

decline. The great falling off, however, occurs in lobsters, which show a decline in value of canned lobsters of \$894,377. No perceptible change is noticeable in the quantity of oysters raked, the value being about the same as last year. The remaining branches of the fisheries appear to be in a healthy condition.

### REMARKS, BY PROVINCES.

#### NOVA SCOTIA.

As already stated, the total value of the fisheries in this Province fall short of last year by \$35,578.77. This is due to the low prices which ruled in the spring, and can in no-wise be attributed to scarcity of fish.

All branches of the deep-sea fishery appear to be in a healthy state. There is a slight decrease in the number of quintals of dried cod, but this is more than made up by the increased catch of pollock and haddock.

The salmon fishery is apparently in a satisfactory condition, and there are good grounds for expecting that, this king of fishes will ere long be as plentiful as ever in the waters of Nova Scotia.

While a falling off is noticed in the number of canned lobsters, there is a large increase in the quantity shipped alive or in shell to the United States markets. As the Inspector expresses it in his report: "This trade is fast assuming large proportions, yields fair profits, and is not so exhaustive to the fishery, as no lobsters can be shipped under ten inches and a half in length. During the fall and winter months, good prices are obtained for them." There is no doubt but this is the trade of the future.

#### NEW BRUNSWICK.

The returns show a large falling off in value of the total catch, amounting in the aggregate to over half a million dollars, made up by the two items of lobsters and smelts.

The enormous drain hitherto put on the latter fishery is showing its natural results, while the falling off in the catch of lobsters is entirely due to a scarcity of these shell fish, caused by over-fishing in the past. No licenses were issued for sturgeon fishing during the season, owing to the almost complete exhaustion of this fishery. Herring and mackerel fishing were comparative failures, while cod, halibut, pollock, hake and haddock fisheries appear to be in a thriving condition. The catch of salmon shows a slight increase over that of last year.

#### BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The large increase of \$397,539, noticeable in the value of the fisheries of this Province is very satisfactory. The catch of salmon was much better than that of last year, while prices ruled high owing to a comparative failure of the pack on the United States coast. The value of fish caught in this Province, including that