

Jan. 26.

FREE FISH TOPIC OF DISCUSSION

All Interests Will Make United Effort to Prevent Its Consummation.

Details of Reciprocity Agreement to Be Announced Today.

Everybody in this city is anxiously awaiting the word from Washington as to the fate of the fish schedule in the reciprocity agreement, the terms of which, it is promised, will be made public in Washington today, after nearly a week of the most absolute secrecy.

Everywhere that men congregate it is the one subject of discussion and the common "how do you do" form of salutation has been replaced for the time being here, by the words, "heard anything yet?"

The committee appointed to go to Washington to assist Congressman Gardner in his fight, should the terms of the treaty contain any concessions or changes in the fish tariff schedule, are all ready and primed to do their best. This evening another meeting of the Master Mariners Association and fish producers will be held at 8 o'clock, in the rooms of the former and the whole matter will be talked over, as it is expected that something definite will be known by that hour.

The meeting tonight, at the rooms of the master mariners association will be a walk. It is not for master mariners and fish producers alone; it is for all business men and working men who feel that any change in the present fish tariff schedule would be detrimental or damaging to the welfare of the city of Gloucester.

Change in Fish Schedule Believed to Be Serious One.

The general opinion here seems to be that the change in the fish sched-

ule is a serious one. One usually well posted and observing man is of the opinion that it will be practically free fish, with the expectation that a big fight will be made against it, with the result that a compromise will be reached which will result either in free fish altogether or quite a reduction on that kind of fish.

But few opinions have been expressed in the Provinces as to the contents of the document, but the Ottawa correspondent of the Halifax Chronicle has sent the following to his paper:

"Beyond the fact that there has been an understanding reached, the members of the government are without information. There is a well founded report that the understanding has not taken the form of a treaty, but an agreement to put through concurrent legislation, which with the propinquity of the two countries, will put the trade of Canada and the United States on a more favorable basis for the exchange of a greater volume of business.

"It is understood that one of the concessions which has been made to Canada is that placing of fresh fish on the United States free list. This will open an enlarged market for the sea products of the Lakes as well as the Atlantic and Pacific. It is pretty well understood that Canada has agreed to modifications in duty on agricultural implements which will operate to the advantage of the Canadian farmer both East and West.

"It is believed that the government has acted on the principle that the first step toward reciprocity should be largely experimental and that the best interests of the majority in the country should be consulted without regard to what criticism will follow. Before the end of the week announcement will be made and the fight in Parliament on it will have begun."

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FIVE FISH FARES AT THIS PORT.

TWO FRESH FISH TRIPS, TWO OF POLLOCK AND ONE FARE FROZEN HERRING.

There is something doing in the fish line here this morning. Two haddockers with fine fares, two pollockers with trips and a Newfoundland with full cargo of frozen herring was the list early this forenoon, with more of the herring fleet looked for during the day.

From Georges sch. Ingomar, Capt. Horace Wildes, has another of his rapid transit trips, hauling for 80,000 pounds. Sch. Rex, Capt. John Grady, also has a nice catch, 65,000 or 70,000 pounds.

Sch. Avalon, after a most tempestuous trip home, especially that part of it from Bay of Islands to North Sydney, which harbor she made looking like a big iceberg, has got along and has a full cargo of frozen herring, which at this time are worth a good many dollars.

The steamer Nomad went out yesterday morning looking for the pollock schools which were reported off here. She found them all right and found them plenty, for one sweep of the seine took in from 40,000 to 50,000. Anyway the steamer was loaded with all she could carry, seineboat and all and hustled to port, getting in last evening. The fish were landed and are being dressed and will be shipped to Boston.

The success of the Nomad, right at the start, will cause a large fleet to at once show signs of animation and start out with seineboats in tow. Last year the first catch was made February 3, but the fish had been reported schooling before that and it is believed that they have been on the shore all winter.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

- Sch. Avalon, Bay of Islands, N. F., 300 bbls. frozen herring 32 bbls. pickled herring.
- Sch. Ingomar, Georges, 80,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Sch. Rex, Georges, 65,000 lbs. fresh fish.
- Steamer Nomad, shore, 50,000 lbs. fresh pollock.
- Steamer Bethula, shore, 12,000 lbs. fresh pollock. Iced and did not land.
- Sch. Rose Standish, shore.
- Sch. Elva L. Spurling, shore.
- Sch. Nokomis, shore.
- Sch. Jeannette, shore.
- Sch. Annie and Jennie, shore.
- Sch. Walter P. Goulart, shore.
- Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, shore.
- Sch. Rita A. Viator, shore.
- Sch. Ida S. Brooks, shore.
- Steamer Elthier, shore.
- Sch. Mary DeCosta, shore.
- Steamer Philomena, shore.
- Sch. Buema, shore.
- Sch. Hope, shore.
- Sch. Matthew S. Greer, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

- Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.
- Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.
- Bank halibut 14 3-4 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.
- Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.
- Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.
- Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.
- Splitting prices for fresh fish:
- Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.
- Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.
- Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

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Portland Fish Notes.

Tuesday saw the greatest amount of fish landed at Portland in one day of the winter. All varieties of fish were represented and all kinds of craft brought them in. The total was well over a hundred thousand pounds. The following were the fares reported: Schs. John Hays Hammond, 25,000 halibut, 5000 hake, 4000 salt cod; Albert D. Willard, 12,000 mixed; Albert W. Black, 12,000 mixed; Edmund F. Black, 4000 mixed; George H. Lube, 4000 mixed; Eva and Mildred, 6000 mixed; Katie L. Palmer, 4000 mixed; Mary E. Sinnett, 2000 mixed; Lizzie May, 10,000 mixed; Lochinvar, 11,000 mixed; Watauga, 2000 mixed; steamer Pet, 18,000 pollock; steamer Brown, 1000 pollock; small boats, 10,000 mixed Total, 140,000.

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THE NOVA SCOTIA LOBSTER FISHERY.

Invasion of Grounds by American Fishermen Causes Alarm.

The following article by Colin McKay, recently appeared in the Halifax Herald. It will be found interesting reading here:

"While many Canadian politicians and publicists were joyfully proclaiming that the award of The Hague Tribunal had settled the fisheries question to our advantage our American cousins were inaugurating an enterprise which, if continued, will undoubtedly ruin our lobster fisheries, at present the most valuable branch of our Atlantic fisheries. At a time when our own government prohibited the lobster fisheries, American smacks began to come down to the Nova Scotia coast and catch lobsters just outside the three-mile limit—on the very grounds where our own fishermen set their traps during the few months they are permitted to fish for lobsters.

"As yet only a small number of American smacks have engaged in this new industry, and they have confined their operations to the southwestern

shores of the province. But naturally the Yankee invasion of our lobster fisheries has caused considerable alarm all along the coast. The Americans have about exhausted their own lobster fisheries, and as the succulent crustacean commands fancy prices, Yankee smacks may be expected to come down to our coast in increasing numbers for the purpose of taking lobsters just outside our territorial waters. At present there is no international agreement that might be invoked against them. Our government cannot oblige them to observe the close season or other ordinances designed to protect the lobster fisheries, as it does our own people. In short, these American smacks may pursue their operations the year round, deplete the grounds upon which our fishermen have been accustomed to work, and so rob thousands of our people of their principal means of livelihood.

Provincial Fishermen See Menace in American Boats.

