

Sch. Galatea will now fit for Rips fishing under command of Capt. Selig.

Sch. Mina Swim is fitting for Rips fishing under command of Capt. William Forbes.

Capt. Frank Stream of sch. Waldo L. Stream reports speaking the dory handliners Meteor and Tattler recently, both crafts fishing near the northeast bar of Sable island.

Sch. Ethel B. Penney, Capt. Austin B. Penney has hauled out of market fishing and is at this port from Boston to fit for Rips fishing.

Sch. Kineo was at Edgartown Wednesday and baited with alewives.

Sch. Lafayette, Capt. George Peoples, sailed south mackerel netting this morning, being the first of the fleet at this port to get away.

Sch. Miranda, Capt. James McDonald, sailed this morning for Bay of Islands, N. F., on a late salt herring trip.

Sch. Athlete, Capt. Leroy Spinney of this port, one of the salt bank trawl codfishing fleet, was at Canso, N. S., Tuesday from her first baiting, with 90,000 pounds of salt cod.

Sch. Actor, one of the netting fleet, went to Boston yesterday to give her crew a chance to get their clothes, and will sail south from there.

Sch. Arthur Binney of Boston, which has fitted for seining at this port, went to Boston today for her "grub," and will sail from there tomorrow.

Sch. Norman Fisher sailed Rips fishing this morning under command of Capt. Edward Williams, a brother of Capt. John Williams of sch. Eugenia.

P. O. Whorff of Provincetown, who owns a fleet of five salt bankers, was here yesterday. He has not yet decided about sending his fleet, but thought he might start them all later on.

Sch. Thomas A. Cromwell of Boston has hauled out of haddocking and is at this port to fit for halibuting under command of Capt. Stephen Black.

Sch. John M. Keen will fit for south mackerel netting under command of Capt. Roderick McNeil.

Schs. James and Esther and Pythian are fitting for Rips fishing.

Capt. John Lennox is fitting sch. Ramona for the Rips.

Sch. Parthia, Capt. Nelson Thorburn, is about ready to sail dory handlining.

Quite a number of vessels are now here getting ready for mackerel seining, among them schs. Pontiac, Fannie E. Prescott, Terra Nova, Georgianna, Mooanam and Conqueror. Sch. Olga is all fitted and ready to sail today.

Quite a number of the gasoline fleet have fitted for pollock seining, among them the Bryda F., Water Witch and Bessie A.

Codfish More Plentiful.

The cod netters in Ipswich bay, who have been finding fish scarce for some time, report a better pick now and that for the past few days there has been quite a noticeable improvement in the catches. It is not yet large, however, and is not as good as last year at this time. Some of the boats are thinking of fitting for mackerel netting but will hang on for a while and see how the cod school pans out.

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MARCH FISH RECEIPTS.

Comparative Amounts and Value at This Port and Boston.

According to the figures of the United States fish commission, 76 faves, aggregating 1,678,168 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$46,650 and 215,583 pounds of salt fish valued at \$7,305, a total of 1,893,751 pounds valued at \$53,950 were landed at this port during March and 527 faves, aggregating 8,622,200 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$237,024 were landed at Boston for the same month.

The receipts in detail at each port were:

Gloucester.		
	Pounds.	Value.
Fresh cod	782,729	\$13,131
Salt cod	199,327	6,823
Fresh cusk	21,510	327
Salt cusk	1,554	39
Fresh haddock	553,864	8,342
Salt haddock	4,885	49
Fresh hake	1,190	9
Salt hake	820	10
Fresh pollock	12,546	117
Salt pollock	3,882	39
Fresh halibut	308,329	24,724
Salt halibut	5,116	345

Boston.		
	Pounds.	Value.
Fresh cod	2,408,300	\$70,673
Fresh cusk	165,700	2,749
Fresh haddock	5,210,500	132,470
Fresh hake	393,500	10,300
Fresh pollock	264,000	7,933
Fresh halibut	180,200	12,899

STILL BAD WEATHER AND NO FISH.

No Encouraging News Received From the Mackerel Fleet.

Skippers of the Opinion That Fish Have Kept Off the Coast.

A letter from Lewes, Delaware breakwater, dated yesterday forenoon gives some interesting news and gossip from the southern fleet. The old report, "bad weather and no fish," seems to still hold good.

