Dec. 26

BOILER WAS LEAKING.

Accident to Steam Otter Trawler on Trial Trip.

The steam trawler Spray, which put into T wharf Friday morning, is now into the hands of a number of expert mechanics, who are repairing a leak to her boiler.

The Spray left Provincetown on Thursday night with two weeks' provisions on board to complete her trip in search of a full quota of fish. When off the Cape setting her trawls on Friday, the boiler, which had been found defective, appeared to be in a worse condition, so Capt. Dexter Malone decided that the steamer was unfit to put to sea and turned for Boston. It is expected that the repairs will be completed by today and the Spray will start for her second trip to the fishing grounds.

Opposition to the otter trawlers is manifested in many comments which fishermen about the docks make when they stand glaring at the new device for fishing on this coast.

"Sure ah' divil a bit will they have to scale them hadd'ck," was the comment of one fisherman, which brought a laugh from the sympathetic crowd about him. He referred to the bruised condition of the haddock being hauled up from the trawler'c hold, showing that the fish had been given a pretty thorough rubbing from being rolled over the grounds in the "cod" sack of the big trawl and jammed in with the quantities of other fish in the net.

WILL SAIL TODAY.

Repairs to Otter Trawler Spray Completed at Boston.

The steam otter trawler Spray will sail from Boston on her second trip today.

All day yesterday mechanics were at work upon the boilers of the Spray, which had to return prematurely from her maiden trip because of defects in her boilers. This morning she will sail for the fishing grounds. Her skipper, Capt. H. Dexter Malone, and every member of his crew are determined to make good this time.

As stated in the TIMES yesterday to say that there is hostility to this form of fishing among the fishermen is to put it mildly, and there was general rejoicing among the schooner men when the Spray arrived in port Saturday, with a rather small trip in rather poor condition. A portion of the haddock was scaled and bruised from contact with the sides of the trawler and with other fish in the net, and this proves their contention, according to the fishermen, that they cannot land fish in good condition from a steam trawler.

The steamer trawler owners profess complete satisfaction with the work of their vessel and the crew are really enthusiastic over the new method of catching fish. They declare that the scaled and bruised fish will form only a very small percentage of the total of the catch and the trawler will soon be paying dividends to the Bay State Company which operates it, that will make the schooner men sit up and gasp. Meantime, it's up to Capt. Malone and his men to make good, or the derisive audience of fishermen which is watching the Spray will rise up in its might and shout, "Give her the hook."

Has Smoked Herring.

Sch. Ellen F. Chase arrived here from Jonesport, Me., today, with 212 barrels of smoked medium scaled herring for George Perkins & Son.

Dec. 27

MR. ALIXANDER HOME.

Plenty of Frost When He Left Bay of Islands.

Has Not Been Usual Run of Herring This Season.

Mr. A. B. Alexander of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, who left here last summer on sch. Grampus for a cruise to Newfoundland to study the migrations of mackerel in Northern waters, and who was also commissioned to represent the government and observe matters at Bay of Islands, N. F., during the herring difficulty there this fall and winter, arrived here last evening, accompanied by Mr. Murphy, who has been clerk of the trip.

As to the results of the nearly five months trip and what has been accomplished, Mr. Alexander had little to say, these matters being of an official nature and reported by him to the state department and may later appear in official print.

As to the herring fishery, Mr. Alexander said that at no time this season had there been a body of herring in the bay such as usually strikes there every year. There would be days when there would be quite a lot of herring in some arm and the next day there would be some in some other location. At no time had herring been plentiful.

There had been no open trouble or friction and things had gone along fairly smoothly. The American fishermen with their nets and dories had shown that they were the equals of he Newfoundlanders in catching herring and made a fine showing when there was any fish to catch.

He left Bay of Islands last Friday afternoon and at that time there was about eight feet of snow on the ground. The railroad between Birchy Cove and Bay of Islands had been kept open all right, but there were few days since November came when it had not snowed some time within the 24 hours.

The arms and coves had already been frozen over two or three times but not solid enough to hold against the swift current and had quickly broken up. There had been frost for almost ten days, and the salt herring season had practically been over for ten days before he left, the vessels putting up their scaffolds and freezing or getting ready to freeze herring. When he left, there was no great quantity of herring going and it seemed doubtful if all the vessels would load.