"The menace of this possibility is a serious matter to Nova Scotia. According to the reports of the department of fisheries, the province has for some years past derived a larger value from its lobster fisheries than from its cod fisheries, and yet it is well known that while the department's estimate of the value of the lobster catch is based on prices ranging from \$5 to \$10 per crate, the prices the majority of fishermen actually receive ranges from \$10 up, occasionally to as high as \$30. Our government only permits our own fishermen to fish for lobsters three and one-half or four and one-half months in the year, and as the season which varies slightly with the locality, begins or ends in the winter time, they are lucky if they are able to fish six or eight weeks during the season. Yet the fishermen find the lobster fisheries much more lucrative than any other branch of our sea fisheries. In fact it is generally admitted that the present prosperity of the people of the south shore of Nova Scotia is largely founded on the development of the lobster fisheries.

"Up to a few weeks ago the shore fishermen, who have always had a free market for lobsters in the states, had very friendly feelings towards the Americans, and were even in favor of allowing American fishing vessels the privilege of using our ports to buy supplies, ship crews and transport fares, but now they are beginning to realize the menace to their interests of this new enterprise on the part of the Yankees, it is very likely that they will modify their views. Certainly they would never consent to give these lobster smacks from the states the port privileges which they are willing to accord to the American codfishing vessels operating on the deep sea banks. If these American smacks could buy bait and ship crews in our ports and tranship their catches from points on the coast to Boston, it is quite probable that the New England fish trust would prohibit American dealers handling lobsters shipped directly by our fishermen, and that as a consequence the Americans would absorb all the profits of this industry, while reducing our own shore fishermen to the position of mere hirelings—the position now occupied by so many of the shore fishermen of Newfoundland.

"For some time past there has been an agitation for a conference between the governments of Canada, Newfoundland, the United States and France for the purpose of devising regulations, applicable to all fishermen, for the better protection of the Atlantic fisheries. No doubt the latest development of American enterprise will induce our government to try to secure the holding of such a conference as soon as possible. Something must be done to check the American invasion of the lobster fishing grounds off our coast, or a situation may speedily arise fraught with menace to the friendly relations of the two countries. Men who follow so hazardous a calling as that of the fishermen are rather prone to reckless action. It is not so long ago that Canadian fishermen in out of the way places used to take pot-shots at our own fishery protection cruisers, and it is only last summer that the Nova Scotia skipper of an American banker fired on a French beam trawler."

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DR. BITTING MADE CALL.

Pleased That Report on Preparation of Salt Fish Was So Well Received.

Dr. A. W. Bitting, whose recent report on the preparing of cod and other salt fish for market and a study into the causes of reddening of salt fish, has recently been issued by the Bureau of Chemistry, of the Department of Agriculture, was in town Tuesday afternoon for a brief stay and called at the Board of Trade, as well as on many of the fish people whom he met while conducting his experiments here.

He seemed pleased that his report had been so well received and hoped that it would prove in the end a real benefit to the fish business of the place. The report in the Times concerning his work here and his recommendations he said was put in a fair and clear manner.

Dr. Bitting while here found much of exceptional interest to him, and his report is certainly most complete and exhaustive and worthy of careful reading by all.

TO BUILD PLANT AT NEWFOUNDLAND.

PORTLAND FISH FIRM TO RECEIVE SUBSIDY FROM COLONIAL GOVERNMENT.

The firm of Trefethen & Lord of Portland has completed arrangements with the Newfoundland government to erect and manage five cold storage plants at Lark Harbor, each with a capacity of 1,000,000 pounds of fish. Connected with the plant will be smoking and glue houses and fish packing factories. In addition there will be a floating cold storage plant of large capacity.

The concern is subsidized in accordance with an act passed at the last session of the colonial legislature. Portland will be the American headquarters of the concern.

The Portland firm is believed to be the first to avail itself of the Newfoundland legislature's subsidy offer. This offer was made in connection with the movement in Newfoundland to cure

and pack the colonial fishermen's catches.

Regarding a recent article in the St. John's, N. F., Chronicle, connecting the name of Trefethen & Lord, of Portland with the government subsidized plan of establishing big cold storage plants and fish smoking plants on the island the Portland Press says:

"Hon. C. N. Trefethen of this city when asked in regard to the article in the Chronicle, said there was nothing more to be given out in regard to the matter at present. He admitted that it was correct in all its details.

"Mr. Trefethen also said that there is every reason to believe that Portland will become the headquarters of one of the largest fishing companies in the world. Practically all of the business will be handled from here, though much of the product will be shipped directly from Newfoundland.

"In speaking of the purchase of property at Lark Harbor, Mr. Trefethen

said that contracts have already been made for the erection of a cold storage plant of between 4,000,000 and 5,000,000 pounds capacity.

"It is a well known fact that practically all of the herring obtained by Gloucester firms in the past 30 years have come from the vicinity of the Bay of Islands. But the herring branch of the fisheries is but a small part of the enterprise that has been started by the Portland men in Newfoundland. The country is admitted to be one vast resource and it is understood that these will be developed in the future. Trefethen & Lord have the controlling interest in the new business according to the Newfoundland reports."

Will Build Five Cold Storage Plants Smoke House and Glue Factory.

At the annual meeting of the St. John's, N. F., Board of Trade recently, the secretary, in the annual report said:

"It is understood that an arrangement has been entered into between the government and Messrs. Trefethen & Lord, of Portland, Maine, for the erection of five cold storage plants each having a capacity of not less than 1,000,000 lbs. of frozen fish in as many different localities in the Colony, and in addition to the cold storage, each plant will have in connection with it smoking house, glue house and factories for the manufacture of boneless and other kinds of fish, and guano. Besides these five cold storage plants, there will also be one floating cold storage plant, of large capacity, which may be moved from location to location, as occasion

requires. The Council have reason to believe that this firm have already commenced operations by purchasing the plant of the whale factory lately carried on at Lark Harbor. The subsidy they are to receive is in accordance with the provisions the act, passed in the last session of the legislature for this purpose.

DOZEN ARRIVALS AT T WHARF.

DEALERS FAIRLY SUPPLIED WITH FISH FOR END OF WEEK TRADE.

There is nothing out of the usual in the T wharf arrivals today, just an ordinary bunch of a dozen arrivals, with four off-shores among them, these latter with trips of from 58,000 to 65,000 pounds, sch. Stiletto having the latter amount.

The market boat trips run small, schs. Victor and Ethan and Mary C. Santos having the only catches of any size.

The market does not appear to be very strong as the dealers have all the fish they want and the end of the week is in sight.

Haddock are bringing from \$1.65 to \$3, large cod, \$3.50 to \$4.50 and pollock, \$3.50.

Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are: Sch. Stiletto, 59,000 haddock, 6000 cod.

Sch. W. H. Reed, 5000 cod.

Sch. Wodan, 1400 cod.

Sch. Mary C. Santos, 9000 haddock, 6000 cod, 7000 hake.

Sch. Georgia, 1500 haddock, 1500 cod, 4000 pollock.

Sch. Leo, 7000 haddock, 500 pollock.

Sch. Victor and Ethan, 12,000 haddock, 1600 cod, 1600 pollock.

Sch. James W. Parker, 53,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 300 halibut.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, 4500 haddock, 2500 cod.

Sch. Mary F. Curtis, 4500 haddock, 2500 cod.

