

Dec. 24

# HIGH HALIBUT PRICE REACHED

**Small Lot From Sch. Galatea Sold at 38 1-2 Cents Per Pound.**

Receipts of fresh fish were light at T wharf, Boston, this morning, one off shore and eight shore crafts constituting the fleet of arrivals since yesterday.

The steam trawler Ripple had 51,000 pounds of haddock, while the shore boats had less than 30,000 weight of market fish, which sold at a good price.

Haddock was quoted at \$4 to \$6 a hundred pounds, large cod \$7 to \$7.50; market cod, \$3 to \$3.50; hake, \$4 to \$6, pollock, \$1.50 and cusk, \$2.80.

A small lot of halibut landed by sch. Galatea sold at 38 1-2 cents a pound, the highest price paid this year.

**Boston Arrivals.**

The fares and prices in detail are:  
 Sch. Elva L. Spurling, 2000 haddock, 3000 cod, 4000 hake.  
 Sch. Francis J. O'Hara, Jr., 1000 haddock, 300 cod, 600 hake.  
 Sch. Flavilla.  
 Sch. W. M. Goodspeed, 1500 haddock, 800 hake.  
 Sch. Galatea, 3000 haddock, 900 cod, 100 hake, 800 cusk, 1400 pollock, 100 halibut.  
 Sch. William H. Clements, 1200 cod.  
 Str. Ripple, 51,000 haddock, 300 cod.  
 Sch. Mary Edith, 1500 haddock, 4300 cod, 1500 hake.  
 Sch. Mettacommet 4000 haddock, 3000 cod, 2000 hake.

Haddock, \$4 to \$6 per cwt.; large cod, \$7 to \$7.50; market cod, \$3 to \$3.50; hake, \$4 to \$6; pollock, \$1.50; cusk, \$2.80; halibut, 38 1/2c for white and gray.

**Fulton Fish Market Notes.**

The market was fairly well supplied with green fish last week; in most cases stock being lower in price than the preceding week. Buying was active, particularly so on low-priced varieties. Fancy fish commanded high prices and was quickly disposed of as the supply was light.

There are some Eastern chicken halibut in the market on Thursday. Chesbro Bros. had it. Sales were made at 25 to 30 cents per pound.

Western white halibut was not very plentiful, and good prices maintained during the entire week. From Tuesday on sales were made at 16 cents per pound. On the first two days of the week the quotation was 16 to 18c per pound.

All varieties of ground fish could be had for little money.

Steak cod brought 8 to 10 cents per pound during the fore part of the week. On Thursday it sold at 8 cents, and the same quotation held good yesterday.

Market cod was 4 to 5 cents during the first two.

Pollock was quoted at 5 cents per pound on Friday. During the three preceding days the quotation was 3 1-2c. Sales on Saturday and Monday were made at 4c per pound.

**Plan for 100 Steam Trawlers.**

It is intended to employ about 100 trawlers on the Canadian Pacific Coast, the most of which have still to be built. As the result of an agreement just concluded between the Attorney-General of British Columbia and the Dominion Minister of Marine and Fisheries white fishermen are to be granted a preference and special concessions.

**Talk of Fishing License.**

The commissioners of inland fisheries of Maine are contemplating recommending the passing of a law requiring non-residents to take out a fishing license. This is in line with what 11 other states chiefly in the west have done.

**Foreign Mackerel Market.**

The foreign mackerel market is easier for the time being in both Norway and Irish, except for No. 1 Norways, which seem quite firm, the Fishing Gazette reports. The total pack of Norwegian and Swedish is now put at from 65,000 to 70,000 barrels, and the fishings are closed for the season.

# GILL-NETTERS STILL DOING IT

**More Good Catches in Yesterday and Pollock Went to Splitters.**

The only fresh fish arrival here this morning was sch. Laverna, down from Boston which brought 20,000 pounds of fresh fish left over from yesterday's market which sold to split.

The gill netters had another good day yesterday, but on account of the continued low prices on pollock, only a few of the trips sold fresh, while the remainder sold at splitter's prices.

