

which their herrings might be shipped in order to see and find out how they compare with the herrings from other countries, and also to ascertain what improvements, if any, were required. The strategy and tactics of trade have developed so much of recent years that competition over the whole world has been intensely severe. In the fish curing trade of modern date it is those only who are efficient producers that will cut their way to the best markets and enable their goods to become known to the consumer. And why should Newfoundland be lagging behind in this respect with the excellent quality of herrings with which the waters round her coast are teeming? **IN FACT THE HERRING FISHERY OF NEWFOUNDLAND IS PRACTICALLY UNTAPPED AND POSSESSES THE GREATEST POSSIBILITIES.** I tested the pickled herrings in various parts of the Island both in a raw and cooked state, and the fresh herrings fried, and considered them for flavour and quality superior to the bulk of herrings caught in Scotland. Indeed the herrings of Newfoundland remind me of those caught in the West or Atlantic side of Castletown, Barra, Scotland, the finest in quality and flavour in the British seas, which, being cured and selected with great care, are esteemed a delicacy and sell for 20 and 30 dollars a barrel.

DRIFT NET FISHING URGED

Now I think I hear some of you say that experiments in curing after the Scotch system have been tried already and failed. I am aware of this and I am aware of the reason why, and I do not think that a few failures ought to stand in the way of persevering when the resultant rewards are so great. I think I said in the earlier part of this paper, that with the dense shoals which appear periodically in the bays, even the present antiquated appliances are capable of landing a sufficient supply of herrings, but these schools are not always in the bays, and for that reason the Newfoundland fishermen ought to be trained in drift net fishing in

deep water. I would here emphasize what has been already recommended by Mr. Mair, that is that the best means of inaugurating drift net fishing would be the sending of a few capable fishermen to Scotland to be employed as hired hands in herring fishing boats for the season. As Mr. Mair pointed out they would see the method of fishing there, and would be able in the course of a season to learn all that would be necessary for them to know in order to practice the fishing in the same way at home, and would be led to realize the importance and the possibilities of drift net fishing in the open sea.

For this purpose larger and better equipped boats will be required, and the Newfoundland fishermen have this great advantage over the fishermen of Scotland and of most other countries—they have an abundant supply of wood round nearly all their harbors, and nearly all of them build their own boats—and exceedingly good boats they are, of the kind best adapted for the rough seas they have to meet. All that they need is some form of motor power to render them independent of wind and tide. I was glad to find in the more prosperous settlements quite a number of motor boats, but in some of the smaller and more isolated harbors the fishermen have not had the means to obtain them and are seriously handicapped in consequence. The same thing occurred in Scotland in the early days of steam drifting. The report of the Scotch Departmental Committee on the North Sea Fishing Industry states,—"The fishermen in some districts took the risk, of using the new kind of vessel more readily than in others and it is quite safe to say that particular districts came to the front or lagged behind in proportion as they stuck to the sail vessels or took to steam drifters." (page 149).

NEED OF MOTOR BOATS

The Newfoundland fishermen are in a better position however, than the Scotch fishermen were in, for