Sch. Elmer E. Gray, 52,000 haddock, 4500 cod.

Sch. Nettie, 2000 cod.

Sch. Little John, 500 haddock, 1800 cod.

Haddock, \$1.65 to \$3 per cwt.; large cod, \$3.50 to \$4.50; market cod, \$2.10 to \$2.50; pollock, \$3.50.

IMPROVED FISHERY METHODS.

Nova Scotia Paper Contrasts Conditions 50 Years Ago.

The Clark's Harbor, N. S., Coast Guard, says that the last half century has seen a wonderful change in the ways of living and moving on the Nova Scotia shores. The youth of today can scarcely realize how secluded their grandfathers were in their daily vocation. The round of existence has been widened, the means of living has been multiplied, and distance has been greatly reduced for the purposes of travel and traffic.

Fishermen of course, have shared in these improvements, but actually how much better has it been for their pockets and their pantries? They work the whole year now, whereas they enjoyed the fireside in those winters far past. They put out early and return late, instead of getting one "slack tide" a day, as was customary once. Motor power has done away with drudgery at the oars, but it makes a big hole in the earnings to pay for the engines. The fare is better, but the price is more than double. Increased comforts are offset by greater hardships. They have more luxuries, but less time to enjoy them. In short, the fisherman's labor, while far more productive than formerly, does not bring the same reward as in the slow-going past. He pays too dear for his added opportunities, other people reap the larger profits from his toil.

To illustrate this fact, we instanced the other day a shipment of fresh fish and its returns—\$10.87 on the market and \$3 to the shipper. Let us consider this case in the light of 50 years ago, under reciprocity. Two barrels of herring would have brought the above sum in Boston. The freight (only 30 cents a barrel) and all other expenses deducted would have left an even \$10, for there was no duty. That would have purchased enough provision and groceries to feed a family of four during three months, as flour was \$4 a barrel and beef three cents a pound, landed here duty free.

If Mr. Smith, the other day, imported a pair of shoes with his \$3 balance he would have been about \$1 out of pocket in paying the duty.

ARRIVALS PLENTIFUL.

SEVERAL CARGOES OF HERRING INCLUDED IN THE FISHING RECEIPTS.

Arrivals have been quite plentiful since last report. Yesterday afternoon sch. John R. Bradley came in from Bay of Islands, N. F., with a fare of salt and pickled herring and during the evening sch. Mystery, which has been down to Cape Breton for a load of salt cod, arrived with a full cargo. During the night sch. Arkona, which left Bay of Islands a few days ago in company with 16 others of the herring fleet, arrived, leading the bunch, with a part cargo of both salt and frozen herring. Others of the herring fleet home are schs. Monarch with a frozen cargo, and Ramona and Pemier, also with frozen cargoes.

Sch. Valerie, Capt. Albert Larkin's new craft, came in this morning from Georges with 65,000 pounds of fresh fish, mostly haddock.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Sch. Mystery, Ingonish, C. B., 300,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Arkona, Bay of Islands, N. F., 375 bbls. frozen herring, 200 bbls. salt herring, 150 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Monarch, Bay of Islands, N. F., 750 bbls. frozen herring, 130 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Ramona, Bonne Bay, N. F., 600 bbls. frozen herring, 100 bbls. salt herring, 50,000 lbs. salt cod, 60 quintals cured fish.

Sch. Premier, Bay of Islands, N. F., 700 bbls. frozen herring, 12 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. John R. Bradley, Bay of Islands, 1000 bbls. salt herring, 400 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Valerie, Georges Banks, 65,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Tecumseh, shore.

Sch. Catherine D. Enos, shore.

Sch. Yankee, shore.

Sch. Gladys and Nellie, shore.

Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Mettacomet, pollock seining.

Steamer Jeffery, pollock seining.

Steamer Nomad, pollock seining.

Steamer Philomena, pollock seining.

Steamer Bethula, pollock seining.

Steamer Bryda F., pollock seining.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, halibut-
ing.

Sch. Margaret, halibuting.

Sch. W. H. Moody, Georges handlin-
ing.

Sch. Harmony, haddocking.

Sch. Elsie, haddocking.

Sch. A. C. Newhall, shore.

Sch. Ida S. Brooks, shore.

Today's Fish Market.

Bay of Islands salt herring, \$4.12 1-2 per bbl., Bonne Bay salt herring, \$3.62 1/2 per bbl., pickled herring \$5 per bbl.

Eastern deck handline salt cod, \$5.55 per cwt.; for large \$5 for mediums and \$5 for snappers.

Bank halibut 14 3-4 cts. per lb. for white, 11 cts. for gray, with the heads on.

Salt cusk, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$2.

Salt haddock, \$2 per cwt.

Salt hake, \$2 per cwt.

Salt pollock, \$2 per cwt.

Splitting prices for fresh fish:

Codfish, large, \$2.50 per cwt.; medium, \$1.80; snappers, 80c.

Cusk, large, \$1.75 per cwt.; medium \$1.30; snappers, 50c.

Haddock, \$1.30 per cwt.; hake, \$1.30 per cwt.; dressed pollock, \$1.30 per cwt.; round pollock, \$1.20 per cwt.

Will Fit for Haddocking.

Sch. Winnifred will now be fitted for haddocking under command of Capt. Leo Wells.

Landed Cargo of Newfoundland Cod at Portland.

The Portland fishing schooner Margie Turner arrived at that port Wednesday from the Newfoundland coast with a fare of 1668 quintals of salt fish for the Lord Brothers. Her skipper, Capt. Samuel Colson of Gloucester, reports rough weather on leaving the coast and headed for Shelburne, N. S., for shelter, but was unable to enter the port for two days owing to the blizzard prevailing and the thick vapor outside, and while at anchor there became badly iced up, her bowsprit and jibboom being swollen as big as a barrel.

RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT OPENS COUNTRY'S BARS FOR FREE CANADIAN FISH.



SECRETARY OF STATE KNOX.



EARL GREY OF CANADA.

TWO OF THE LEADERS IN THE MAKING OF THE NEW TREATY.

Gloucester Fish Dealers Will Make Determined Fight Against the Adoption of the Proposed Tariff Schedule.

LARGELY ATTENDED MEETING UNANIMOUS
IN OPPOSITION TO LEGISLATION.

Fishing Interests of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts
Will Combine to Prevent Extinction of Business
—Committees Will Go to Washington From
Many Localities.

To say that the feeling in this city yesterday afternoon, as the hands of the clock drew near the hour of 4 was tense would be drawing it mild. In their offices, and in their stores, business men, whether fish or otherwise sat and wondered and worried, worried more than type can tell, for it was at that hour, according to the forward notices, that the report of the commissioners on the reciprocity agreement was to be sent to senate, a report which was to be fraught with so many possibilities and so much vital interest to Gloucester and indeed to the whole

fishery interest of the United States. Naturally the name "Gloucester" is used, because in all fishery matters in dispute it is always Gloucester that is spoken of and always Gloucester that has to bear the brunt of the fight.

On the street, in every office, at the Board of Trade and everywhere, it was the same cry, "Have you heard anything yet?" and the invariable answer was "Not a word." The Times telephone was worked overtime, not only by business concerns but from the homes of folks all about the town, thus

showing that the interest was not concentrated, but wide spread.

