

tons of ore, compared with 134,002 tons in 1916, an increase of 7.5 per cent.

The imports of iron ore for the eleven months ending November 30, 1917, according to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, Department of Commerce, amounted to 913,500 gross tons, so that probably the imports for the whole year reached 988,500 tons, compared with 1,325,736 tons in 1916.

#### THE FISHERIES CONFERENCE

THE members of the Canadian-American Fisheries Conference held recently in Washington, were received by the President at the White House on January 22, 1918. The President expressed great satisfaction at the cordial and friendly spirit which had manifested itself during the continuance of the conference. The following gentlemen were presented to the President by Hon. William C. Redfield, secretary of commerce and chairman of the conference: Hon. J. Douglas Hazen, chief justice, of New Brunswick; Mr. George J. Desbarats, deputy minister of naval service, and Mr. William A. Found, superintendent of fisheries, of the Canadian delegation; Mr. Edwin F. Sweet, assistant secretary of commerce; Dr. Hugh M. Smith, commissioner of fisheries, of the American delegation; Mr. Arnold Robertson, first secretary of the British Embassy, and Mr. Maitland Dwight, of the department of state, secretaries of the conference.

The conference held eight sessions and made satisfactory progress toward reaching an arrangement suitable to all concerned. Among the questions discussed were the following:

The protection of the salmon in and around the Fraser River; the protection of the halibut, which has been overfished, the center of this industry being Seattle, Vancouver, Prince Rupert and Ketchikan, on the Pacific; equitable rules governing the use of Canadian and American ports by the fishing vessels of both countries, however propelled; the lobster fisheries of the Atlantic; pike-perch fishing in Lake Champlain, and the possible passage of rules relating to the whale industry.

The conference is looking forward to the

privilege of consulting the fishing interests at the hearings which it is proposed to hold in New England and in the maritime provinces of Canada in the near future. It is also proposed to visit the Pacific coast, and it is hoped that these hearings will throw some light on the subject with a view to a satisfactory settlement being reached.

The whole conference is desirous of establishing the present law and practise as regards the fish industry, and believes that with this as a basis a satisfactory conclusion may be attained.

The Canadian delegates extended an invitation to the American delegates to visit Ottawa some time before the conclusion of the conference.

#### MEDICAL TRAINING CAMPS

EXTENSIONS are being made to the scope of the medical training camps at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., and Fort Riley, Kans., by the addition of courses in specialties required of the Medical, Sanitary and Veterinary Corps under Surgeon General Gorgas. There are at present 5,400 officers and men under training at Fort Oglethorpe and 3,800 at Fort Riley. Fort Riley has a capacity of 7,000. Enlargement of the school at Fort Oglethorpe to the same capacity has been authorized, its present capacity being 5,500. The ultimate needs of the Medical Department of the Army look to training camps of capacities totaling 35,000 to 40,000 officers and men.

There have been graduated from medical training camps since June 1, or are now under instruction, a total of about 9,000 officers and about 20,000 enlisted men. Until December 1 the medical training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and the one at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, for colored officers and men, had been contributing to the total, but these camps have been discontinued.

Ten new sections have recently been or are now being established for officers in the medical training camps. These are for the following:

- (1) X-ray specialists;
- (2) orthopedic surgeons;
- (3) psychologists;
- (4) special examining surgeons;
- (5) sanitary engineers;
- (6)