

Dec. 29.

COMPLICATED CASE.**No Solution Yet of Newfoundland Election Mix Up.****Matter Has Been Presented to British Crown Authorities.**

The most complicated political case that has ever been presented to the constitutional authorities under the British crown results from the recent Newfoundland general election.

As is already known, the political contest in this colony resulted in each party securing 18 seats in a house of 36, though the Bond government won four years ago with 30 seats against six. The success of Sir Edward Morris, the opposition leader, is all the more remarkable because he is a Catholic in a country two-thirds Protestant, and is the first of his faith to lead a political party in 50 years.

As matters now stand Sir Robert Bond retains office, but will be unable to hold the legislature if the present complexion of parties is maintained. To choose from his own ranks a speaker would place him in the minority on the floor and compass his immediate downfall by a vote of want of confidence. The Morrisites are in precisely the same predicament, for if Bond were to resign and his speaker go with him, Morris would be equally incapable of carrying on the legislative business.

Three plans are suggested. The first is a coalition government; the second the acquisition by one party of some of the other side's personnel; and third a dissolution and another general election.

A coalition is altogether improbable in the state of public feeling.

As to the absorption by one party of some men from the other side, there is the fact that such a proceeding would be viewed very differently by the advocates or critics of such a policy. This is intensified by the fact as regards Sir Robert Bond securing some Morrisites, that he has already got all his executive officers elected, and therefore has nothing to offer.

Sir Edward Morris, on the other hand, not having taken office yet, would be in a position to offer new recruits advantages in this respect.

The augurs indicate a prospect of the Morrisites carrying the country by a decisive majority, should there be another appeal to the electorate.

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LOTS OF SMALL MACKEREL.**Killed When Wreck Was Blown Up Off Cape Hatteras.**

To remove a dangerous derelict and at the same time get a splendid mess of mackerel is an accomplishment not often recorded, but that is what the crew of the revenue cutter Seneca performed off Hatteras. The derelict removed was a portion of the wrecked schooner Helen E. Taft. The Maritime Exchange of New York informed Capt. Reynolds that the derelict was in the path of steamers off Lookout light, and the Seneca started from Tompkinsville to search for it and blow it up. The derelict was found, and the next day a mine was attached and the wreck was blown into fragments.

"The explosion killed a large number of fish, principally young mackerel," remarked Capt. Reynolds "and there were enough for several meals all around."

This report of Capt. Reynolds regarding the small mackerel may go far toward solving the problem of where the mackerel go in the winter.

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Newfoundland's Foreign Trade.

The Canadian commercial agent for Newfoundland, at Ottawa, who has been supplied with advance information relative to the foreign trade of that colony during the year ending June 30, 1908, finds that of total imports of \$10,426,040, the large proportion of \$4,267,047 came from Canada. This latter is an increase of \$588,548 over the previous year. Of the total exports of \$12,101,161 only \$1,863,731 went to Canada but this is an increase of \$252,304 over the previous year. This increase more than balanced the decrease in the exports of the United Kingdom, about corresponding with the increase in the trade with Canada.

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BENZOATE OF SODA.**Bulletin Issued Permitting Use During Investigation.****APPEAL MADE TO ROOSEVELT.****Dr. Wiley, Chairman of Board, Declined To Sign Document.**

Benzoate of soda is causing trouble in official Washington and despatches from that place indicate that this food preservative, which is so necessary to Gloucester shippers of salt fish, and in fact to all shippers of salt fish, is the cause of a serious disagreement between President Roosevelt and Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the agricultural department, who is held as the chief sponsor for the famous pure food act.

For years Dr. Wiley has been waging a vigorous campaign against food adulterations. Under the law a board exists which has the final say on what is pure or impure in the food line. The board is composed of Dr. Wiley, who is the chairman, and Drs. F. L. Dunlap and George P. McCabe. The question of benzoate of soda having been brought before the board, it was learned by certain manufacturers interested in its use that Dr. Wiley would hold that it was injurious to health and must not be used. The manufacturers then appealed to the President who, it is said, sided with them as against Dr. Wiley. Yesterday the pure food board issued a bulletin which is not signed by Dr. Wiley. The decision permits the use of benzoate of soda pending further investigation.

The despatch adds that the President disagrees with Dr. Wiley but

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OCTOBER FISH RECEIPTS.**Amounts and Value Landed at This Port and Boston.**

According to the figures of the United States Fish Commission, 318 fares, aggregating 6,552,954 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$123,075 and 5,293,450 pounds of salt fish valued at \$182,131, a total of 11,846,374 pounds valued at \$305,206, were landed at this port during October and 442 fares aggregating 9,895,300 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$223,977 were landed at Boston for the same month.