This question of securing cargoes, he said, depended entirely on local conditions. If there was a fair supply of herring and the weather remained good and there should be two or three weeks before the ice came, he thought all would load, but should it come rough and stormy and herring be scarce, it looked as though some of the vessels would have to come home without full loads and perhaps some would have to come without any. This might not be so, but was as matters appeared when he left there.

DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

To-day's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Onato, via Boston, 25,000 lbs. fresh cod.

Sch. Natalie J. Nelson, via Boston, 20,000 lbs. fresh cod.

Sch. James W. Parker, via Boston, 27,000 lbs. fresh cod.

Sch. Edna Wallace Hooper, Bay of Islands, N. F., 1650 bbls. salt hearing.

Sch. Bertha M. Miller, shore.

Sch. Minerva, shore.

Sch. Flora J. Sears, shore.

Sch. Evelyn L. Smith, shore.

Sch. Ellen F. Chase, Jonesport, Me., 212 bbls. smoked medium scaled herring.

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Today's Fish Market.

These prices are based on the last known sales.

Salt handline Georges codfish, $5.25 per cwt. for large, $4.25 for medium.

Salt trawl Georges codfish, $5 for large, 4.00 for medium.

Salt hake, $1.75

Salt haddock, $1.75.

Salt cusk, $2.50.

Fresh haddock, $1.20.

Salt trawl bank codfish, $4.50 for large, $4.00 for medium, $2.75 for snappers.

Fresh halibut, 12 cts. per lb. for white and 8 cts. for gray.

Fresh pollock, 70 cts. per cwt.

Newfoundland salt herring, in bulk, $4.50 per bbl.

Newfoundland salt herring, barrelled, $5.75 per bbl.

Boston.

Sch. Tartar, 25,000 haddock, 18,000 cod.

Sch. Catherine Burke, 30,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.

Sch. Mertis H. Perry, 1500 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Sachem, 1200 pollock.

Sch. Laura Enos, 2500 pollock.

Sch. Catherine D. Enos, 7000 haddock, 500 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 5000 haddock, 2000 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Yakima, 14,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 2000 pollock.

Sch. Catherine and Ellen, 17,000 haddock, 12,000 cod, 9000 hake.

Sch. Mary A. Gleason, 3000 haddock.

Sch. Harmony, 8000 haddock, 9000 cod, 15,000 hake, 5000 cusk.

Sch. Carrie F. Roberts, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod.

Sch. Alcina, 10,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 3000 hake.

Haddock, $2 to $5; large cod, $4 to $5; market cod, $2 25 to $2 50; hake, $1 to $1.75; pollock, $2.50.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Lucania will now be commanded in the winter haddock fishery by Capt. Frank Enslo, while her regular skipper, Capt. Martin L. Welch, takes a vacation of a month or so on shore.

Herring Notes.

Sch. Lucinda I. Lowell, now on the way home from Bay of Islands, has a cargo of frozen herring.

Richard Cann, a Bonne Bay, N. F., fisherman, who has been herring fisning at the Bay of Islands, N. F., wrote a communication to the St. John's, N. F., Evening News, under the date of Dec. 2, complaining of the stealing of nets and anchors at Bay of Islands this season. In closing he says:

"There must have been thousands of dollars worth of property destroyed here this fall if reports are true. Now sir, if a ten dollar bill was stolen from any merchant's shop, would there not be a detective on his track? But, sir, we are not fishermen. Each fleet of nets has cost with anchors and moorings about $60. The boat I go in has three fleets, which amounts to $180.

"By Sir Robert Bond we were deprived of the right of selling herring to the Americans. If this work continues we must quit the herring fishery or turn robbers or pirates. There are about forty American schooners here, and they are mostly doing well. Some have lost a lot of nets, it is said.

"Does the government that the fishermen keep up turn a deaf ear and a blind eye to such things? Sir, we shall have to ask the Japanese or the Chinese to send to Juan Fernandez for protection. The herring struck into Middle Arm yesterday very plentifully."