

Seal Hunt (page 58)

Two branches of the seal industry were:

1. Landsman's hunt - would occur near the shore (like the inshore fishery) especially if the ice was packed in.

2. Offshore hunt - men would go out in larger ships, sail far offshore and go onto the ice to hunt seals. There were two main offshore hunts:

"the front" - off the northeast coasts of the island of Newfoundland and Labrador.

"the gulf" - Gulf of St. Lawrence

Sealing Vocabulary

Gaff- long iron tipped pole used to kill seals

Sculping- In the seal fishery this was the practice of removing the pelt with a thick layer of white fat still attached.

Skinner - person who removed the fat from the skin, they could do 450 seals in 10 hrs.

Name 3 Uses for Seals:

- 1) Oil
- 2) Clothing
- 3) Food

Oil was the main profit item from seals, commercially it could be used in many items including: lamps, machine lubricants, softening textiles, paint, explosives, and margarine.

At one time 84% in Newfoundland were from seal oil.