The letter says that there were 27 sail of seiners in the fleet that harbored there early in the week and all sailed for the fishing grounds on Thursday. The vessels were schs. Lucania, Saladin, Constellation, Rex, Marguerite Haskins, Speculator, Patrician, Ralph L. Hall, Oriole, Clintonia, Aloha, Diana, Judique, Natalie J. Nelson, George Parker, Mary E. Harty, Priscilla Smith, Rob. Roy, Monarch, Electric Flash, Dauntless, Arabia, Arcadia, Esperanto, Arthur James, Annie Greenlaw and one other. The fish commission sch. Grampus was also there.

When the letter was written at 10.30 o'clock Friday forenoon, the wind was to the eastward, and it was raining and beginning to breeze up, but the fleet had a good night to cruise. Thursday night.

While the fleet was in harbor at the breakwater, the skippers had a great time, making up parties and going on impromptu visits to other masters among the fleet, getting together in the cabins and talking over the situation and the mackerel prospects in general. As usual opinions differed and the gatherings were very interesting, as no skipper is backward in expressing his ideas on fish and their movements.

Several of the skippers, among them Capt. Morgan, McKinnon, Corkum and Barry, called on Capt. Jerry Cook on the Grampus and the situation in all its phases was carefully gone over. All seemed to be of one opinion that the schools reported by the steamer were bonitas and porgies, and that the former, being in on the usual fishing grounds, are keeping the mackerel in deep water farther off shore. The porgies, too, are reported off in deep water.

Capt. Farmer of sch. Patrician reports seeing the schools of mackerel which he set at in latitude 38.48 in from 45 to 70 fathoms of water.

At home here the opinion is expressed by some well posted ones that the extraordinary cold spring has caused the mackerel to come up the coast well off shore, so as to be near the warmer water of the Gulf Stream.

The catch to date out south comes near being the lightest on record to date. The latest the first trip of mackerel was ever landed out south was April 26, 1877.

The southern catch thus far this season is 16 barrels, against 1906 barrels at this time in 1908, 4223 barrels in 1907, 3639 barrels in 1906, 61 barrels in 1903 and 865 barrels in 1904.

About 19 or 20 days now remain to the fleet, or at least those vessels intending to go to the Cape Shore, to stay to the southward and the worst of it is the light nights are again coming on, which of course is bad for the seiners. However, all hope is not lost, and it is probable that some lucky craft may reach Fulton Market by Monday. As the fishermen say, "let us hope so."

Two barrels of large fresh mackerel were received at Fulton Market this morning from the Maryland shore traps. The fish are bringing 75 cents each.

The imports of salt mackerel at Boston to date of the catch of 1908 are 43,436 barrels, against 24,545 barrels to date last year of the catch of 1907.

Sch. Arthur Binney will sail south seining from Boston on Monday.

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Visited Otter Trawler Spray.

Capt. Green of the otter trawler Spray says that while on the banks last Sunday he was visited by Capt. Pubnico of the British otter trawler Wren. Capt. Pubnico said that the owners of his vessel were so well satisfied with her success, that they had sent a resident agent over, with his family, to reside at Halifax, and were talking of buying more of the English type of otter trawlers to fish in American waters.

RHODE ISLAND LOBSTER LAW.

Licenses Will Be Granted Only to Residents of the State.

Rhode Island and Connecticut lobstermen are interested in the new law which goes into effect in the state of Rhode Island. The senate at Providence passed the lobster bill Friday morning with little opposition.

The bill cuts off all non-residents from Massachusetts and Connecticut at once. It allows the foreign citizens who have lived in this state one year and have, before the bill is passed, taken out their first papers, to do business until such time as the law allows them to complete their citizenship by paying a double license. Those who have not already taken out their first papers are cut off.

The bill requires that all lobstermen be licensed. The penalty for failure is \$20 fine and 30 days' imprisonment. The licenses are granted by the commissioners of inland fisheries to citizens of the United States who have resided in the state a year.

Each person licensed shall receive a certificate and a metal badge. Commissioners may revoke licenses for violation of the law and require the surrendering of the certificates and badges though not till notice of charges have been given and a hearing, if desired by the accused, held. Any person whose license has been revoked may appeal to the superior court and obtain a jury trial.