**Today's Arrivals and Receipts.**

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:  
 Sch. Laverna, via Boston, 20,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Alice, gill netting, 10,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Quoddy, gill netting, 10,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Naomi Bruce, gill netting, 13,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Rough Rider, gill netting, 2200 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Margaret D., gill netting, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. F. S. Willard, gill netting, 14,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Prince Olaf, gill netting, 2600 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Nomad, gill netting, 12,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Bethulia, gill netting, 20,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Philomena, gill netting, 10,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Hugo, gill netting, 11,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Sunflower, gill netting, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Evelyn H., gill netting, 9500 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Ethel, gill netting, 15,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. George E. Fisher, gill netting, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Gertrude T., gill netting, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Geisha, gill netting, 8000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Harold, gill netting, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Mystery, gill netting, 12,125 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. R. J. Kellick, gill netting, 15,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Bessie M. Dugan, gill netting, 1200 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Sawyer, gill netting, 14,000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Mary B. Ruth, gill netting, 6500 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Venture, gill netting, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Mary L., gill netting, 5100 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Ibsen, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Str. Lorenz, gill netting, 1500 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Sch. Little Fannie, gill netting, 4000 lbs. fresh fish.  
 Sch. Olivia Sears, shore 1100 lbs. pollock.  
 Sch. Laura Enos, shore, 700 lbs. fresh fish.

**No Sailings.**

There were no sailings from this port this morning.

**Vessels Sailed Monday.**

Sch. Frances J. O'Hara, Jr., had-docking.  
 Sch. Belbina P. Domingoes, had-docking.  
 Sch. Mary F. Sears, haddocking.  
 Sch. Manomet, haddocking.

**TODAY'S FISH MARKET.**

**Salt Fish.**

Trawl bank cod, large, \$4.25, medium, \$3.75, snappers, \$2.75.  
 Handline Georges codfish, large, \$5.50 per cwt.; medium, \$4.62 1-2 snappers, \$3.25.  
 Eastern halibut codfish, large \$4.50; mediums, \$3.75; snappers, \$3.  
 Dory handlining codfish, large, \$4.50; medium, \$4.12 1-2; snappers, \$3.50.  
 Georges halibut codfish, large, \$4.50; mediums, \$4.  
 Drift codfish, large, \$4.25; mediums, \$3.62 1-2.  
 Cusk, large, \$2.25; mediums, \$1.75; snappers, \$1.25.  
 Pollock, \$1.50.  
 Hake, \$1.50.  
 Haddock, \$1.50.  
 Large salt mackerel, \$25 per bbl.  
 Fletched halibut, 10c per lb.  
 Salt herring, \$3.50 per bbl.  
 Pickled herring, \$4.50 per bbl.

**Fresh Fish.**  
 Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt.  
 Eastern cod, large, \$2.10; medium, \$1.75; snappers, 75c.  
 Western cod, large, \$2.15; mediums, \$1.80; snappers, 75c.  
 All codfish not gilled 10c per 100 pounds less than the above.  
 Hake, \$1.15.  
 Cusk, large, \$1.30; mediums, \$1; snappers, 50c.  
 Dressed pollock, 80c; round 90c.  
 Bank halibut, 17c lb. for white and for gray.  
 Fresh herring, \$1 per bbl. to salt; \$2 per bbl for bait.  
 Newfoundland frozen herring, \$2.75 per cwt.

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# NEWS FOR THE LAKE FISHERS

Fishermen of Sister Bay, Wis., who have had nets planted in the bay this fall report the catch as being very light. The fishing season of 1912 established a record for whitefish and herring catches. E. J. McAlpine, general manager of the Buckeye Fish company, Cleveland, says that in the last week in November the tugs of his company brought in 128,000 pounds of fish in a single catch, but that the Huron River froze over, and a few calm nights and the lake would have a coating of ice on it. At present there is a shortage of fish in the freezers, except whitefish, but these are very fine stock, and will move very readily. Pike will be at a premium this winter, as the supply is limited.

Several fishermen at Vermillion had nets in the lake up until recently but the Game Warden notified them to pull out at once. The gill net tugs have been allowed to fish after the first of December. The superintendent of the hatchery at Put in Bay, Mr. Miller, putting spawners aboard of tugs to gather the spawn, as there had not been enough spawn collected up to December 1st to fill the hatchery.

Old fishermen account for the poor fall for the reason that the prevailing winds were south and southwest.

The gas boat Loafer, gill nets and all equipment was sold the other day for \$400. The owner, a Greek, had to return to Greece and report to the army or forfeit the property he has in that country. Consequently he had to make a sale at most any price.

