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SEC. ROOT WILL PROTEST.

To England if Cong. Gardner's Report Proves Correct

CASE NOW BEING CONSIDERED.

Newfoundland Side of Troubles at Port au Basque.

Representative Gardner yesterday gave out the following statement at Washington which indicates that sechs. A. E. Whyland and Eleonor Whyland of this port whose captains were fined for fishing within the three mile limit on the treaty coast, have a good case against the Newfoundland government:

"I saw Secretary Root this morning on his return, and went over the case of our fishing skippers arrested for trawling inside the three-mile limit on the treaty coast of Newfoundland. The secretary said that if my statement of the case was correct and the court record proved it, he would at once protest to the British government.

"Newfoundland recently passed a law prohibiting the use of trawls for inshore fishing. The object of this law was clearly retaliatory, as in the nature of things the inhabitants of Newfoundland can make hand lining pay, while we cannot make it pay so far from home.

"Newfoundland is now pursuing the same policy which she has pursued over and over again, attempting, by hook or crook, to render useless our rights under the treaty of 1818 for the benefit of the planters and merchants of St. Johns and Americans with large interests in the islands.

"Newfoundland's claim that she has the right to pass a local law qualifying our right to fish on her shores under the treaty of 1818 is an old story. It came up in the Fortune bay case in 1878 and was a matter of contest between our government and Great Britain until 1883, when Great Britain paid us \$83,000 damages, thus practically conceding our claim that Newfoundland had no right to pass any such laws.

"Her action is not now and never has been taken with a view particularly to the interest of her fishermen; but, unfortunately the Newfoundland government is not representative of the Newfoundland people. A very large proportion of her fishermen have not had schooling advantages which would enable them to read and write. They have no power of organization and the result is that they are largely represented by lawyers and other persons residing at St. Johns."

Chandler Addison, who is already engaged in preparing the various outstanding issues between America and Canada for negotiation, has been charged by Secretary Root to look into the history of the Fortune Bay case.

The St. John's, N. F., Herald of April 3 has the following story on the fishery troubles at Port au Basque and Channel. It is to be noted particularly that the American bankers whose captains were fined were not the only ones there and fishing within the three mile limit with trawls, but that Newfoundland bankers from Fortune Bay and bankers from Lunenburg, N. S., were also there and fish-

lug. Note also that the Herald, which is the organ of the Bond government, does not say these crafts have no right to trawl there, but only say that the people there regarded the inshore fishery as theirs by right, as they and their forbears have fished there for generations. The account reads as follows:

"Passengers who arrived by the express Saturday night bring startling reports as to fishery conditions about Channel and Basque. At Channel Friday night an indignation meeting was held, largely attended by fishermen from all parts of the coast, to protest against the action of large fishing craft, owned by people in Fortune Bay, and Lunenburg and American schooners, all trawlers, which have been impeding and unnecessarily interfering with the small skiffs which use hand lines.

"The people of the coast regard the inshore fishery as theirs by right, as they and their forbears have fished there without hindrance, making Basque and Channel their rendezvous, prosecuting the voyage in the winter and spring months in small skiffs generally manned by three persons using hand lines. Therefore it has been usual for large fishing vessels, American, Canadian local employing trawls, to respect the right of the shore folk by keeping to the outer waters, but the past winter and at the present time this custom has been frequently violated, and the grounds near the shore have been strewn with the trawls of the larger smacks and the fishery of the shore folks has been monopolized by the crews of these vessels.

"All the winter up to last week it was an incident of daily recurrence to find hand-lines of the shore fishermen tangled in the trawls of the others, constant quarreling and destruction of fishing gear resulting. To the protests of the shore folk that others were encroaching there came angry retorts, with the contention that all had equal rights there; and bad blood has been stirred up, especially during the past fortnight.