Each person licensed must produce certificate or badge on demand of the commissioners or deputies and the certificates and badges are not transferable. There is a fine of \$5 for violation of this.

The minimum size of the lobsters which may be taken is four and one-eighth inches, measured from the forward end of the bone projecting from the head to the rear end of the body shell. There is a fine of \$5 for each short lobster found and for each female lobster with eggs or from which the eggs have been brushed.

All pots must be plainly buoyed and for a violation of this provision there is a fine of \$20 or an imprisonment of 30 days. All buoys must show names of owners of the pots and their license number. For violation of this there is a fine of \$20 or an imprisonment of 30 days. All pots used under violation of this act may be seized and may be forfeited after court proceedings.

The close of season is from Nov. 15 to April 15. For violation there is a fine of \$20 and imprisonment for 30 days.

For mutilating an uncooked lobster or having any mutilated part in possession there is a fine of \$5 for each offense. The possession of any part of a lobster is sufficient evidence to convict.

Two deputy commissioners are provided for. Each is a special constable and may arrest without warrant, have right of search of any place or any boat and may seize and remove lobsters taken in violation of the law. The complainant receives one-half the fines and the state one-half.

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Canadian's Fish Wealth.

According to this official record the commercial fisheries of Canada last year yielded fish and fish products to the value of \$25,000,000; that is, the value of the fish taken from the coast and inland waters was practically one-third as great as the value of the wheat crop gathered from the farms of the three prairie provinces. All of which reminds one that Canada possesses great resources besides those of the soil. The gold mines of the entire Dominion did not produce this amount of wealth last year.

As a producer of fish wealth Nova Scotia bears the palm, closely followed by British Columbia. The fisheries of Nova Scotia last year yielded \$7,632,000; those of British Columbia \$6,122,000; those of New Brunswick \$5,300,000. The fisheries of Quebec yielded a little more than two million dollars, those of Ontario a little less than two millions, and those of Prince Edward Island a million and a half. Not quite a million dollars worth of fish were taken from the waters of the three prairie provinces.

As a wealth producer, salmon heads with a record of over five million dollars, the lobster is second, but one million behind salmon; while cod comes third, but almost a million behind the lobster. The eel foots the long list with only \$116,478 to its credit.

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LIGHT FISH DAY.**Small Receipts and Low Prices Here and at Boston.**

Boston's fish story is quickly told this morning—just eight of the shore fleet in with small fares and getting ordinary prices. Sch. Lochinvar is top liner with 20,000 pounds, while sch. Little Fannie has 16,000 pounds of seined pollock.

Sch. Preceptor is taking out her fare of halibut at Boston today. There is a drop in price, as the trip is bringing 8 cents per pound for white and 5 cents for gray.

At this port this morning there are no arrivals with fish. Sch. Annie and Jennie landed 2500 pounds yesterday afternoon.

Lumpfish from North Shore Trap.

Among the fish brought to T wharf yesterday morning was a curious lot for this season of the year and for the place where they were caught. The fish were lumpfish, not a great curiosity in themselves, but unusual at this season, and still more unusual on the North Shore, where they were taken in a trap. The fish ran from a pound up to 20 pounds, and were brought in by the sloop F. D. Brown. The captain of the sloop bought the fish when getting his bait.

The fish coming from the North Shore excited some curiosity even among the old fishermen. One of the buyers with a humorous turn of mind bought one of the largest fish and put it outside his store on Atlantic avenue, with the suggestive sign, "Beverly Harbor 'Possum Fish," on it. Most of those who saw the big fish and the sign immediately connected the fish with the summer home of President Taft.

Fishing Facts and Fancies.

A giant pike, which is for English and Scotch streams the record catch, was caught recently on the Hampshire Stour by the method of rod and line. This fish turned the scales at 37 1-4 pounds. Its length was 45 inches and girth 24 inches.

The Newfoundland sealing steamer Decapo has not been heard from for several weeks and it is feared she was lost between the Nova Scotia coast and Newfoundland last week. The Decapo carried a crew of 30 men.

A search will be made at once to ascertain their fate.

British Columbia fishermen have made a complaint to the Victoria Board of Trade against the practice of Japanese fishermen in keeping fish alive in tanks and boxes, and then placing them on the market when they are unfit for use. The matter has been laid before the mayor and council and it is possible that the sale of such fish will be forbidden in Victoria.