Cleveland, Ohio, Dec. 10.—While the season has practically closed at this port, there is still a large supply of fresh-caught Lake Erie herring and a moderate catch of blue pike, apparently sufficient to meet the demands of the market, though a good deal of frozen stock is being shipped daily to the regular trade.

The Cleveland boats transferred to Ashtabula, Ohio, for the fall fishing report nothing but loss. Fresh winds to moderate gales prevented boats from getting their nets for several days, and when they did get them the wine was so full of fish as to drop pieces in the handling, showing a consequent loss of twine and catch. The report from Erie, Pa. is somewhat better, though the weather, as regards wind, has been against the industry at that point also. There now seems to be no chance of getting any and the frozen stock will surely bring blue pikes out of Lake Erie this fall, full value.

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**Want Advance of a Half Cent.**

The halibut fishermen of Puget Sound have come out on strike demanding an advance of one-half cent per pound. Halibut fishermen on steamers, are at present getting a cent a pound, which has been the price for a number of years. The employers say that aside from paying the fishermen a cent a pound for halibut, they furnish them with food, bait, dories, eggs, gear and everything they need to conduct their fishing operations. They say fishermen on halibut steamers average from \$1,000 to \$12,000 a year, which, they say, is all they can afford to pay.

# YOUNG LOBSTERS FREED.

**Two Million Distributed at Places on New Hampshire Coast.**

One hundred eighty-three thousand small lobster have been hatched and distributed along the New Hampshire and Maine coast during the last fiscal year. In connection with this work of the government fish hatchery, 6,000,000 cod, nearly 12,000,000 haddock and 490,000,000 flounders have been turned loose.

The young lobsters were hatched from eggs stripped from 13,853 seed lobsters collected in 1911 and hatched at the Boothbay Harbor hatchery.

During the season there have been collected nearly 16,000 seed lobsters. These are now held in pound in John's bay, near the Boothbay Harbor hatchery. It is estimated that they will supply more than 200,000,000 fry for distribution in 1913.

The distribution of young lobsters in local waters were as follows: 2,000,000 of fry at each of the following points: Cape Porpoise harbor; Kennebunkport harbor, Wells bay, Wells; Perkins cove, Kittery; Hampton harbor; Hampton; Isle of Shoals harbor; 6,000,000 at Wood Island at the mouth of the river and 5,000,000 at Biddeford Pool.

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**Mammoth Lobster.**

A lobster 36 inches long and weighing 32 pounds is being mounted for the United States Institute at Washington, D. C., by Clarence E. Brown, of Beverly. The lobster, which came from Vinalhaven, Me., is considered one of the finest specimens ever found on the Atlantic coast.

**Poor Outlook at Eastport.**

The frozen herring buyers at Eastport are becoming discouraged at the outlook this season. Both large and small fish have been unusually scarce this fall, and the business does not compare favorably with that done at this time last year.

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# HOME IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

**Herring Crafts Reached Here Yesterday Report Storm Not Unusually Severe.**

The storm of Tuesday was one of unusual severity all along the coast and Gloucester suffered with the rest of the coast places. Fortunately crafts arriving from offshore report though it was severe this side of Cape Sable, still it was not of a severity to cause alarm for the safety of any fishing craft. A number arrived here this morning and yesterday.

The storm caught many crafts in the Bay of Fundy and some of them pretty well over this side. There was a blinding fall of snow and high wind. All met it with shortened sail and ran off before it until the long log told them it was not prudent to run any closer on the land, then headed off and jogged until the snow ceased. When as the wind abated, sail was made and the voyage to the home port taken up, several crafts making port here yesterday, in time for skippers and crews to have their Christmas dinners ashore.

Four of the Newfoundland fleet, three with herring and one a cargo of salt cod arrived here yesterday and during the night. All reported the gale severe outside, but came through it without any damage.

Sch. Bohemia, Capt. Ormsby Seeley, arrived yesterday from Bonne Bay, making the passage in 10 days. Capt. Seeley struck the storm off here Tuesday, which was accompanied by a stiff breeze from the northeast, and a thick blinding snow. The vessel was hove to, 35 miles off the land and rode through safely without a scratch.

The other crafts of the fleet weathered the gale, and came along comfortably through the storm.

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# BIG FARES FOR STEAM TRAWLERS

### Several Off-Shores Also at T Wharf Have Average Catches.

With four of the steam trawlers at the dock this morning, T wharf dealers were fairly well supplied in had-dock the total receipts of the steamers aggregating 290,000 pounds.

