

# MC2465 POOR DOCUMENT

## THE GRANITE TOWN GREETINGS

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THE REXALL STORE

EASTPORT, ME.

**Inspector Calder's Fishery Report for  
1908-9**

I regret to report a decrease in the value of the catch as compared with that of last year at \$179,808.60. The value of the catch of 1907-8 was \$1,554,601. The value of this year's catch is \$1,374,792.40. While the value of the yield for this year is 11 per cent. less than the previous year, yet it is slightly greater than the value of the catch of 1906. The decrease this year cannot be attributed to a scarcity of fish, but is wholly due to the extremely poor condition of the dry fish market, and the dispute between the American sardine canners and the Canadian sardine owners, the price to be paid for sardines being herring. The weather was exceptionally fine during the greater part of the season and sardine herring and also most kinds of ground fish were very plentiful, and if the market conditions had been at all satisfactory there would have been a record breaking catch.

Herring: This has been another poor year for the large herring industry both smoked and salted in barrels. There were 2,560 barrels salted this year against 2,460 in 1907, but a good catch would be expected. The value of the catch of 1907-8 was \$1,554,601. The value of this year's catch is \$1,374,792.40. While the value of the yield for this year is 11 per cent. less than the previous year, yet it is slightly greater than the value of the catch of 1906. The decrease this year cannot be attributed to a scarcity of fish, but is wholly due to the extremely poor condition of the dry fish market, and the dispute between the American sardine canners and the Canadian sardine owners, the price to be paid for sardines being herring. The weather was exceptionally fine during the greater part of the season and sardine herring and also most kinds of ground fish were very plentiful, and if the market conditions had been at all satisfactory there would have been a record breaking catch.

Cod: This fishery remains about stationary. There is a slight decrease in the amount dried, and quite an increase in the amount sold fresh; taken altogether there has probably been a small increase in the yield for this year. The figures are: 1907, 4,042 cwt. dried and 202,800 lbs. sold fresh and frozen. In 1908, 4,639 cwt. were dried and 385,800 lbs. fresh.

Hake: The extraordinary large catch of hake for 1907 was duplicated this year; in fact the catch this year exceeded that of the previous year, but there is a lamentable difference in the price paid for dry hake last year and this. In 1907 they brought as high as \$3 per cwt. This year they sold as low as \$1.25 per cwt. There were 36,032 cwt. caught during 1907 and 38,462 cwt. this year. Hake sounds also dropped from an average of fifty cents per pound in 1907, to about twenty-five cents in 1908.

Haddock: The quantity of haddock sold either fresh, dried, or as finnan haddies were greater than the previous year. In 1907 there were 1,457,000 lbs. sold fresh, 686 cwt. dried and 108,300 lbs. of finnan haddies. In 1908 there were 1,547,700 lbs. sold fresh, 996 cwt. dried and 194,900 lbs. of finnan haddies.

An increase of about 20 per cent is to be noted in the returns of the pollock fishery. There were 25,860 cwt. caught in 1907 and 30,565 cwt. this season. Very little dynamiting was done this year. The Curlew did good work in patrolling the coast.

I would respectfully urge the adoption of the 10-12 inch size limit upon lobsters in this district. The State of Maine's regulations are much better for this section than our present law. In Maine they have a size regulation.

in conjunction with the fishery officer from

the Fish Commission.

Lobsters: Again I have to report a decrease in the catch of the lobster fishermen, about 17 per cent. in the amount sold fresh and 42 per cent. in the amount canned.

I would respectfully urge the adoption of the 10-12 inch size limit upon lobsters in this district. The State of Maine's regulations are much better for this section than our present law.

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