The spring fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico have been the most prolific and successful for ten years.

In the most violent gale of the year on the Baltic sea, on a week ago Wednesday, ten fishing vessels went to the bottom, carrying down with them 40 members of the crews. The wind blew with terrific force, and the waves ran higher than had been known in some years. The storm came up suddenly and surprised the fishermen while they were busy hauling in their catches. The boats were blown from their moorings and before the craft could be got under control many of them capsized and sank.

Seattle's fleet of seven or eight cod-fishing vessels will sail during the week for the season's cruise in Bering Sea. The vessels will take north about 200 sturdy fishermen. Among others, the flotilla includes the schooners Vega and Harold Bleekum, which have been cleared and are ready to sail, and the schooners Fanny Dutard, and Maid of Orleans. From Puget Sound the codfishing fleet makes for the vicinity of Unimak Pass. During the first part of the season they will work on the Pacific side of the pass, but about July 1 the vessels go after the great schools of fish in Bering Sea.

In South Wales seaweed after being washed in fresh water is boiled down and made up—generally with oatmeal—into cakes and eaten with bacon. It is called laver bread and is considered a great delicacy.

As near as can be figured, at present, the outfitting for Newfoundland codfishery will be smaller than usual the coming season. The suppliers are not curtailing their output in any way, but a number of small independent men, who have been in the business the last few years, are not going fishing the coming summer.

Salt Brine Clogged Pump.

A week ago Monday was a fierce day for mariners north from Cape Flattery on the Pacific coast, and the Robinson Fisheries Co.'s schooner Joseph Russ, of Anacortes, had a peculiar experience in the gale, 400 miles from the cape. One of her pumps refused to work and Capt. Foss put back to Port Angeles, where her pumps were fixed up. Then she went ashore on the sand spit, but was hauled off Tuesday night and taken to the dry dock at Eagle Harbor, where she was taken out of the water the following morning and examined.

It was found that the salt pickling brine had clogged the pump, the brine having congealed and honeycombed in such bulk as to impede the flow of water. Otherwise the schooner was pronounced by the inspectors and underwriters in first-class condition. It was a simple task to remove the congealed brine and the schooner was ready again to sail a few days later for the fishing grounds. Capt. Foss says that the weather outside has been extremely rough. One of the Seattle schooners sought refuge in Clallam bay.

Will Use Confiscated Steamer.

The American halibut steamer Francis Cutting has been towed to the Vancouver, C. B., shipyard, where she will be cleaned, overhauled and examined by the Dominion government. The steamer was captured last summer by the Dominion fisheries protection cruiser Kestrel and confiscated on a charge of fishing in Canadian waters. She has been lying at a wharf at Vancouver for months and it is believed that the Canadian government will, if she is found suitable, utilize her for the fisheries service in the same way as they did the American schooner North, which was captured a year or two ago. The Francis Cutting is owned in Seattle and when she was captured had her dories down fishing well inside the three-mile limit.

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A Great Whale Catch.

The whaling brig Sullivan, which left New Bedford, in June, 1908, in command of Capt. Hagerty, was reported recently from St. Helena in the Atlantic Ocean as having taken 2150 barrels of oil, valued at about \$40,000, making a new whaling record for the length of time she has been out, nine months. Capt. Hagerty returned last year with a record-breaking catch of 4000 barrels taken in less than three years.

Large Haddock.

On the little Beulah Maud yesterday was a haddock of remarkable size. The fish weighed 19 pounds, and was a little lean, and had it been well filled out would easily have run up to 25 pounds.

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Straits Clear of Ice.

The southeasterly breeze of Saturday moved the bridge of ice out of Port Hawkesbury, C. B., harbor, although there are a few scattered pans in the strait, it is quite navigable. The ferry will resume operations this week.

Lunenburg, N. S., Fleet.

Schs. Lila D. Young, Gladys B. Smith, Helen C. Morse, Ronald G. Smith and Juniata have sailed for the Banks.

Schs. Petite (of Petite Reviere), Tribune, Maple Leaf, Stanley and Annie Louise are undergoing repairs.

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Salt at Portland.

The Italian bark Santa Maria has arrived at Portland from Trapani with a cargo of 1300 tons of salt.