The receipts at this port included 1,366,598 pounds fresh cod valued at \$24,735 and 4,878,429 pounds salt cod valued at \$170,211, 698,175 pounds fresh haddock valued at \$5800 and 55,072 pounds salt haddock valued at \$859, 379,476 pounds fresh cusk valued at \$6262 and 26,377 pounds salt cusk valued at \$660. 3,183,719 pounds fresh hake valued at \$24,697 and 12,382 pounds salt hake valued at \$188, 336,026 pounds fresh pollock valued at \$2617 and 224,457 pounds salt pollock valued at \$3367, 238,670 pounds fresh halibut valued at \$20,031, and 56,250 pounds fresh mackerel valued at \$3279 and 293,600 pounds salt mackerel valued at \$35,511.

The receipts at Boston included 2,129,500 pounds fresh cod valued at \$73,001, 4,119,400 pounds fresh haddock valued at \$108,573, 63,500 pound fresh cusk valued at \$1216, 2,545,200 pounds of fresh hake valued at \$25,518, 1,024,700 pounds fresh pollock valued at \$14,057, 3300 pounds fresh halibut valued at \$440, and 3400 pounds fresh mackerel valued at \$456.

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Good Stock.

Sch. Jennie B. Hodgdon, Capt. Axel Laager stocked \$2588.40 as the result of her recent Western bank deck handling trip. This is one of the best stocks in this fishery this season and Capt. Laager has certainly made a good star as this was his first trip in command.

PROVINCETOWN NOTES.**Sch. Gov. Russell Sold for a Sperm Whaler.**

Capt. John A. and George L. Dunham have purchased sch. Gov. Russell and will equip her for North Atlantic sperm whaling. It is stated that they may sell the whaling sch. William A. Grozier to parties engaged in passenger and freight carrying between the Cape Verde islands and United States ports. The purchase of the Russell was effected Monday last.

One of the Powe's fleet of fishing dories brought in a couple of days ago a large porpoise, which had been taken with a trawl out in the bay. It was sold to Mr. David C. Stull, the watch oil producer.

Sloop Venus arrived Monday and took station in harbor, prepared to supply the fishing fleet from her cargo of gasoline.

Quite a large quantity of squid was taken in traps last Monday morning, the Consolidated taking 100 barrels into its freezer that day.

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.**Today's Arrivals and Receipts.**

Sch. Elmer E. Gray, via Boston, 10,000 lbs fresh fish.

Today's Fish Market.

Round pollock, 55 cts. per cwt.; gutted 60 cents.

Salt Georges cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb. for white and 8 cts. for gray.

Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.

Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$2.00; mediums, \$1.69; Eastern cod, large, \$1.90; medium, \$1.50; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 75 cts.; pollock, 70 cts.

Eastern deck handline cod, \$1.00 for large and \$3.00 for mediums.

Boston.

Sch. Wanessa: 25,000 haddock; 20,000 cod; 1000 hake; 6000 cusk.

Sch. Lillian: 18,000 cod.

Sch. Elizabeth W. Nunan: 10,000 haddock; 4000 cod; 2000 hake.

Sch. Boyd and Leeds: 5000 pollock.

Sch. Florida: 18,000 cod.

Sch. Elva L. Spurling: 24,000 cod; 3000 pollock.

Haddock, \$2.50 to \$4.00 per cwt.; large cod, \$3; market cod, \$2.25 to \$2.75; hake, \$1.50 to \$3; pollock, 75 cts.; cusk, \$2.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

The captain of sch. Winnifred, which arrived at Boston yesterday, reports speaking sch. Arthur Binney, on Western bank recently. She was three weeks out and had few fish, having encountered bad weather and wished to be reported.

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FOR CHANGES IN FISH TARIFF.**Meeting of Fish Trade of Boston Held Yesterday.****COMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED.****To Secure Concerted Action of Fish Men of the Country.**

A meeting of the fish trade of Boston was held at the rooms of the Boston Fish Bureau yesterday to hear the report of the special committee appointed to consider the subject of tariff revision on fish and fish products.

The meeting was largely attended and it was the unanimous opinion of all present that a special committee of three be appointed for the purpose of bringing the matter of tariff revision before the fishing interests of all the large cities of the United States, with the idea of organizing harmonious and concerted action toward obtaining results which would be most beneficial to those interests and the public at large.

FROST STRUCK AGAIN.

Herring Now Bringing Fancy Prices at Bay of Islands.

Recent Warm Spell Dispelled Immediate Fear of Gulf Ice.

Sch. Senator Gardner arrived home this afternoon from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a cargo of salt herring. The schooner had a fine passage, being but a week on the way home. Capt. Vincent Nelson has hustled her right along for she is home ahead of vessels which were supposed to have left several days ahead of her.