Finally, from Boston, came the single line over the wire, "The report has been made and all fish is to come ir free." No thermometer, in the face of a howling northwest blizzard, in the mid of winter ever dropped any faster than did the spirits of all, even the most hopeful ones. Never did the barometer drop any more quickly or any more certainly point to the storm which was to burst than did that brief message.

Then there came a brief but agonizing delay and soon came the fateful confirmation of the first message, followed by the telegram which began, "all fish on the free list," and from the whole city there went up a suppressed murmur of smothered feeling which told plainer than words that what had been expected from what gleanings of news had been heard the past few days had come.

Early Report of Sweeping Abolition of Duties Confirmed.

The dispatch in its entirety read as follows; every word being like the reading of a death warrant:

"Fish of all kinds, fresh, frozen or preserved in ice, salted or preserved in any form, except sardines and other fish preserved in oil and shell fish of all kinds, oysters, lobsters, clams in any state, fresh or pickled and coverings for the foregoing, are placed on the free list."

The proverbial wet blanket does not begin to express the general feeling. Four streams of water from two good engines on an incipient blaze can well express the general feeling. It was as though the last ray of hope had been extinguished. On every hand, whether business man or workman, as soon as they gave one glance at the posted bulletin on the big blackboard at the Board of Trade there was but one comment, "That settles us, we might as well shut up shop."

This was not an expression born of despair; it was an honest, involuntary remark, general, which came first to the mind of every man who looked at it and was conversant at all with the business of his beloved city. It did not mean, however, that they were going to lie down and die. It meant, on the contrary, that the next thing which came to them was "now we have got to get to work and beat it."

Full Import of the News Difficult to Realize.

Many there were who could not realize that the dispatch meant what it said. They could not believe, to use the words of the times, the plain language of the day, that Gloucester "had been made the goat," but there it was and there was no rubbing it out.

Everywhere one might look on the street were men congregated and talking it over. Everywhere the homes, where the message had been quickly carried on the telephone, it was the sole topic of conversation. Every store and its quota were all talking it over.

It seemed as though they lived again in the days of '65 and to them had been handed the historic message of the imperturbable Grant, "unconditional surrender." To others it seemed like the notice that their business all that they had striven hard for all these years, and the welfare of their city along with it, had been called for to be offered up on the sacrificial altar that others might be pleased, no matter how much they would have to suffer.

It is really hard to try to explain the feeling. It was a shock, half expected it is true, but a shock, nevertheless and they could hardly realize it. To them all, however, the sacrifice part of it stood out strongly and they made up their minds even more firmly than they had before that the sacrifice would be a most unwilling one and before it was accomplished they would make the Capitol of the nation, the scene of many a bitter and hard fought contest, the fighting ground of a contest which, win or lose even its most hardened habitues had not witnessed in a generation at least.

They had been used to fighting before—and had won, and this time they knew that the odds were against them, but that only made them vow all the stronger to put up such a battle as to let them know that Gloucester was still on the map, was not fighting the battle alone, had practically the united fishing interest of the country with them and that if they went down, it would be with colors flying and after a fight which would be looked back to for years to come.

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To those who could hardly believe the telegram the dispatch from President Carroll of the Board of Trade, who is in Washington, confirmatory to the same, dispelled all possible hope. He wired that the situation was as bad as could be and that all fish was placed, by the reciprocity agreement, on the free list.

Remarks were made which would not look well in print. Men usually slow of speech relieved themselves, and the Board of Trade and Master Mariners Association were storm centres. The news spread like wild fire; everybody heard it. There it was and that was all there was to it.

And after they had talked it over and started homeward for late suppers, there was but one thought uppermost and that was, "Fight it and fight it hard."

The text of the reciprocal agreement, as far forth as it refers to the fish schedule is in full as follows:

Changes Affected on Fish and Fish Products by the Agreement.

Cod, haddock, ling and pollock, fresh imported otherwise than in barrels, United States rate, 3-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate free.

Cod, haddock, ling and pollock, smoked, United States rate, 3-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Halibut, fresh, not in barrels, United States rate, 1 cent pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Herring, fresh, not in barrels, United States rate, 1-4 cent pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Herring, pickled or salted, United States rate, 1-2 cents pound; Canadian rate, 50 cent 100 pounds; proposed rate, free.

Mackerel, fresh or pickled, United States rate, 1 cent pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Sea fish, other except preserved, United States rate, 3-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Sea fish, other preserved United States rate, 30 per cent.; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Salmon, fresh pickled or salted, United States rate, 1 cent pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Salmon, smoked, United States rate, 3-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Oysters fresh in shell, United States rate, free; Canadian rate, 25 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Oysters shelled in bulk, United States rate, 10 cents gallon; Canadian rate, free; proposed rate, free.

Oysters in can, United States rate, 10 cents a pint; Canadian rate, 3 cents a can; proposed rate, free.

Oysters in cans of more than one quart, United States rate, free; Canadian rate, 5 cents a quart; proposed rate, free.

Oysters prepared or preserved, United States rate, free; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Lobsters, fresh (not alive), United States rate, free; Canadian rate, 25 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Lobsters, canned, United States rate, free; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate free.

Fish oil, whale and spermaceti, United States rate, 8 cents a gallon; Canadian rate, 22 1-2 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Cod liver oil, United States rate, 15 cents gallon; Canadian rate, 22 1-2 per cent.; proposed rate free.

Fish oil, United States rate, 8 cents gallon; Canadian rate, 22 1-2 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Salmon, canned, prepared or preserved, United States rate, 30 per cent.; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Fish smoked, United States rate, 3-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Fish, boneless United States rate, 1-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Fish, all other, not in barrels or half barrels; fresh fish, all others, not in barrels or half barrels; pickled, United States rate, 1 1-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Fish, fresh or dried, imported in barrels or half barrels, United States rate, 1 1-4 cents pound; Canadian rate, 1 cent pound; proposed rate, free.

Fish, prepared or preserved (canned), United States rate, 30 per cent.; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Other articles, the produce of fisheries, United States rate, 25 per cent.; Canadian rate, 30 per cent.; proposed rate, free.

Salt in bags, barrels and other packages, United States rate, 11 cents 100 pounds; Canadian rate, 7 1-2 cents 100 pounds; proposed rate, free.

Salt in bulk, United States rate, 7 cents 100 pounds; Canadian rate, 5 cents 100 pounds; proposed rate, free.

Briefly stated, if the agreement is ratified, the Canadians can ship codfish into the United States fresh or salted or smoked, free, where it now pays a duty of three-quarters of a cent per pound. The same is true of halibut now dutiable at one cent and herring, which pays one-quarter per cent. per pound fresh and a half cent pickled or salted. Any kind of mackerel will come free, where it now pays one cent a pound coming from or going into Canada. All other sea fish and salmon, fresh and smoked, and prepared in various ways, will be free, where they now pay as much as 30 per cent. duty on each side of the line. American oysters are given free entry into Canada, where they are now taxed 10 cents per gallon, or three to five cents per can. Fish oil goes on the free list. It now pays eight cents per gallon entering the United States and 22.5 per cent. entering Canada.

The present duty of 15 cents per gallon on cod liver oil imported into the United States is completely wiped out. So is the duty of 11 cents per 100 pounds on salt coming from Canada, while the Canadians also remit their duty of 7 12 cents on American salt.

Meeting at Master Mariners Rooms a Determined Protest.