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Yarmouth, N. S., Fishing Notes.

The schooner Loran B. Snow arrived from the fishing grounds Tuesday with 3000 pounds of halibut, and 4000 pounds of cusk. Sch. Albert J. Lutz brought in 1500 pounds of halibut. Both cargoes were purchased by W. A. Killam.

Today's Receipts.

Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore, 2500 lbs. fresh fish.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Manomet, Boston.
Sch. Galatea, Rips.
Sch. Selma, halibuting.
Sch. John Hays Hammond, halibuting.
Sch. Dictator, halibuting.
Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, haddocking.
Sch. Essex, fitched halibuting.
Sch. Parthia, dory handling.
Sch. Rita A. Viator, haddocking.
Sch. Frances P. Mesquita, haddocking.
Sch. Jennie H. Gilbert, south netting.
Sch. John M. Keen, haddocking.
Sch. Stranger, haddocking.
Sch. James and Esther, Rips.

Today's Fish Market.

Salt Georges cod, large, \$3.50; mediums, \$3.00.

Bank halibut, 8 1-2 cts. per lb. for white, and 6 cts. per lb. for grey.

Salt pollock, \$1.00; salt haddock, \$1.00; salt hake, \$1.00.

Splitting prices for fresh fish, Western cod, large, \$1.65; mediums, \$1.40; Eastern cod, large, \$1.55; medium, \$1.30; cusk, \$1.50; for large, \$1.10 for medium and 50c for snappers; haddock, 60c; hake, 60c.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$3.25; medium, \$2.75; snappers, \$1.50.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50; mediums, \$2.00; snappers, \$1.00.

Shore frozen herring for bait, \$2.00 to \$2.50 per cwt.

Round pollock, 50 cts. per cwt.
Newfoundland frozen herring, for bait, \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cwt.

Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Fish Hawk, Mattie Winship and Carrie C., sailed from Portland Thursday for Georges.

Sch. Kineo baited at Edgartown with alewives yesterday and sailed for the fishing grounds.

Sch. Viking is fitting for Rips fishing.

Sch. Essex, Capt. Dominick Arsenault, sailed on a fitched halibut trip today being the third of this fleet to get away.

Harbor Notes.

Sch. Joseph P. Johnson is having a new mainmast stepped at Burnham's shears.

Schs. Massasoit and Marguerite are on Parkhurst's railways.

Schs. Massachusetts and Joseph H. Cromwell are on Burnham's railways.

Schs. Pontiac and Ethel B. Penney are on the Rocky Neck railways.

Boston.

Sch. Mary E. Sennett, 5500 haddock.
Sch. Victor and Ethan, 10,000 haddock, 2000 cod.

Sch. Evelyn L. Thompson, 12,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 2000 cusk.

Sch. Helena, 2000 cod.

Sch. Leo, 2500 haddock, 300 cod.

Steamer Quartette, 4500 pollock.

Sch. Lochinvar, 4000 cod, 16,000 hake, 1000 cusk.

Sch. Little Fannie, 16,000 pollock.
Haddock, \$2.25 per cwt.; large cod, \$2 to \$3; market cod, \$1.25 to \$2.50; hake, 75c to \$2.50; cusk, \$1.25; pollock, \$1.50.

Portland Arrivals.

The following vessels with fresh fish fares were at Portland Thursday:

Sch. Bernie and Bessie, 9000 pounds.

Sch. Mincola, 12,000 pounds.

Sch. Sarah Pinkham, 15,000 pounds.

Dominion Ice Report.

The Halifax Board of Trade received the following Thursday on the ice conditions:—

Father Point, Matane, Cape Magdalen, Fame Point, Cape Rosier, Cape Despair, Point Masquereau, Cape Traverse, West Point, South West Point, Cape Ray—No ice.

Cape Tormentine—Light open ice inshore.

South Point—Light open ice inshore distant, moving south.

Heath Point—Heavy open ice distant, moving east.

Magdalen Islands—About two miles broken ice, moving east.

Cape North—Light close packed distant, moving north.

St. Paul's Island—Light close packed distant, inshore.

Mulgrave—Lot of ice in Strait.

Low Point—Light open ice everywhere, moving south.

Port Hood Bay—Full drift ice, stationary.

Point Escuminac—Heavy close, packed inshore.