

BRIEF SUBMITTED BY MR. STUART McCRAWLEY, GLACE BAY, N.S.

SALT WATER ANGLING IN MARITIME WATERS AS A TOURIST ATTRACTION

Salt water angling for tuna, marmon, sail fish and swordfish has been a great sport for wealthy sportsmen on the Pacific coast; at Florida, Montauk Point and to some extent on the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick coast banks for many years.

This line of sport gets international publicity. President Roosevelt spends his holidays after the big fish, Zane Grey has landed tuna in Nova Scotia waters, Mr. Vanderbilt of New York is an annual visitor, Mrs. Grinnell, of New York, Capt. Wally Baker and a few others bring their yachts north and angle for tuna and swordfish; and are all enthusiastic boosters of our climate and our big fish.

The fish in the Cabot Strait under the shadows of Cape Smokey are the largest known in the world.

The herring and mackerel schools come north and the big fish follow them, and the swordfish that averages less than 200 pounds off Florida, and on George's Banks, in July averages over 400 pounds in the Cabot Strait in September. Some harpooned went over 800 pounds.

The ambition of the salt water angler is to land the biggest fish. They go after them with hook and line; I had three trips with the Grinnell and Baker party and they write me that eight others are coming here this season and they have made me an honorary member of the Salt Water Anglers of America, and asked me to keep them posted by wire when the swordfish arrives in our waters.

Commercially over 10,000 swordfish were taken in the Cabot Strait in 1933. I saw over 300 boats chasing swordfish in 1933. This sight alone is a wonderful tourist attraction.

I have written a series of articles on The Swordfish and prepared maps for the Salt Water Anglers. The map is the "Nova Scotia Cape Breton sheet 1925 prepared by National Resources Intelligence Dept."

I pencilled in the route of the sword; the dates of the earliest and latest catches, and weights of the big ones harpooned. All this work was voluntary and without hope of pay.

I am of the opinion that salt water angling can be made one of our greatest attractions.

The RCMP seaplane service reports the trend of the fish; which is a great help commercially and is appreciated by the anglers.

An invitation from our Governor General would get the president of the United States here this September, and if he was lucky to land a big sword the other salt water anglers would arrange their future trips this way.

As honorary president of the Fishermen's Union here I am in touch with all the commercial fishermen, and can be of assistance.

I have prepared an 100 page scrap book with a lot of data on fishing and some pictures of our shore line that I have lent the Salt Water Anglers.

A money grant to pay a man for one year to keep proper publicity on this feature should be suggested in your report.