Sevreal of the off shore sailing fleet were also there this morning and will benefit from the big prices which the wholesale dealers are paying. Schs. Josie and Phoebe had 35,000 pounds; Fannie Belle Atwood, 52,000 pounds; Thos. S. Gorton, 40,000 pounds; Lillian, 30,000 pounds; Gov. Foss, 31,000 pounds; Fannie E. Prescott, 52,000 pounds.

Haddock brought \$2 to \$6 a hundred weight; large cod, \$5.50 to \$7; market cod, \$2.25 to \$3.50; pollock, \$1.50 to \$1.75; cusk, \$1.50 to \$2. A small lot of halibut sold at 40 cents and 30 cents a pound, which is the highest price recorded this season.

#### Boston Arrivals.

The fares and prices in detail are: Steamer Crest, 88,000 haddock, 800 cod, 1500 sole. Steamer Surf, 61,000 haddock, 300 cod, 1200 sole. Steamer Foam, 58,000 haddock, 100 cod, 1200 sole.

Sch. Josie and Phoebe, 21,000 haddock, 4000 cod, 5000 cusk, 3000 pollock, 1000 halibut.

Sch. Fannie Belle Atwood, 37,000 haddock, 11,000 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Thomas S. Gorton, 26,000 haddock, 7000 cod, 5000 hake, 1000 cusk, 700 halibut.

Sch. Lillian, 16,000 haddock, 10,000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Gov. Foss, 20,000 haddock, 8000 cod, 3000 hake, 6000 cusk.

Sch. Fannie E. Prescott, 45,000 haddock, 3000 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Fitz A. Oakes, 4000 haddock, 2500 cod, 300 pollock.

Sch. Priscilla, 1200 haddock, 300 cod, 200 hake.

Steamer Swell, 79,000 haddock, 200 cod.

Haddock, \$2 to \$6 per cwt.; large cod, \$5.50 to \$7; market cod, \$2.25 to \$3.50; hake, \$4 to \$6; pollock, \$1.50 to \$1.75; cusk, \$1.50 to \$2; halibut, 30 cts. to 40 cts. for white and gray.

#### Foreign Mackerel Market.

The market remains inactive, the demand being light at this season, says the Fishing Gazette. No. 1 Norways hold firm, but other grades are nominally easier from lack of call. The Norwegian combination, holding the balance of the 1912 pack, will eventually influence prices on this side, but at present the stocks here seem to be sufficient for the ordinary demands of the trade for some time to come. Irish mackerel is dull but steady. The total shipments to December 7 were 1,115 barrels, bringing the total shipments of Irish autumn mackerel to date 20,700 barrels; 1912 Norway 7242 barrels. Boston received this week about 450 barrels. The Dingle report of December 12 states that about 50,000 mackerel were landed and cured during that week the count being about 360. The Liverpool report of December 14 gives shipments for week ending that date as 498 barrels of which Boston got 398. The count was 350 to 400.

A Gothenburg house advises the mackerel trade on this side as follows. If American buyers do not weaken there is no doubt we shall buy these mackerel at somewhat reduced figures from those asked today. With regard to this article we would beg to state that this year's catch is amounting to 43,000 barrels for Sweden and 25,000 barrels for Norway, or 68,000 barrels together, which is only about 5000 barrels more than last year. At this moment, (November 30) there are only about 15,000 bbls., unsold, in Sweden and Norway together. These small stocks are no longer in the possession of the fishermen, but in the hands of Swedish and Norwegian exporters.

# THREE HERRING CARGOES ALONG

### Storm Held Gill Netters and Market Boats in Over Christmas.

Three herring cargoes and one cargo of salt cod from Newfoundland and one fresh fare constituted the arrivals here this morning after the holiday.

Sch. Maxine Elliott from Bonne Bay brings 1000 barrels of frozen herring and 100 barrels of pickled, for the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company, while schs. Arabia from Bay of Islands and Bohemia from Bonne Bay have full cargoes of salt and pickled herring for Sylvanus Smith & Company.

Sch. Ramona from Codory, Newfoundland, has 240,000 pounds of salt cod, also consigned to the Gorton-Pew Fisheries Company.

The only arrival of fresh fish is sch. Valerie from the Cape Shore with a mixed fare of 25,000 pounds.

