

ARCTIC CHAR FOR MONTREAL

Eskimo fishermen have found out what ranks a fish at the top in competition with long-established favourites. It has come as a surprise to them to have lived long beside a fish other Canadians are now so glad to buy. Arctic char is the first table delicacy to come out of the far north, and its success has not surprised biologists, who rank it with Canada's best.

Chefs, discriminating judges of fine fish in another field, have given a warm welcome to the Arctic newcomer. Adventurous sports fishermen who are discovering the Arctic find the char a fast fish and full of fight on the end of tackle.

AN ESKIMO ENTERPRISE

This summer two Eskimo fishermen's co-operatives at George River and Port Burwell are shipping out 50,000 pounds of Arctic char, about 10,000 pounds more than in 1960. The first 25,000 pounds arrived in Montreal aboard the Hudson's Bay Company's new ship "Radisson" on August 30.

This year, too, char is being sold in Western Canada from a new Eskimo fishery at Cambridge Bay in the central Arctic, about 1200 miles north of Edmonton. The first 10,000 pounds of char from Canada's most northern commercial-fishing operation arrived in Edmonton several weeks ago.

"As a Westerner, I am particularly glad that the supply of Arctic char is now Canada-wide", Northern Affairs Minister Walter Dinsdale said. "Establishment of the Cambridge Bay fishery should help to meet a demand that has always been ahead of the supply. Here in Eastern Canada I was interested to learn that this summer an Eskimo family from Baker Lake made the long journey of almost 1000 miles to work with the Port Burwell fishermen so that they could take back reports of the fishing operation for

neighbours interested in the prospects of a move to coastal areas."

GROWTH OF ARCTIC CO-OPERATIVES

The new Cambridge Bay char fishery, and a salmon fishery started this year on Ungava Bay (most northern range in Canada of the Atlantic salmon), bring to five the number of Eskimo fishermen's co-operatives. Each has the aid of an experienced commercial fisherman during the early stages to introduce them to methods of preparing fish for southern markets and setting up a co-operative. The Frobisher Bay char fishery, a pilot project since 1958, became a co-operative this year under all-Eskimo management. Frobisher Bay had no char to ship out this year; the 10,000-pound catch was sold locally. All the fisheries operate on quotas, to protect the waters from becoming fished out.

Eskimo fishermen who, in the days when they fished alone with makeshift tackle, were often on relief, have good reason to call the char by a name it often goes by in southern Canada, "Ilkalupik". "Ilkalu" in Eskimo means fish, all fish. "Pik" on the end means that it is something special.

Char can be cooked most ways that taste good for trout and salmon, but its flavour is distinctive and it turns up on some interesting menus. Featured under its Eskimo name, it was served at the state dinner for President and Mrs. Kennedy in Ottawa.

Cooking fish well is one of the finer arts and some of Canada's leading chefs were not long in creating their favourite char recipes. A small choice collection, contributed to the Department of Northern Affairs, has been published in a folder with Eskimo decorations and is available from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa, (35 cents).

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STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS, JULY

Although there was a slight increase in the number of work stoppages in Canada during July compared with the previous month, there was a substantial decrease in both the number of workers involved and the man-days lost, according to a preliminary summary of strikes and lockouts just released by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Michael Starr.

During July there were 41 work stoppages involving 8,826 workers and a total duration of 94,560 man-days. In the previous month there were 38 work stoppages involving 12,323 workers for a total duration of 128,020 man-days.

Thirty-nine of the July work stoppages were in industries under provincial jurisdiction. Of these, 22 were in Ontario, six in British Columbia, five in Quebec, two each in Newfoundland and Alberta and one each in Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan. Two work stoppages were in industries under federal jurisdiction.

Eight of the July work stoppages, four of which were terminated by the end of the month, involved 100 or more workers.

Two stoppages alone accounted for more than 67 per cent of the month's time loss. These were among building-trades workers in Toronto and among hotel employees in the same city.

A breakdown by industry of the month's stoppages shows 14 in construction, 12 in manufacturing, eight in trade, four in transportation, two in service and one in logging.

Based on the number of non-agricultural wage and salary workers in Canada, the number of man-days lost in July represented 0.09 of the estimated working time. In June the percentage was 0.12. The corresponding figure for July 1960 was 0.03.

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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

The seasonally-adjusted index of industrial production for June registered an increase of 1.9 per cent to 172.5, reflecting a 2.8 per cent advance in manufacturing, which was partially offset by declines of about 1 per cent in both mining and electric power and gas utilities. The June increase brings the index to its previous peak 18 months ago in January 1960.