Late advices from Bay of Islands, N. F., are to the effect that four or five vessels are about loaded with salt herring, but that herring continue very scarce, although a good run is hoped for.

Other advices received last evening state that frost has set in and that the vessels of the frozen fleet are putting up fish on their scaffolds, the herring bringing \$2.25 per barrel, green, and 70 cents per basket, frozen.

A telegram to Capt. Carl C. Young states that his sch. Dauntless, which was nearly filled with salt herring, would finish up on frozen goods.

Word from the skippers is to the effect that they do not immediately fear the field or gulf ice coming down and closing the bay, because since the cold snap, when the ice was first noticed in the straits, there had been quite a spell of unusually warm weather for this season of the year. Notwithstanding this feeling, some of the owners here, who fully realize what the coming of the ice would mean, will feel a great deal easier when the end of the season is in sight and the vessels leave the bay for home.

There is a feeling here that judging from the erratic way the herring schools have acted since the season opened, the main run is very late and has not started in, and the owners are daily hoping to hear that the fish have come into the Arms with some signs of remaining there for a while. This of course is conjecture, but it is to be hoped that the opinion will be borne out soon by actual conditions.

Recent advices to the Boston Fish Bureau state that schs. Esperanto, Senator Gardner, Maxine Elliott and John R. Bradley sailed for home last Saturday, schs. Esperanto and Bradley with frozen herring and schs. Maxine Elliott and Gardner with salt herring, also that there was a good frost at present and the Humber was frozen over solid.

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DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

- Sch. Vanessa, via Boston, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. Emily Sears, shore, 17,000 lbs. pollock.
- Sch. Teresa and Alice, shore.
- Sch. Valentina, shore.
- Sch. Maud F. Silva, shore, (went to Boston.)

Today's Fish Market.

- Round pollock, 55 cts. per cwt.; gutted 60 cents.
- Salt Georges cod, large \$4.00, mediums, \$3.00.
- Bank halibut 11 cts. per lb. for white and 8 cts. for gray.
- Salt pollock, \$1.50; salt haddock, \$1.50.
- Eastern salt shack trip cod, \$3.25 per cwt. for large and \$3 for markets.
- Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$2.00; mediums, \$1.60; Eastern cod, large, \$1.90; medium, \$1.50; cusk, \$1.60 to \$1.65; haddock, 80 cts.; hake, 75 cts.; pollock, 70 cts.
- Eastern deck handline cod, \$4.00 for large and \$3.00 for mediums.

Boston.

- Sch. Dorothy, 5000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake.
- Sch. Warren M. Goodspeed, 5000 haddock, 1200 cod, 1000 hake, 7000 pollock.
- Sch. Sadie M. Nunan, 4000 haddock, 3000 cod.

- Sch. Joseph H. Cromwell, 5500 haddock, 700 cod, 400 hake, 3000 pollock.
- Sch. Ethel B. Penney 5000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2500 pollock.
- Sch. Richard J. Nunan, 10,000 haddock, 1000 cod, 6000 hake.
- Sch. Rob Roy, 16,000 haddock, 10,000 cod.
- Sch. Aspinet, 7000 haddock, 5000 cod, 4000 pollock.
- Sch. George E. Lane, Jr., 5000 haddock, 2500 cod, 1500 hake.
- Sch. Rebecca, 4000 haddock, 500 cod, 4000 hake.
- Sch. Galatea, 6000 haddock, 600 cod, 3000 hake.
- Sch. Manomet, 3500 haddock, 2500 cod, 5000 hake.
- Sch. Maud F. Silva, 7000 haddock, 1000 cod, 2000 hake.
- Sch. Nettie, 1500 haddock, 500 cod, 300 hake.
- Sch. Julietta, 3500 haddock, 1500 cod, 600 hake.
- Sch. Mary J. Beals, 200 frozen shore herring.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Sch. Rex was at Liverpool, N. S., on Saturday.

Schs. Mcoanam and Lillian were at Canso, N. S., on Saturday.

After laying up for a month after a very successful Georges halibut season, sch. Teazer will now fit out again for halibuting under command of her regular skipper, Capt. Peter Dunsky, who has improved his well-earned vacation by visiting friends in various cities.

Sch. Natalie J. Nelson has had a new bowsprit stepped, to replace the one carried on her recent trip, and is ready for sea more. The bowsprit was stepped by the latter instead of by shears, the usual method.

Sch. Ariel, which has been lying up at Long Wharf, Boston, for some time, is being fitted for winter haddocking under command of Capt. Freeman Mason.

Sch. Stranger is at T wharf, Boston, being fitted for market fishing under command of Capt. John Shea, and has been thoroughly overhauled and slicked up.

Dec. 31.

THREE VESSELS, 62 MEN LOST.