The meeting in the evening at the rooms of the Master Mariners Association was one of those determined affairs, born of the exigencies of the occasion. It was supposed to be an adjourned meeting of the association and fish producers from Tuesday evening, but it really resolved itself into a general meeting of these and business men and people generally who had the interest of the city at heart.

Hon. Sylvanus Smith presided and attendance was large. The room would not hold them and the two sets of folding doors had to be opened leading to the other rooms, so that all could participate who had come.

Mr. Smith said that at the previous meeting they had fears that the fishing industry would be hurt, but none hardly expected that it would be hurt as much as the telegrams received yesterday afternoon showed. It was as bad as could be and could not be worse. He hoped the people of the city would show the proper resentment of the action and thought it would be a good plan if every vessel in the harbor should show its flag, on the morrow, half mast and Union down.

John J. Pew then read the telegram as above quoted.

Benjamin A. Smith said that he also had a telegram which showed that the agreement was a general reduction in food products. Gloucester, and Gloucester alone, and in speaking of Gloucester, he meant the fishing interest of both coasts and the Great Lakes, had been put down to give all and get nothing in return. They were made to suffer to the call of the country at large for cheaper food products.

Help Promised From Fishing Interests All Over the Country.

E. Archer Bradley, for the committee, comprising Benjamin A. Smith, Frank C. Pearce and himself, which had been to Boston to see the Boston fish people, reported that they went up in the morning and interviewed the T wharf people and talked the matter over with them. This afternoon they had met with the directors of the New England Fish Exchange and found them very strongly in favor of the Gloucester contention, and would do all they could to help the coming fight. They were willing to work with and support the Gloucester men. As an earnest of this, at a meeting of

the directors of the exchange, they adopted a resolution to the effect that the New England Fish Exchange would aid Gloucester in its efforts to maintain the present duty on fish and would join with them in the fight to maintain the same.

The resolution was brought to the meeting by Mr. Bradley and read amid much enthusiasm. The Exchange directors also suggested taking the matter before the Boston Chamber of Commerce and said they would assist there in every way and introduce a Gloucester committee of the board.

John J. Pew said the Pacific fish men in the canned salmon, the salt cod and fresh halibut business would also be affected. He moved that the report of the Boston committee be accepted and placed on record, which was done.

Benjamin A. Smith suggested a working committee, a committee composed of men who would and could give their time to the fight for one week, or two or three if necessary, and assist the secretary, a committee to whom suggestions could be made from all sources and act on the same.

The secretary, Richard W. Freeman, reported that letters inclosing the resolutions adopted at the last meeting, had been mailed to the Massachusetts senators and Congressman Gardner, also to the various fish firms along the coast, to the Portland and Provincetown boards of trade, and to many firms along the Great Lakes, explaining the situation and asking their cooperation, also to all the cold storage plants and to several congressmen whose names had been mentioned by personal friends here. He was planning to send letters and the resolutions to the southern fishing ports and the firms there, and his idea was to reach every possible point where fish fares were caught and sold.

Agreement a Real Disaster to the City of Gloucester.

Chairman Smith thought that the agreement was a real disaster to the city of Gloucester. It might not feel it in a month or a year, but in the end, inside of three or five years, it would

feel it and feel it hard. He gave a very interesting retrospective talk on the past reciprocity treaties, and the fishery situation in those years, and said that at present there was nothing Canada could offer the fishing people to compensate for what had been granted them by the agreement.

The inshore fishery inside the three mile limit did not amount to anything. It amounted to nothing for themselves and could be of no use to us. The United States today was paying the bounty of the Canadian fishermen, for it came from the interest of the five and a half millions of dollars handed them under the Halifax award.

The whole thing had a bad look. It meant the closing of the skinning lofts and all branches here eventually. He expected that after the great free trade cry in the state at last election that something would come but he did not expect this. It was a political move. President Taft sees how things are going. He has noted the Maine and Massachusetts elections and the cry for cheaper food. All were expecting something and he had to do something. The reciprocity agreement was the result and Gloucester was the place to get hurt, notwithstanding that he had understood that the president himself had given assurance last summer that Gloucester should not be hurt. It was all politics. The Democratic cry of reciprocity had been a strong one. Now the Republicans had stolen their powder away from them and had acceded to the popular demand, looking ahead to the coming election, and this was the result.

Working Committee To Be Appointed From General Committee.

On a suggestion of William T. Gamage, it was decided to select a working committee from the general committee which is to go to Washington, to dig and work all the time until there was final action on the matter.

Fred L. Davis said the matter was vital to all and it seemed that Gloucester must take it up fully. It was vital to all interests here, great and

small. We had got to a point now where we could not do all our work quietly. We want to get up an interest and excite all the country and let them know that we live. We want not only meetings of committees; we want to get the interest so that every child on the street will be talking about it and everybody will be discussing it. There were some who were for free green fish, but have said that they did not want cut and cured fish free. They perhaps had a personal interest in getting free green fish. It might have been for their personal benefit. But if we have free fish of all kinds, where is that man coming out who expects to bring up his fish from Nova Scotia and do his cutting here and sell from here? He won't need that now.

Under the conditions of this agreement inside of five years, there won't be any of the cutting done in Gloucester except perhaps a man might cut a five pound box for his family. Point to me any protected interest that is not protecting labor, but in the case of free fish we don't get even any protection for the laboring people. In other places and in other businesses with free raw material, the laboring man gets something. In his case, in this business they get nothing. Men, boys and girls alike, who work on the wharves and in the lofts will not only have the protection accorded others but they will not have the work.

The transportation facilities of Nova Scotia are good. They have two big railroad systems with lots of dollars behind them and are progressive and are willing to make extensions. Now with free cut and canned fish, how can anyone expect any of these firms continuing here? The man who thinks that they will is cheating himself.

This matter is not confined to the fish dealers. The situation extends to the dry goods men, the jewelers, to every man who does business in Gloucester. He had often heard the statement that the man who had money in real estate here was all right. Where does he fit now? Take the man who had made money in the fish business and put it into real estate; what will be the value of his real estate now; what is the value of those tenement houses etc?

Now we have free fish staring us in the face. We are not allowed to bring foreign vessels here and register them under the flag of the United States. But the steam trawlers from England could come over. There are many of them laid up over to England and they could come to Yarmouth and Halifax and employ crews and tend out markets and fill them with fish. What would become of the Boston steam trawlers with their higher cost and higher cost of running?

What prospect was there for any capital to invest in any fishery industry in the United States under the conditions as proposed by the agreement for free fish?

We must not let them come here. We must work and talk, loud and long. Our bread and butter and our savings of years are at stake. If this plan goes through you will find what you have cut in two, and perhaps in three parts, and you will have but one of them.

We cannot stand it. We are up against it squarely now. This treaty is treating the fish men worse than a man would treat a mongrel dog. As Mr. Smith has said, the Republican party has been wrecked and rent asunder and now they want to haul the parts and remnants together and to do so they took the fish business and made a sop of it to the rest of the country, so they could say, "Here is something for you to make cheaper food."

Protection for Everything in Vessel Construction and Fitting.

The lumber we use in our vessels is made by a trust, is protected to the extent of 45% and sells cheaper abroad than at home. Many of these things which we have to use on our vessels and in our business are well protected and yet this is what the government

has meted out to us. We are not going to stand for it quietly.

Mr. Davis' remarks were greeted with loud applause.

Benjamin A. Smith said that 90% of the things the fish producers had to use were protected by duties.