"It has now reached the danger point and last week when Skipper Reuben Bennett of Channel found the trawls of a Lunenburg fisher entangled with his lines and remonstrated, the skipper of the Lunenburg craft came on deck with a gun and pointing it at Bennett swore he would shoot him. Bennett seized an axe and attempted to board the stranger who had ranged alongside his boat to take revenge but was overpowered and prevented by his brother and another man with him. Later this same schooner bore down on Bennett's skiff, colliding with her and tearing away the head gear and sails, did considerable other damage, threatening, as the vessel collided with Bennett's craft, to sink her.

"Messrs. Clement and Pike, of Channel, are taking action on this case and will prosecute the offending captain, as they have his name and that of his vessel. It is nothing uncommon now to see from 70 to 80 craft of from 20 to 100 tons, harboring nightly at Channel and Basque and reaching all day up and down the coast while their dories tend the trawls set inshore. Four of the vessels so engaged belong to Belleoram.

"Trawls heavily laden with cod have time and again broke and sinking to the bottom the fish, on the hooks, have glutted their fellows in the waters, while the custom of spitting the fish on deck and throwing the offal overboard has so polluted the waters that the shore folk are disgusted. Many have given up the fishery the past two weeks. Owing to the interference of the trawlers boats average only three hundredweight per day, while others have taken much less. Mr. Emmanuel Pike, of Basque, has already telegraphed the authorities here setting forth conditions, and urging that the cruiser Fiona be despatched to Channel. Mr. Burke, who was there on fishery protection service went on the ground and saw for himself how conditions stood. Handliners have 'to show' these the people say, and the fishery for them this winter has been rendered valueless as never before was such a fleet of foreign trawlers around. Had Mr. Squarey been at home he would have been appealed to, but Officers Crahe and Cramm, who were requested to do something, could not act in the absence of definite instructions from the authorities. The people are incensed against the captains of the vessels alluded to and at any moment serious disturbance is likely to occur."

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THE SLIME ON FISHES.

Common to All Species and Essential to Their Existence.

A fish just taken from the water, if handled, is found to be slippery and coated with slime. All fishes, the meanest and the noblest, killifish and shark, shad, salmon and trout, wear this slime. They could not exist without it.

The slime is secreted usually in a continuous series of ducts, with numerous openings arranged in a line extending along the side of the fish. Some fishes have one line on a side, some have five or six. The lines may be plainly visible, and in some cases appear to be a marking on the fish. More often they are not observable at all. Some fishes store this secretion in pores distributed over the whole surface of the body, the larger number, however, in pores in lateral lines. There are also pores for the secretion of mucus, or slime, in the fish's head.

The slime is exuded through the divisions between the scales to the outer part of the body, over which it spreads, forming a sort of outer skin or covering, transparent and having elasticity and tenacity and often considerable body. It would not be remarkable for a fair sized fish, say a fish of two pounds weight, to have a coating of slime a thirty-second of an inch in thickness. Fishes vary greatly in the amount of slime which they secrete. The eel will suggest itself as one that is very slimy.

The fish's slimy coating reduces its friction when in motion and helps to increase its speed. It aids in protecting the scales from injury, being of sufficient substance to serve in some measure as a cushion. The slimy covering makes the fish hard to hold and so enables it the more readily to escape from its enemies. It is sometimes repugnant to other fishes, which are repelled by its odor. It is the slime from the fishes handled that makes the angler "smell fishy," as the expression goes.

A most important function of the fish's slimy coating is to protect it from the attacks of fungus, a form of plant life found in all waters, salt and fresh, including the purest. The slime covers the entire exterior surface of the fish, including the fins. Fungus does not attach to the slime, but if the fish were to be injured so that there was upon it some spot uncovered by the slime upon that spot some minute fragment of fungus, so small as to be scarcely more than visible, would be likely to lodge. Once lodged the fungus is reproduced very fast.

Fish sometimes recover from attacks of fungus, but much more often they do not. The fungus displaces the skin, inflammation is set up, and the place attacked becomes practically a sore. With its continued growth the fungus may cover the side of the fish and extend over the gills and finally kill it.

