

The total value of fish and shell-fish exported during the twelve months of 1949 was £515,883, which represents an increase of £22,147 on the previous year's figure of £493,736.

The totals for the principal classes of fishery products exported for the last three years are given below :—

	Quantity.			Value.		
	1947.	1948.	1949.	1947.	1948.	1949.
				£	£	£
Oysters, fresh ..	950 doz.	1,020 doz.	1,920 doz.	27	30	107
Mussels ..	..	75 cwt.	93 cwt.	..	531	475
Fish, frozen ..	41,800 cwt.	54,671 cwt.	61,367 cwt.	235,079	340,441	366,880
Crayfish, frozen ..	2,335 cwt.	3,731 cwt.	6,388 cwt.	17,140	44,466	85,061
Fish, smoked, dried, &c.	4,384 cwt.	1,625 cwt.	1,047 cwt.	27,533	11,419	7,233
Fish and shell-fish (canned)	649,565 cwt.	755,307 cwt.	798,955 cwt.	78,439	96,849	56,127
Total values ..	..	..	..	358,218	493,736	515,883

A more detailed report of the quantities and kinds of fish and shell-fish is given in Table VII.

#### BIG-GAME FISHING

The season for big-game fishing was generally a good one. Reasonably good fishing extended over the months from December to May. At several of the centres the secretary of the fishing club there has forwarded records of the catch during the season. The figures below show the numbers of the various species taken.

Species.	Bay of Islands.	Whangarei.	Tauranga.
Striped Marlin .. ..	278	10	513
Black Marlin .. ..	27	..	5
S.A. Blue Marlin .. ..	..	..	3
Mako Shark .. ..	40	41	44
Hammerhead Shark ..	5	..	..
Tiger Shark .. ..		..	7
Thresher .. ..		1	1
Blue .. ..	1	..	..

#### SARDINES

The landings of sardines at Picton show a decrease over last year's figures.

The figures for the total sardine catch at Picton during the last five years are as follows :—

	Cwt.
1949 .. ..	223
1948 .. ..	896
1947 .. ..	97
1946 .. ..	1,191
1945 .. ..	1,458

#### FISH-LIVER OIL

This branch of the industry shows an increase this year in quantity of livers handled and the quantity of oil produced, the figures being the highest yet recorded. The total weight of fish livers treated, 783,307 lb., an increase of 105,872 lb., and the fish-liver oil produced, 33,304 gallons, an increase of 9,221 gallons as compared with last year's figures.