



Roger Fox of Fulton, Miss., holds up a hefty 25-pound lake trout he caught June 20, 1957 in Lac la Ronge, Saskatchewan's well-known sport fishing lake.

**P**OSSIBLY Ted Trueblood has described it best.

The well-known outdoor writer had returned from a two-week fishing trip into this new fishing paradise that is northern Saskatchewan. As he was leaving the province, someone asked him if this was the best fishing he had ever seen. "Well," he replied, sucking his pipe thoughtfully, "I don't know if it's the best, but man, if it was any better I just couldn't stand it!"

This is the area that last year produced the largest lake trout and northern pike caught on the North American continent. On July 31, 1958, Mr. H. J. Thorimbert, a service station operator from St. Louis, Sask., hauled out a hefty 51-pound, ten-ounce lake trout from the waters of Kingsmere Lake in Prince Albert National Park. Earlier that month, on July 5, Mr. J. B. Oakleaf of Moline, Illinois, latched on to a 36-pound, four-ounce northern pike on Cree Lake, which was good enough to top the field in the northern pike class. Incidentally, Mr.

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Oakleaf caught his prize-winning fish on his first cast of the day, about 10.30 in the morning, but where another fisherman might have been content to stop there, he kept on casting for the rest of the day.

Back in 1955, a commercial fisherman on the waters of Lake Athabaska netted a monstrous 80-pound, eight-ounce lake trout. This is the largest lake trout on record and biologists estimated it to be between 50 and 60 years old. Confronted by the evidence of this commercial fisherman's catch, anglers feel there must be more big ones lurking in these northern waters.

Truly, anglers never had it so good as they fish this northern Saskatchewan area. New access roads are opening up lakes seldom, if ever, fished before. Sportsmen are now casting in waters which have never felt the touch of the lure. Small fishing parties find themselves with a whole 300-square mile lake to themselves. Bewildered at first by the influx of visitors, the scattered native population of the area has quickly found out what all the excitement is about, and many of them spend their Summer months guiding fishermen about lakes they know like the back of their hand. If ever a region deserved the oft-used term "fishing paradise", this is it!

This western Canadian province is actually a strange paradox. It is possibly best known as the "world's bread-basket" for its tremendous wheat production and