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Quick Trip.

Sch. Teazer, Capt. Peter Dunsky, arrived from a Georges halibut trip last night, after being out only 17 days, with a fine trip, 35,000 pounds of salt cod, 25,000 pounds of fresh cod and 3000 pounds of halibut.

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Porto Rico Fish Market.

In reference to the market for fish stuffs S. Ramirez & Co., San Juan, Porto Rico, under date of March 26 write as follows: To the arrivals reported on March 19 we have to add 134 tes. codfish and 62 trcs. other dry fish, mostly pollock, imported at this port ex Str. Philadelphia. Importations in excess of actual requirements especially at Ponce, coupled with the receipt of very low offers from exporting centres have caused a serious break in our local markets. Consumption, however, is very active at this Lenten season and a curtailment of shipments during the next two or three weeks would help prices to rally. We quote today, net ex wharf: Medium codfish, \$5.62 1-2 per 100 lbs.; haddock, \$4.25; pollock, \$3.75; hake, \$2.75; split herring, \$6.25 per bbl.; lengthwise herring, 13 1-2c. per box.

To Extend Western Halibut Fishery.

As a result of reports by fishery experts from England a number of steam trawlers will be sent to the Pacific coast to operate on the fishing grounds of British Columbia and build curing stations in the vicinity of Vancouver, from where they will ship stock to the Dominion and the United States. They think the possibilities of these fisheries are too great to be overlooked.

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OLD RELIABLE CONCERN.

George T. Moon of Fulton Market Is Now Incorporated.

The incorporation of the fish concern of George T. Moon, one of the oldest firms in Fulton Fish Market, is announced. The same careful attention to details, the sturdy, energetic and progressive policy which has characterized the old firm in the past will be even more manifested in the company, as Mr. Moon will continue to give his active personal attention to all matters connected with the business.

Mr. Longbotham, the treasurer, and Mr. Maguire, the superintendent, have been associated with Mr. Moon as employees ever since he has been in business, and by their efforts have contributed much to its success. In their new relations they will be none the less faithful, and "Ed and Billy" will still be found carefully attentive both to the wants of the running out of Vancouver to and from the halibut fishing grounds during the coming summer. There will be an enormous increase this year in the trade through the port of Vancouver, which seems destined to be the principal port for handling this kind of fish as well as the salmon, which has made British Columbia famous the world over.

The year 1906 in the halibut fishing industry promises to be the greatest on record in the history of the trade on the Pacific Coast.

Besides the large number of vessels that will be commissioned in that work from Vancouver, there are also a number running out of Seattle and Tacoma.

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Will Now Go Whaling.

Sch. Bertha D. Nickerson, 148 tons, now at Boothbay Harbor, has been purchased by Capt. Avery of New Bedford to be used in the whaling business under command of Capt. Costa.

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COD A LUXURY.

Highest Price in France Is Now Reached.

The price of codfish in France has touched the highest point on record, making it a luxury instead of an article of common consumption. The French firms are offering St. Pierre fishermen \$4.80 per 100 pounds for green fish. Extensive preparations are being made for the coming season, and the indications are that the tonnage sailing from St. Pierre to engage in codfishing will exceed that owing to the large number of new vessels.

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NEW FISH COMBINATION.

Will Have Offices in the Block of John Pew & Son.

The Gorton-Pew Fisheries Co., recently organized, will have its main office in the block of John Pew & Son on Main street, and rooms on the second floor are now being fitted for its occupancy. General Manager Carroll will have his headquarters there.

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Halibut Sale.

The fare of sch. Admiral Dewey sold to the New England Fish Company at 8 and 6 cents per pound for white and gray.

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Vesses Sailed.

Sch. George Parker, salt banking.
Sch. Veda M. McKown, south, seining.
Sch. Cynthia, south, seining.

Today's Fish Market.

These prices are based on the last known sales.

