

There is very little halibut exported. We caught, one day, with two hooks and in less than an hour, over half a ton of halibut. It is a delicious article of food and its most toothsome part is the dorsal fin.

To the Indians the Oolachan or candle fish is of considerable importance. It is a small fish and very oily, in fact so oily, that when dry it will burn like a taper or candle, hence the name candle-fish. The oil obtained from it is used by the coast Indians as an article of trade with the interior Indians, who are very fond of it.

Numerous whales may always be seen sporting and spouting in Frederick Sound, but are unmolested by natives and whites.

The Killer Whale (*Orca ater*) is frequently seen too, and it is a sight to see a huge whale when pursued rise vertically out of the water forty feet and then strike with terrific force, splashing the water with volcanic effect.

Immense shoals of herrings visit some of the bays. However, there is only one establishment—Killisnoo—where herring are caught for commercial purposes. All the herring caught there are converted into oil, and the residue is pressed, roasted and ground and sent to the sugar plantations on the Sandwich Islands as a fertilizer. At Killisnoo, the wharf, the walks and the factory are ever wet and saturated with fish oil, and the newcomer is very apt to perform some involuntary acrobatic feats. The Indians are very fond of herring spawn. To obtain it small branches of evergreen are placed in the sea at low tide, and with the rising tide the branches become thickly covered with roe. The twigs then look as if they had been sugared. The Indians eat it right from the branches.

Next in importance to the fisheries is the mining industry. However, when one examines the cold facts about mining in Alaska, the result is not very cheering. Leaving out the Treadwell mine, on Douglas island, near Juneau, it is safe to say that more value in labour has been expended in obtaining gold than all the gold that has been sent out of Alaska, be it from placer or quartz mining, is worth.

The Treadwell mine yields a very low grade ore, but it is very easily mined or quarried, being an open mine, and there is almost an inexhaustible quantity of ore there. The company has a 240 stamp mill for