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The Fisheries of Newfoundland: Their Value and Conservation a National Issue.

(By M. E. CONDON.)

COLD STORAGE.
I may claim to be the Pioneer as to advocating Cold Storage and Freezers for Bait, and other fish that we have in our waters for bait and food purposes for the past thirty years, and the same would apply to Pickled Meats, Fork, Beef and Molasses, and I would ask the Mercantile community, and other Importers and Exporters, could they make an estimate of the losses sustained as to Pickled Meats, Beef, Pork, Molasses, Pickled Herring and Salmon; thousands of packages of the above named lying on the wharves in the May, June, July, August and September sun, the pickle of the meats coming through the staves of the packages owing to excessive heat, and what become of the contents; in many cases when the packages are opened sometimes after the contents found spoiled, the Importer blames the shipper, and often unjustly so. The same applies to Molasses gone sour; also to pickled herring, and when the latter arrives at New York and other shipping points, thousands of pack-

ages are condemned on account of the contents, the blame often times being laid at the door of the curer, the fishermen, and in many cases unjustly so. This has been occurring to my personal knowledge for over forty years, and I fail to see any improvement worthy of notice, so Messrs. Importers and Exporters, both at St. John's and in the Outports, get out of the old rut and be modern, see that your Pickled meats when landed are placed under cover, and the same applies to Molasses and Pickled Fish, and not on the wharves under the broiling sun getting cooked the wrong way. Be modern by having same placed in Cold Storage, and then the contents will keep indefinitely, and have we not cold storage the world over, but Newfoundland is away behind the times as to Cold Storage, and I am tired advocating Cold Storage and Bait Depots, particularly at two or three centres on the Labrador Coast, which should be erected at Battle Hr., Dominio, and some other suitable place, and with a plentiful supply of Squid

or other bait fishes in Bait Depots on the Labrador, in the event of a failure with the twine, the Labrador fishermen would always secure a saving voyage, and a plentiful supply of bait fishes would to a great extent do away with the greatest scourge that we have in connection with our fisheries, the cod jigger, and hundreds of Labrador planters and fishermen have agreed with me as to my ideas as to Bait Depots on the Labrador, and the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, Hon. W. F. Coaker, will agree with me, as when I spoke on same at Bay Roberts at the F.P.U. Convention held there some years ago, at which I attended as a special Delegate, did I not receive the unanimous applause of the Delegates of that Convention when I spoke on Bait Depots for the Labrador, and if the Government do not immediately, I say now this coming season, allocate a stipulated sum for any one at Dominio, the inshore fishery on the Labrador will be a thing of the past, also Bait Depots at Bonavista and suitable points in Conception Bay, Fouch Cove, Petty Harbor would be the means of an increased catch of codfish, and the same would well compensate the Government for the outlay, and any assistance given to same, and I have reason to believe that Honorable W. F. Coaker, who we should all believe has the best interest of the fishermen at heart, will agree with me. His personal experience in his travels in Europe the past winter has given him new ideas as to Cold Storage, the different ways to handle fish for the foreign consumer and as to standardizing our fish, and I believe that he will do all in his power to forward the fishermen and the Dominion at this present session of the House of Assembly, and also to have Cold Storage plants on our Coastal boats to convey bait fish to depots. Take that progressive nation, France, and the French Government Cold Storage plant now erected at St. Pierre costing millions of dollars.

Standardizing of Codfish, Herring, Salmon, Etc.

Now with reference to standardizing our various kinds of fish, viz., Codfish, Herring, Salmon, etc., and as to the marketing of same. Before I commence I must again make reference to Hon. W. F. Coaker, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, and his trip to Spain, Portugal, and other countries should have given him a good idea of the different methods of curing, and handling of codfish, for the different European markets, and will place him in a position of demonstrating same to the fishermen, and on the floors of the House of Assembly, which he is now doing, and same should be beneficial to the trade in general, as experience should teach in all walks of life. Now I ask the question, "What have the Government and exporters of our codfish done to educate the fishermen as to the handling and curing of codfish, herring, etc., and is not codfish handled to-day as an article of food for the consumer in different parts of the world, in many cases more carelessly than it was thirty years ago, and what is the principal cause? Buying from the fishermen by the tailquail system, which gives no encouragement to the fishermen, that handled and made a No. 1 cure, and as Newfoundlanders there is only one remedy, that is for the exporters to purchase same under a Government standardized system No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and to be exported as such, and then the consumer will get satisfaction and value for his money, which will be

