

bolomieu). In the clear water lakes of the rocky portions of the country. on the other hand, these fish are generally common.

The large deep-water lakes of the district contain whitefish (*Coregonus clupeiformis*), sturgeon (*Acipenser rubicundus*), freshwater herring (*Gyosomus artedi*), and the common eel (*Anguilla rostrata*). Whitefish are especially abundant in lake Timiskaming and in the connected series of lakes forming Bell river. Sturgeon are most numerous in Grand lake Victoria. Brook trout (*Salvelinas fontinalis*) although comparatively uncommon are found here and there in the clear, cold-water brooks occurring in the rocky headwaters areas.

There are certain fish such as the pike (*Esox lusius*), maskinonge (*Esox nobilios*), and doré (*Stizostedion vitreum*), which seem to be capable of living through a great range of environment and these are found nearly everywhere in the region. Pike and maskinonge, however, are most abundant and largest in the shallow grassy lakes of the clay belt.

The other fish found in the region are of little or no value although many are very abundant. They include the sucker (*Calostomus teris*), rock bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*), perch (*Percea americana*), sunfish (*Lepomis pallidus*), and several varieties of chub.

EARLY EXPLORATIONS AND SURVEYS.

That the principal geographical features of the Timiskaming region were known to the French at a very early date is shown by the maps of Canada or New France, published in France during the early years of the French regime. This information was largely obtained from the fur traders who, even at that early period, penetrated far into these northern wilds in quest of furs. It was no doubt for the protection of this traffic that forts were established by the French, about the close of the seventeenth century, on lake Timiskaming and lake Abitibi.

It is probable that in going from lake Timiskaming to lake Abitibi the early French voyageurs did not follow the present route by way of lac des Quinze and lake Opasatika, but went by way of the east or Abitibi branch of Blanche river and Labyrinth lake, for on De l'Isle's map of Canada published in 1703 and on Bellin's map of Canada published in 1744, the route by way of Blanche river and Labyrinth (Labirinth) lake is indicated.

The principal surveys used in the compilation of the published maps of Timiskaming county are: surveys of lakes and rivers made by the members of the staff of the Geological Survey who have examined portions of the region from time to time; surveys of waterways, base, meridian, and township lines by the Crown Lands department of Quebec; the sur-