Fred L. Davis then read the list of them: Dories 35%, hemp 2 cents per pound, cable 3/4 cent per pound, barrels 30% ad valorem, cotton lines 45% ad valorem, hooks 45%, beans 45 cents a bushel, molasses 3 to 6 cents per gallon, canned milk 96 cents per case, sugar 95 cents per hundred weight, and many other things.

John J. Pew spoke of the danger of the steam trawlers coming over from England, sailing out of Nova Scotia ports and filling our markets with fresh or salt fish.

Chairman Smith told of the part the Gloucester fishermen had played in the wars and said that this thing should be fought to the bitter end, as for the pact to go into effect meant that Gloucester would be wiped out of existence.

Plans Proposed to Combat the Proposed Agreement.

Mayor Patch said that all could realize the effect the passage of such a treaty would have on Gloucester. He believed in giving it all the publicity possible. The word should be sent broadcast. The committee, will, no doubt get the facts in the case before the people at Washington and he thought all who could reach anybody there should put the case before them and thus do all they could to have this calamity averted. We have many summer people who own summer homes here. They are interested in this fishing business. It is one of the things which brings them here. He thought it would be a good plan to reach them all by letter, tell them just the situation, show what the passage of such a treaty would mean to the fishing business and invoke their aid with the congressmen and senators in their districts. It all rests with Washington but all influence should be brought to bear to state the facts. The men in the fish business are not the kind to lay down and everything possible will be done to prevent this agreement being enacted into a law.

E. Archer Bradley suggested that anyone acquainted with men of influence in any locality get in touch with them and get them to assist. Let everyone do all he can and make an individual effort.

Public Meetings and Committees Urged to Take Action.

Albert H. McKenzie suggested a committee led by the mayor and composed of real estate men and summer hotel men to get in touch with the summer people and secure all the help possible from them.

Secretary Freeman read a letter from Kirk D. Pierce, Esq., of Hillsboro, N. H., who did legal service on one of the fights against a previous treaty.

Fred L. Davis suggested a mass meeting in City hall in the near future, and said that tonight, had the text of this agreement been fully known, the present meeting place would not have begun to hold those who would have flocked to attend.

Postmaster Brown suggested that it would be a good plan for the mayor to call a special meeting of the municipal council and pass resolutions of protest against the proposed agreement and forward them to Washington.

John J. Pew said this was a hard blow coming at a time when they were supposed to be talking of having a tariff commission to study the needs of the various industries. The fish business had been protected by a duty to make up the

Difference in Cost for the Benefit of the Laboring Man.

Now before we have a chance to show these things to a tariff commission this agreement wipes us out without giving us a chance to be heard. The dominant note of the republican party has always been the protection of labor and now it gives us a slap in the face, practically says to us, "You are no account; go lay down."

William T. Gamage suggested the preparation of a schedule showing the goods used by the fish producers in their business and the protective duty on each of the same.

Secretary James H. Stapleton of the Master Mariners' Association said that on November 14 of last year the association held a special meeting and adopted resolutions entering a protest against any change in the duties on fish and sent in to the president and some time afterward the association got a note from a second or third secretary simply stating that it had been referred to the secretary of state.

The meeting then adjourned and broke up into small groups, all continuing a discussion of the matter and ways and means to combat the agreement and defeat it if possible.

Flags Displayed at Half Mast This Forenoon.

Around the harbor this morning, in accord with the sentiment expressed at the meeting last evening, the flags on very many of the vessels in port are displayed at half mast, not as a signal that Gloucester has passed away but simply to show to the country at large the grief that is general all over the city at the sacrifice of its principal industry.

What Gloucester Gains in Return for Free Fish.

The only sop given the Gloucester fishing interests by Canada in return for free entry of fish is the remission of the \$1.50 per ton tax now paid by American vessels for fishing licenses at Canadian ports.

How the News of the Agreement Was Received.

Benjamin A. Smith of the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Co. said last night: "We lose everything. In fact, it practically puts us out of business, and T

wharf as well. The situation is so bad that we did not think it was possible to occur. I learned, in talking with Washington, that there was a strong probability that the reciprocity agreement would be adopted. We have some hope left, however, that the portion relating to free fish will be modified at least."

"I confidently predict that the people will continue this demand until there is absolute free trade between the two countries," said Gov. Foss last evening, in discussing the proposed treaty.

"I have not yet seen the text of the proposed reciprocity treaty, but have been told that it provides for a free exchange of the leading food products—wheat, grain, dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, fish of all kinds, eggs and poultry, cattle, sheep and other live animals.

"This surely is a step in the right direction. It is an entering wedge toward that complete reciprocity the people are bound to demand.

"None of our industries will be injured; neither will the farmers suffer, and it should result in reducing the cost of some of the necessities of life.

"It is, of course, very gratifying that the administration has been compelled to recognize in part at least, the demand of the people as was first voiced in the 14th district last spring and emphasized in the popular verdict of last November."

Col. Albert Clarke of the Home Market Club said:

"While I have had a suspicion that a reciprocity treaty between this country and Canada would be injurious to New England, I cannot say that that will be so until I have been given an opportunity to study the details of the proposition of a free exchange of natural products.

"It is said that the proposed treaty looks toward free wood pulp. If so, it means that such an agreement would close the wood pulp mills of New England and transfer the industry to Canada.

"If the proposed treaty is anything as I heard it is, I cannot imagine that it will be adopted by Congress, and I should doubt very much if it would be accepted by Canada."

Henry M. Whitney said that, so far as information available indicated to him, the proposed treaty was very desirable.

"I should suppose that the Democrats in Congress from this section would vote for it," he said, "although I should not care to express a positive opinion on this phase of the matter until I have had an opportunity to see the proposed agreement in all its details.

"It is especially important to New England and her people that we have lower tariff rates on food products. If by 'reciprocal lists' is meant lists of articles to become free from duty, I should say that the proposed treaty is of the utmost importance to us."

George S. Smith, the new president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, declined to express his opinion of the proposed treaty.

"Really," he said, "I do not care to hurry into print on this matter. It seems to me that it is a purely political question, and, therefore, I have no opinion to express."

Congressman Gardner Expresses Chagrin at Provisions of Agreement.

Congressman Augustus P. Gardner gave out the following statement at Washington: "I cannot adequately express my chagrin at the provision of this treaty. Not only is all protection taken away from the fresh fish and salt fish, but even manufactured boneless codfish is put upon the free list. When it is remembered that last year was a good year for our fleet, and that even under favorable circumstances the net profits in the total catch of codfish did not amount to as much as one-fourth of a cent per pound, it is easy to see what a calamity the removal of the entire duty must cause. It is not as if the fish industry were highly profitable like the meat industry for instance. On the contrary in the whole history of the New England fisheries, so far as I know, no man ever made enough money to permit him to retire with a competence.

"The largest concern in New England during its entire existence has never paid in dividends more than four per cent per annum and has never paid a salary in excess of \$5000. Many people are ignorant of the fact that our fishermen are not paid in wages when engaged in the deep sea fisheries. All the profits of the catch are apportioned in fixed shares to the owners, the officers and men. It is evident that the burden of this blow will fall on all alike.

"I know it is unpopular doctrine at the present day to contend that farm products are entitled to any protection. Nevertheless I believe that protection must be given to the farmer in my district as well as to other men. Surely he is not making a swollen fortune, yet this treaty forces him into direct competition with the cheaper labor on Canadian farms."