All the gill netters remained in port over Christmas. Tuesday, a number of the boats were driven back by the storm, but some of the larger crafts picked up their nets and brought in their fish, which sold to the fresh dealers.

#### Todays Arrivals and Receipts.

The arrivals and receipts in detail are:

Str. Margaret D., gill netting, 1500 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Gertrude T., gill netting, 2000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Ethel, gill netting, 8000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. F. S. Willard, gill netting, 9000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Hugo, gill netting, 1000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Anna T., gill netting, 1500 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Nashawena, gill netting, 8000 lbs. fresh fish.

Str. Geisha, gill netting, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Maxine Elliott, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1000 bbls. frozen herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Ramona, Codry, N. F., 240,000 lbs. salt cod.

Sch. Arabia, Bay of Islands, N. F., 140 bbls. salt herring, 100 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Bohemia, Bonne Bay, N. F., 1200 bbls. salt herring, 50 bbls. pickled herring.

Sch. Valerie, Cape Shore, 25,000 lbs. fresh fish.

#### Tuesday's Gill Netting Arrivals.

Steamer Naomi Bruce, gill netting, 8000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Philomena, gill netting, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Sawyer, gill netting, 6000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Isben, gill netting, 3000 lbs. fresh fish.

Steamer Nomad, gill netting, 5000 lbs. fresh fish.

#### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Gertrude DeCosta, haddocking.

#### TODAY'S FISH MARKET.

##### Salt Fish.

Trawl bank cod, large, \$4.25, medium, \$3.75, snappers, \$2.75.

Handline Georges codfish, large, \$5.50 per cwt.; medium, \$4.62 1-2 snappers, \$3.25.

Eastern halibut codfish, large \$4.50; mediums, \$3.75; snappers, \$3. Dory handlining codfish, large, \$4.50; medium, \$4.12 1-2; snappers, \$3.50.

Georges halibut codfish, large, \$4.50; mediums, \$4. Drift codfish, large, \$4.25; mediums, \$3.62 1-2.

Cusk, large, \$2.25; mediums, \$1.75; snappers, \$1.25.

Pollock, \$1.50.

Hake, \$1.50.

Haddock, \$1.50.

Large salt mackerel, \$25 per bbl. Fletched halibut, 10c per lb.

Salt herring, \$3.50 per bbl. Pickled herring, \$4.50 per bbl.

##### Fresh Fish.

Haddock, \$1.10 per cwt. Eastern cod, large, \$2.10; medium, \$1.75; snappers, 75c.

Western cod, large, \$2.15; mediums, \$1.80; snappers, 75c.

All codfish not gilled 10c per 100 pounds less than the above.

Hake, \$1.15.

Cusk, large, \$1.30; mediums, \$1; snappers, 50c.

Dressed pollock, 80c; round 90c.

Bank halibut, 17c lb. for white and for gray.

Fresh herring, \$1 per bbl. to salt; \$2 per bbl for bait. Newfoundland frozen herring, \$2.75 per cwt.

# REPORT STRAIT NOW FULL OF ICE

The following message was received by the Newfoundland Marine and Fisheries department at St. John's, N. F., from Flower's Cove Thursday morning:

"As if by magic the Straits of Belle Isle suddenly assumed the aspect of mid-winter. Naught but fields of ice meet the view so far as the eye can reach, a result of the New England hurricane that raged so fiercely on Wednesday. Calm now succeeds the storm."

#### The Whaling Industry.

Although the whaling industry is supposed to belong to days that are gone it is still being pursued with more or less vigor and particularly in the northern seas, says an exchange. The Norwegian Sea, for instance, is annually invaded by some half hundred vessels, mostly sailers, in pursuit of the bottlenosed whale and last year some 900 tons of oil were the result, which at present ruling prices hardly gives encouragement for expansion of this industry. At Spitzenberg there are two whaling companies operating six vessels but the season is a short one and extension of the industry there is not looked for. Last year there were six whaling companies operating 15 vessels off the Faroe Islands and for many years the industry has been carried on there with varying success. Five companies are interested in 11 vessels whaling off the Shetland and Hebrides islands and in 1909 the west coast of Ireland was invaded with such satisfactory results that two whaling stations have been erected with licenses to employ five vessels.