Shore frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 per cwt.
Splitting prices of fresh fish: Large Eastern cod, \$1.75; medium do., \$1.25; large Western cod, \$2.12 1-2; medium do., \$1.50; haddock, 85 cts.; cusk, \$1.25; hake, 80 cts.; pollock, 65 cts.

Bank halibut, 8 cts. per lb. for white and 6 cents for gray.

Salt handline Georges codfish, \$4.50 per cwt. for large, \$3.50 for medium.

Salt trawl Georges codfish, \$4.50 for large, 3.50 for medium.

Salt hake, \$1.00.

Salt haddock, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, \$2.25.

Salt trawl bank codfish, \$3.50 for large, \$3.00 for medium.

Newfoundland frozen herring for bait, \$3.00 per cwt.

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Boston.

Sch. Ida M. Silva, 10,000 haddock, 5000 cod.
Sch. M. Madeleine, 1100 haddock, 15,000 cod.
Sch. Kernwood, 13,000 haddock, 1000 cod.
Sch. Nokomis, 1200 haddock, 9000 cod.
Sch. Ignatius Enos, 6500 cod.
Sch. Winnifred, 30,000 haddock, 8000 cod.
Sch. Elsie F. Rowe, 5000 cod.
Sch. Florida, 1500 haddock, 2000 cod.
Sch. Harvester, 2000 haddock, 7000 cod, 8000 lb. halibut.
Sch. Eva Avina, 4000 cod.
Sch. Schem, 4500 cod.
Sch. Mary E. Stone, 2000 cod.
Sch. Ida S. Brooks, 40,000 haddock, 20,000 cod.
Sch. Arbitrator, 6000 cod, 6000 cusk, 6000 halibut.
Sch. Harrie M. Young, 5000 haddock, 700 cod.
Sch. Olive F. Hutchins, 6000 haddock, 500 cod.
Sch. Valentina, 6000 cod.
Sch. Hortense, 40,000 haddock, 25,000 cod.
Sch. Genesta, 6500 haddock, 1500 cod.
Sch. William A. Morse, 9000 haddock, 3000 cod.
Sch. Galatea, 6000 haddock, 3000 cod.
Haddock, \$1.10 to \$3; large cod, \$2.25; markets, \$1.25; halibut, 8 and 6 cts. per lb.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Sheffeyld and Louisa Polleys are fitting for Rips fishing.

Capt. Anson Leman is fitting sch. Grayling for south seining.

Capt. Obadiah Nickerson is fitting sch. Arcadia for south seining.

Capt. William Chett has been engaged to take sch. Leander F. Gould of this port, recently sold to Newfoundland parties, to her new home port there.

The gasoline fishing boat Bryda F., of this port, was at Provincetown during the heavy gale of Tuesday.

The gasoline fishing sch. Water Witch of this port is now fishing off Provincetown.

Sch. Talsman is fitting for south seining under command of Capt. Charles Doucett.

Capt. Enos Nickerson will fit sch. Seaconnet for seining later on.

Sch. Moonam, Capt. Hugh Quinlan, will fit for seining at Cape Shore time.

Among the Boston vessels which will sail for southern mackerel netting are schs. A. C. Newhall and Massasoit.

Capt. Roland Brewer will fit sch. M. Madeleine for south mackerel netting.

Capt. Frank Perry will fit sch. Gertrude of Boston for south seining.

Sch. Mabelle Leavitt of Portland has been sold to Boston parties. The craft arrived here this morning and Capt. Thomas Budro of this port will fit her for south seining.

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ASHORE IN BOSTON HARBOR.

Sch. Massachusetts Will Probably Be Floated at High Water.

Sch. Massachusetts, Capt. John J. Carroll, bound to market from Green Bank with a fare of 30,000 pounds of halibut and some codfish, went ashore this morning on the flats while beating up Boston harbor. The tugs reported her predicament and that she was laying easy and would probably be hauled off at high water today.