Record of Gloucester Fisheries the Past Year.

VESSEL LOSS DECREASED.

Number of Lives Above Average of Recent Years.

With the close of the year the Times publishes, in accordance with its usual custom, the record of the loss of lives and vessels in the fisheries from this port during the year, giving as far as they could be secured the names of the men, their ages and places of birth, whether married or single, and other matters of interest connected with their death. As has been the usual custom, the list includes the men lost from their vessels by being washed or knocked overboard or who met their death while astray from their vessels in fogs, those killed by accident on board vessels, those who have died on shipboard or after having been removed to hospitals, those who have been drowned in attempting to board their vessels, and also men hailing from this port but fishing in vessels from other ports.

For the fifth year in succession no vessel of the fleet has gone out from port and never been heard from, and after many weeks of anxious watching been given up as lost, and only three vessels of the fleet have become total losses, while the loss of life is slightly above the average of recent years, caused by the loss of nearly one entire crew by their vessel being run down by a steamer and by the foundering of a former vessel which was being sailed for a southern port by a crew shipped at

this port and composed entirely of Gloucester fishermen.

The whole number of vessels lost during the year was three, including sch. Vera, which went ashore on the Nova Scotia coast yesterday and will probably be a total loss, with a total tonnage of 262.90 tons gross and 195.17 tons net, two of the vessels being among the finest of the fleet, the monetary value of the lost craft being estimated at about \$22,000, on which there is an insurance of \$17,500. One of the lost vessels was engaged in the Bank salt cod fishery, one in the fresh halibut fishery and one in the shore pollock fishery.

The total number of men reported drowned during the year was 62, leaving 14 widows and 46 children. The deaths caused by men being washed overboard from their vessels numbered 11, while nine men were drowned by the capsizing of their dories, 12 drowned by their vessel being run down by a steamer, nine by the foundering of their craft at sea, seven died on board vessels or in hospitals, seven went astray from their vessels and were never heard from, four fell overboard from vessels, two were killed by an explosion of gasoline, two fell from wharves and were killed, and one was found drowned in the lock.

The total number of vessels lost during last year was six, of a total tonnage of 636.55 tons gross, and 431.58 tons net, the valuation of the lost craft being \$74,300, having an insurance of \$53,891. The number of men drowned during the year was 39, leaving 16 widows and 34 children.

The losses of vessels and lives during the year were as follows:

Vessels Lost.

H. F. Geel, a well known fisherman from this port, native of Waldoboro, Me., was drowned by falling overboard from sch. Nautilus at Pensacola November 12.

Thomas Powers, 50 years old, native of Conception Bay, N. F., single, Thomas Nickerson, 28 years old, native of Nova Scotia, single, and Peter Doucette, 35 years old, native of Tusset Wedge, N. S., single, three of the crew of sch. Fame; which was run down and sunk by steamer Boston onashes bank May 27; 14 others of the crew belonging in Boston being drowned.

Men Lost.

Robert B. Adams, 38 years old, native of Rockport, one of the crew of sch. Etta B., died at Kittery, Me., January 6, while on a haddocking trip from heart failure caused by acute indigestion.

William R. Ballen, 20 years old, native of Conception Bay, Newfoundland, single, washed overboard from sch. Elmer E. Gray, January 16, off Liscomb, N. S.

William McCarren, 35 years old, native of Argyle, N. S., single, and Jerome Steele, 30 years old, native of Rock Barra, E. I., single, washed overboard from sch. Preceptor while furling sail on Green bank, January 19.

James George, 60 years old, native of Sandy Point, N. S., one of the crew of sch. Mary E. Webb, drowned in the dock January 20, while going ashore from his schooner, single.

George Crowell, 36 years old, native of Clark's Harbor, N. S., single, one of the crew of sch. Manomet, drowned off Thacher's island January 20 by the capsizing of his dory.

Capt. Alfred Green, 40 years old, native of Arichat, C. B., washed overboard from sch. Yakima January 23 on Brown's bank, left widow and one child.

Colin C. Chisholm, 57 years old, single, native of Cape Breton, one of the crew of sch. Arabia, died at the Chelsea Marine Hospital January 26.

Roger Lord, 50 years old, master, native of Maine, Stanley Ryan, 35 years old, native of Nova Scotia, left widow and six children, Hibbert Conrad, 43 years old, native of Port Medway, N. S., Edgar Teal, 30 years old, native of Port Medway, N. S., single, Norman Sponagle, 43 years old, native of Dublin, N. S., single, Barney Conrad, 20 years old, native of Port Medway, N. S., single, Arthur Smith, 42 years old, native of England, and Thomas Cronin, 42 years old, native of Ireland, left widow and family, lost by the foundering of sch. Northern Eagle in the Gulf of Mexico in January.