How the Agreement Looks to Boston Fish Concerns.

F. L. Clemens, of Barclay-Clement concern fish commissioner and also and one of the men who represented the fish interests of the United States in the discussion of the maximum tariff with President Taft at Albany a year ago, when told last evening that the new tariff schedule with Canada removes all duty on fish, said:

"Free fish from Canada will be generally welcomed in Boston, and will mean, under ordinary conditions, lower fish prices for this section of the country, particularly in New York.

"A special line of steamers carrying fish alone, pines between the Provinces and New York and the removal of the fish tariff on the cargoes of these steamers must mean lower fish prices in New York city.

"Our salt fish dealers in this country have been paying a tariff of 3-4 cent per pound, \$2 per barrel on mackerel, regardless of its grade, \$2 per barrel on salmon, also without regard to its grade, 3-4 cent per pound on salt herring and 1-2 cent per pound on fresh herring for bait.

"A great deal of the fish in this country, or rather in this section of the country, for the past year has been Canadian fish. It has been poor fish year anyway, and it is a simple problem in arithmetic to figure out what the benefit of the new tariff schedule will be to the fish business as a whole.

"On the other hand the fish dealers of Boston appreciate fully the condition of affairs which may result to the great fish houses and fleets in Gloucester. They have always desired protection, claiming that without it they could not compete with the provincial fleets.

"Their contention has always been that a vessel built in Nova Scotia or Newfoundland at a cost of from \$7,000 to \$9,000 costs from \$12,000 to \$15,000 here that the same proportionate cost of fittings, lines, nets, hooks, etc., exists.

"If this true, which really cannot be accurately stated until the thing is fairly tried, the new tariff arrangements with Canada on fish will mean a serious conditions of affairs in the fishing fleets of Gloucester.

"On the other hand I know that last year the large fleet of one great salt fish house in Gloucester did not bring in enough fish to supply the concern and the balance was bought from Canadian concerns. Another such circumstance will of course be less costly under the new tariff schedule.

"As for mackerel, very little has been caught anywhere in American waters for two years. Mackerel fishing here has been a failure during that time and although it may not be generally known the greater part of the mackerel sold here for some time has been imported from Ireland and Norway.

"Taken on the whole and considering the whole business rather than the business in any one small community the new schedule ought to make better conditions in the fish business."

A fish dealer on State street, representing one of the greatest fish houses in the entire country, located at Gloucester, while he declined to be quoted declared that the removal of the tariff on Canadian fish will wipe out the Gloucester industries.

Lehman Pickert of Brookline, of the L. Pickert Fish company, of Boston, big mackerel importers, said last evening that the fish dealers in Boston as in Gloucester, in distinction to the owners of fishing vessels, favored a reduction in the tariff on fish and believed it would benefit the industry.

"Some Gloucester fishing vessel owners," he said, "naturally oppose a reduction of the tariff on fish, and say that they will suffer great loss from it, but the fish dealers in Gloucester and in Boston favor it, as they always

have favored it, and would like to see free trade in fish.

"We believe that such a reduction will not be hurtful to the fish industry. It may reduce the income of some of the vessel owners, but that fact should not be taken into consideration when the reduction is of so great advantage to the industry as a whole as well as to the people at large, in cheapening the price of fish.

"If fish were put on the free list to-day it would benefit the entire fish industry of the United States."

NEWFOUNDLAND COMMENTS.

St. John's Chronicle Believes Agreement Will Be Made With That Country

In speaking of the return home of Sir Edward Morris, of Newfoundland, and the result of his visit to Washington, to the conference on the matter of coming to some business agreement with the United States on the matter of fisheries regulations, the St. John's N. F. Chronicle says:

"The negotiators had no difficulty in reaching a settlement on Thursday last. Briefly stated, it is as follows—

"They agreed to endeavor to dispose of every matter by friendly negotiations and felt confident of success therein, but if any subject defied settlement in this fashion it was to be referred to the permanent mixed fishery commissions, created by The Hague award to deal with future disputes as to fishery laws, the calling into existence of the board of experts and the possible appeal to The Hague Tribunal itself, with all the delays and costs these procedures would involve, being thus avoided.

"This agreement, which simply and speedily disposes of this matter, was signed by the several negotiators, and will be submitted to their respective governments for ratification. That this will be accorded without any question goes without saying, and we should judge that all the governments concerned, and all interested in the promotion of more friendly relations between the two countries, will warmly welcome this newest entente cordiale, which renders unnecessary protracted arbitrations, vexatious appeals and an open sore for some years more.

"The Americans disputed only three Canadian laws—those prohibiting Sunday fishing and purse-seining, and that which requires everybody fishing in Canadian waters—even Newfoundlanders fishing on Canadian Laborator—to take out a license, this regulation be-

ing chiefly for the purpose of securing statistical data. Of the Newfoundland fishery laws, however, they protested more than 30, inclusive of those against Sunday fishing and purse-seining, the rest being of lesser importance, chiefly fishery regulations made from time to time with respect to different portions of the coast, and the methods of fishing to be employed thereon.

After the concluding of this compact, Sir Edward Morris left Washington to return here, being obliged to do so to fulfil several official engagements, and feeling satisfied that all the details involved in the various fishery laws, to which the Americans have objected, can be easily arranged by correspondence or by personal negotiations at a future date.

The Canadian representatives, however, remained at Washington, and Sir Edward infers from the press despatches seen by him on his way here that they finalized this whole controversy so far as their country is concerned, apparently on the basis of their agreeing not to require American fishing vessels to take out licenses in Canadian waters, and the Americans agreeing not to fish on Sundays or to use purse-seines.

If that arrangement has been reached with respect to Canada, there remains no reason to suppose that any different principle will prevail in settling the points in dispute with Newfoundland, and if the Americans give way on these two points, which were the most important that we stood out for, we see no reason why an amicable adjustment of the lesser matters cannot be reached.

"As to the pecuniary claims, those affecting Newfoundland total only \$40,000 in all, but the majority of these amounts are for light dues, paid by the Americans in past years who are not entitled to immunity on that account. When these items are eliminated, practically nothing remains, and the United States will hardly incur the heavy expense of an arbitration for the sake of the trifle which the colony might be called upon to pay.

"We feel confident that every resident of this colony, regardless of political or other opinions, will feel that Sir Edward Morris has accomplished no mean achievement in bringing about so satisfactory a compromise in this matter; and that the colony's best interests have been promoted, and a really satisfactory arrangement effected, without any jeopardizing of our substantial rights by this Washington Conference, for which he is primarily responsible."

Jan. 27.

Jan. 27.

Jan. 28.

A NEWFOUNDLAND VIEW.

Extract from Report of Secretary of Newfoundland Board of Trade.

In the annual report of its secretary, read at the annual meeting held recently the St. John's, N. F., Board of Trade says:

"The small and yearly diminishing fishery of Gloucester has induced some enterprising American firms to send vessels to our ports to buy green fish. They purchased large quantities of this fish at satisfactory prices to us, and it is generally expected, in view of the revised appraising of Newfoundland fish imported into United States in American bottoms, that this business may be continued and probably largely developed.