#### Portland Fish Notes.

A lobster that must be related to some other crustacean family than those on the Maine coast made his appearance at the N. F. Trefethen Co. shops last week. He was not green as all good lobsters should be, but was spotted. Big yellow marks were all over him, on his back, sides and belly and even on his claws. He was regarded with curiosity by the men at the big lobster shops and was shown to a number of people before he was finally dumped into the boiling pot along with other less unusual shell fish. Immense numbers of lobsters are handled by the N. F. Trefethen Co. in a year, but if two yellow fish are found in that time, the men think they are numerous.

Fish arrivals were numerous, but not large Monday. The fares as reported, were: Lochinvar, 20,000; Top-sail Girl, 10,000; James and Esther, 12,000; Albert D. Willard, 10,000; Dorcas, 10,000; Martha E. McLain, 2000; Crusader, 2000; Margaret, 200; Bessie M., 2000; Bernie and Bessie, 3000; and the small boats with about 15,000 pounds all told.

#### Gone Out of Business.

The only real women's rights fishing firm has gone out of business. The Fish-Mott Co., of Portsmouth R. I., two women whose husbands left them a fishing business, and who carried it on for several years, have decided to quit and leave fishing business to men. They have sold their fishing steamer.

#### Whales Sing.

Whales are rarely thought of as vocalists, yet, according to Miss A. D. Cameron in "The New North," they really have a distinctive song of their own. A certain Captain Kelly was the first to notice that whales sing. One Sunday, while officers from three whaling-ships were "gamming" over the afternoon walrus meat, Kelly started up with "I hear a bowhead!" There was much chaffing about "Kelly's band," but Kelly weighed anchor, and went to find the band-wagon. Every sail followed his, with the result that three whales were bagged.

Among bowheads, this singsong is a call that the leader of the school, as he forces a passage through Bering Sea, makes in order to notify those that follow that the straits are clear of ice.

Walrus and seals and all true mammals that have lungs and live in the water have a bark that sounds strange enough as it comes up from hidden depths.

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#### Formed a Union.

The San Joaquin fishermen have recently organized a union and will join the Black Diamond Bay fishermen and Sacramento River fishermen in a big meeting soon at San Francisco to form a coast organization. It is understood that fishermen from all unions north to the Columbia River will be on hand, representing 2500 men. Not only will means be discussed and plans formed to secure what they claim to be their rights from the big dealers, but they intend making a campaign before the Legislatures for uniform laws.

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#### Fishing Fleet Movements.

Schs. Ethel B. Penny and Elmer E. Gray arrived at Liverpool on Monday last and cleared.

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# SOME VIEWS ON STEAM TRAWLING

The report of the superintendent of the Lancashire and Western sea fisheries district of England, for the quarter ending September 30 1912, contains the following interesting items:

"Although the total value of fish landed in the district has increased from £190,492 in the September quarter of 1911 to £210,958 for the corresponding quarter in 1912 the values and quantities of wet fish landed at the minor ports have shown a marked decrease. This is due to two causes. Firstly, the extraordinarily bad weather experienced during the past summer has hindered the sailing trawlers; and secondly, plaice have been very scarce on the inshore fishing grounds. Whether this scarcity of plaice is due to overfishing in previous years or to the abnormal climatic conditions, is doubtful, but probably the latter cause is the predominant one.

"As regards shellfish there is on the contrary a gratifying increase. The total value of shellfish caught and landed within the district has increased from £8945 in September quarter 1911 to £10,727 in the quarter just ended. This is the best yield of shellfish for this quarter since September, 1907, when the value was £11,449. The greatest increase is in the case of shrimps and prawns but cockles and mussels are also exhibiting an upward tendency.

"The majority of trawl owners and fish dealers generally are strongly against the landing or sale of undersized fish of any kind, and they deplore as much as any one the destruction that at present takes place.

"Trawling when carried on in deep water well away from the land is a highly creditable method of fishing, and the people who have developed steam trawling to its present dimensions deserve every credit for their energy and ability since they have tapped or opened up a source of food supply which is unavailable by any other method of fishing.

"A great deal has been made of the argument that steam trawling has cheapened the price of fish to the consumer. An examination of the price of the commoner kinds of trawl caught fish does not lend much support to this idea. The price of fish at the ports of landing has gone up steadily since 1886 (when information was first collected), and this is only reasonable since steam trawling is bound to be a more expensive method of fishing than sailing trawling. If the price has gone up at the port of landing it is certain that the price to the consumer is higher. What has really happened is that there has been an extension of the number of people to whom fresh fish as an article of diet has become accessible.

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