

nearly \$500,000 in excess of 1899 prices. That this should be paraded as a substantial increase in the value of the fisheries and a benefit to the province is not a compliment to the Ontario reader.

TO SUPPLY AMERICANS.

All this is done to supply the Americans with 95 per cent. of the catch, leaving Ontario with 5 per cent. This large and continuous shipment of our fish to the United States has created the fish famine in Ontario. The Department of Fisheries has hitherto been exceptional in not being closely and continuously scrutinized by the press and the public.

DOUBLE PRICE, POOR QUALITY.

A revenue of about \$46,303 is obtained from licenses to fish. The value put upon the fish has no bearing whatever upon the question of revenue. The license fees paid for:

530 pound nets gave a revenue of.....	\$26,500
Tugs and 3,910,678 yards of gill nets, revenue of	13,934
121 seines	1,207
554 hoop nets	2,770
Hook and night lines	217
Nepigon license fees	1,425
Dip nets	150

\$46,303

A small surplus is claimed over and above expenditure. The loss to the province owing to depletion is not mentioned, nor that we are paying more than double price for fish of an inferior quality.

NINETY-FIVE PER CENT. EXPORTED.

Ninety-five per cent. of the catch is exported. In an export trade of any kind the best samples or stock are usually shipped; 1,128,615 lbs. would be Ontario's proportion (5 per cent.) of the 22,572,300 lbs. fish caught in 1905. An increase in price of 5c. per lb. means a loss of \$56,430 to the Ontario fish con-