fishing industry, such as sail making, net manufacture, boat building, the tin-ware industry, rope-making, and other trades, all of which depend more or less on the fisherman's calling.

Value of Fishing Boats, Gear, &c.

Think for a moment of the great fleet required; at least 12,000 Canadian vessels being employed in fishing, having a value of \$2,620,000; also 40,000 small boats, valued at \$1,200,000; and nets, lines, lobster traps, &c., valued at \$3,000,000. Remember also that the body of men, no less than 84,000 in number, taking part in the fisheries, would form the finest material for the Canadian Navy which has now started on its glorious career, and of which so much is at present being said. Britain, France and Germany, have realized how valuable the fishermen are, as being the best material from which to recruit their respective navies.

Fisheries of England, &c.

While I claim that the fisheries of Canada take first rank owing to the variety of fish in our waters, and the fact that they are of the