"It is to be hoped that the Premier's contemplated visit to Washington, in reference to fishery matters, and the decision arrived at by the arbitrators at The Hague last summer, may not only lead to a satisfactory arrangement with United States of the fishery dispute in question, but that the cordial spirit which is now being manifested by Newfoundland and the United States towards each other may eventuate in more satisfactory trade relations, and to the advantage of both countries.

"It is to be hoped that the coming season may witness satisfactory arrangements for trawling on the Labrador, arrangements such as the council have already indicated which will permit trawling under suitable conditions, while at the same time not interfering with other methods of fishing."

HIGH PRICES AT PORTLAND.

Two Fresh Halibut Trips Sold at 16 1/2 Cents Per Pound Yesterday.

Top notch prices for fresh halibut prevailed at Portland yesterday, when schs. Harvard and Grayling secured 16 1/2 cents per pound for two handling halibut trips brought in from Brown's banks, the figure being the highest offered at that port for a long time. Sch. Harvard landed 6000 pounds of halibut and 20,000 pounds of salt cod and sch. Grayling 5000 pounds of halibut, 20,000 pounds salt cod and 10,000 pounds fresh fish. The halibut was bought by the agent of the New England Company.

In addition to the above trips, the following fares were received:

Sch. Eva and Mildred, 6000 lbs. mixed fish; Edmund F. Black, 7000 lbs.; Albert D. Willard, 5000 lbs.; Lochinvar, 5000 lbs.; Katie L. Palmer, 5000 lbs.; Fanny Reed, 5000 lbs.; Rough Rider, 3000, lbs.; Grace Otis, 25,000 lbs. pollock.

This morning sch. Mooween is at Portland, from Quero bank, with 20,000 pounds of halibut selling at 15 1/4 cents per pound.

Wednesday proved another good day for the Portland fish dealers. Among the fares reported were the Evelyn M. Thompson with 15,000 for the F. S. Willard Co., the Topsall Girl, 19,000; Angie B. Watson, 8000; Bernie and Bessie, 5000; Fannie Hayden, 5000; A. P. Parkhurst, 1800; Crusader, 1500; Minerva, 2000, all for dealers on Commercial wharf.

The Gloucester fishing sch. Grace Otis arrived in port Wednesday evening with a trip of over 30,000 pounds of pollock, and reports fish plenty at the eastward.

Brought Cargo of Lobsters From Nova Scotia.

An arrival at Portland on Wednesday which attracted considerable attention was the little lobster smack Etta M. Burns, which has made a winter trip to the Nova Scotia coast, something almost unknown in the lobster business, being the first in a great many years. The little schooner, which measures only 15 net tons, made a successful trip to Westport, N. S., returning with 6000 lobsters for the F. S. Willard Company, and although considerable rough weather was encountered met with no mishaps of any account.

Smoked herring are in very short supply and selling at about double the usual price. Sch. Ned P. Walker arrived at Portland Wednesday on her way from Gloucester with a full cargo of salt herring for Jonesport, where the fish are to be dried out and smoked.

Portland Lobster Trade Makes Brisk Demand for Barrels.

Empty barrels never go begging in Portland. There is always a chance to dispose of them down along the waterfront, for barrels there are more in demand than in any one section of the city.

When orders come here from far away for lobsters, and orders are pouring in pretty steadily most of the time, the crustaceans are packed in barrels for shipment. The barrels do not come back. Consequently there is always a live and keen demand for the receptacles. As a result, hardly a day goes by but what a load of empties is seen on its way down one of the wharves where the lobster dealers transact their business. It is estimated that fully 25,000 barrels are used in the course of a year by the lobster dealers of the city.

Halifax Importing Halibut from Alaska.

Halifax is now importing halibut from Alaska. At this season of the year there is very little halibut landed at Halifax from Atlantic waters, only an occasional fish being caught by some of the local bankers. One Halifax dealer has just imported two carloads from Alaska. The fish came overland in refrigerator cars and arrived in excellent condition.

This is probably the first time that Halifax has ever imported fish from such a distant point. In the past some fresh fish have been brought here from British Columbia. These fish are frozen as soon as they are taken from the water, and as a result they keep their color and retain their flavor. The cost of transportation is heavy, and in addition there is considerable duty on fish imported into Canada from Alaska.

Jan. 28.

ORIGINATOR OF KNOCKABOUT RIG.

First Craft Were Built at This Port Nineteen Years Ago.

There seems to be among the yachtsmen of Massachusetts bay a misunderstanding as to the originator of the so-called knockabout rig. Lately the names of at least three designers have been mentioned in connection with the first yacht of this type says the Boston Globe.

The knockabout rig, however, originated in Marblehead just 19 years ago this coming spring, when two boats that had been built at this port for yachtsmen of that port arrived there early in the season. There were the Nancy, owned by Henry Taggard, and the Jane, owned by Herman Parker. A third boat of this type, the Trouble was also under sail later in the summer.

As the Nancy was launched about three weeks before the Jane this yacht of Henry Taggard's was the first of the type. Mr. Taggard had been for several seasons sailing small sloops, cutters and catboats, none of which seemed to be just the type of small boat that he wanted.

Carrying the idea of the type of yacht that he desired to the firm of Stewart & Binney, the Nancy, a small and handy pleasure boat of good draft with outside ballast, carrying a jibstay running to the stemhead, without a bowsprit, was the result.

The lines for this yacht and the Jane which was ordered by Mr. Parker soon after were drawn by George Stewart of the firm, of which Arthur Binney, the well-known naval architect, is the surviving member. This was in the winter of 1891-2.

Both were built by Higgins & Gifford of this city that winter and launched early in the spring. The Nancy took to the water about three weeks ahead of the Jane, and when each was ready to sail they were taken to Marblehead by Mr. Taggard and Mr. Parker.

This was the start of the well-known knockabout type of sailing yacht and so liked has the rig become that nearly all racing yachts of the present day of under 40-foot water line, are either knockabout or semiknockabout rig.

The following year Mr. Taggard sold the Nancy to a Marblehead yachtsman as he had built the Susan. In 1894 the Susan was replaced by the Esther, and some years later the Nancy was bought back by Mr. Taggard, who continues to be the owner of the original knockabout.

For a number of years after 1899 the knockabout was the most popular racing class in Massachusetts bay. The most famous of the 21-foot knockabouts built and raced was probably the Cock Robin. This yacht was designed and built by Herreshoff in 1896 for Charles S. Eaton and in her races was sailed by William P. Fowle.

During her racing career the Cock Robin practically was invincible. She is now renamed Clithroe and owned by Walter S. Dean. The last racing of the knockabouts as a class was during the season of 1909 at Marblehead. This year Frederick L. Gay of the Boston yacht club offered a cup for the class with the hope that it would revive interest in the 21-foot knockabouts.

Four or five boats took part in the races at Marblehead of the Boston Y. C. and the cup was won by the Aspinet. Last year although Mr. Gay renewed his offer of a cup to the regatta committee of the club no class was provided for the knockabouts.

Of the two original knockabouts the Nancy and Jane, the Nancy is in existence laid up at the David Fenton Co's yard at Manchester. The Jane up to the 1909 season was used each year by Mr. Parker, but as the yacht was getting old and as he did not wish to place the old Jane on the market, Mr. Parker had the old boat broken up.

Before breaking up the Jane Mr. Parker made a small model of the yacht complete in every detail. This he presented to the Corinthian yacht club of Marblehead and it is one of the prized yachting souvenirs of that club.