mutually beneficial to producer, fisherman, exporter and consumer. The fishermen therefore that will handle and make a No. 1 merchantable article will get well paid for his care and labor, and the fishermen that through neglect and carelessness will make an inferior article of fish for the consumer, will get face value for his inferior article of fish, which will mean dollars per quintal less than the fishermen who will make a No. 1 article, and the careless handler will look about himself when he sees the great losses that he is sustaining by his neglect. Certainly there are times when Shore fish, is slack or heavy caught, and from whether conditions,

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LITTLE BOYS' VELVET PANTS—Real good quality Velvet Pants for little chaps from 3 to 8 years; shades of Navy, Brown, Cardinal and Black; waist lined; much cheaper than we can replace the same goods to-day. Special Tues., Wed. & Thurs. **\$2.25**

MEN'S SOFT FELTS—The latest shape for 1920, and offering assorted Greys, Brown and Navy. Here is a Hat you will take to; lightweight, smart and nobby. Special Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday **\$4.25**

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MEN'S VICI BOOTS—Here is a real good Boot in best quality Vici Kid; comfort shape, with a big thick rubber heel and extra heavy sole. There is no need to pay an extravagant price for boots when a price like this brings you the Ideal Boot. Special, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday... **\$8.75**

it is impossible to make a No. 1 or merchantable fish. (As a salter of Shore or Bank fish I would not take second place to any one.)

Now I will go still further than the Hon. W. F. Coaker, and ask him to take a lesson out of my book that I have learnt from a personal experience of over thirty years with our fisheries, and that is to help me to educate the fishermen to cut the throat of the codfish when taken alive out of the water by either the jigger, handline and codtrap where possible. (You cannot do this with trawled or codnetted codfish, because fish so caught are smothered and strangled) and the bleeding of fish makes the meat of the fish white and more nutritious from a medical standpoint. (Is not the shot rabbit tenderer and better for food than that snared or strangled). After bleeding, fish should be washed and salted well, and then we Newfoundland fishermen will take first place in the markets of the world. Any green liver or consumptive codfish, have same cut out and let go as fertilizer, and then the consumer will get pure fish food, which the laws of the United States demand to-day. I intend this coming season to have fish so bled when taken alive out of the water, and many of my friends will do the same, and I will export such fish myself to the markets of the United States, Cuba, Argentina, all to be standardized under my own registered brand, and guaranteed to the consumer. Can I supply the demand? I say No! but possibly before the end of this season I may have some fish put up in glass and neat carton packages for shipment to the wealthy consumers of the United States, Cuba, Argentina, etc. To let my readers understand that I am not talking through my hat, and to verify my contentions, in the year 1911, I was in Gloucester, Mass., and in the office of Messrs. Cunningham & Thompson, fish handlers, curers, etc. This firm put up boneless fish in glass and tumbler, and in elaborate tasty cartons, and the principal of that firm, Mr. Frank Pearce, stated to me in his office in the presence of his brother, Mr. Fred Pearce, and the famous fish killer, Capt. Clayton Morrissey, that they had a million dollars worth of property, and all the money that they needed to improve their plant and processes.

(To be Continued.)

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Personal.

Mrs. Ina Abbott left by Clarence on Saturday, on a trip to Montreal and Toronto.

Mr. Fred Jones returned from College yesterday by the Rosalind.

A message from Sir P. T. McGrath, received Saturday, stated that he had arrived at Grand Falls the previous day, and found his nephew, Mr. Evan Fraser, very low, but rallying.

Mrs. Capt. A. Keen is dangerously ill at her home "The Anchorage," Waterford Bridge Road.

Dr. Wilfred Grenfell, C.M.G., M.D., Superintendent of the Labrador Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons—"Canadian."

Mr. Angus McDonald, Manager of the Dominion Iron & Steel Co., Bell Island, accompanied by Mr. Doherty, arrived in the city Saturday.

Mrs. Percie Johnson arrived from Canada by the Rosalind.

Mr. J. W. N. Johnstone arrived yesterday by the Rosalind.

Mr. C. P. Egan, who had been receiving treatment in America, came back yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Harris, of Grand

Grove Hill Bulletin

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