

Maybe we are missing something!

## Vessel Stranded in Ice Near Wellfleet



Stranded in the ice floe off Wellfleet, the abandoned vessel pictured above was several hundred yards from shore on the bay side of Wellfleet. This was the only vessel seen stranded by observers in the The Standard-Times

—Standard-Times Air Photo

plane which circled the area from Provincetown to points beyond Wellfleet yesterday. Ice cakes which formed the field in the Wellfleet area were piled 4 and 5 feet high in spots.

## Ice Grounds Oyster Dragger On Wellfleet Harbor Shore

WELLFLEET, Feb. 20—Coast Guards from Cape Cod Light, North Truro, were called early today to attempt moving the grounded oyster dragger Highland Light, pushed ashore by action of ice which filled the harbor here today.

The dragger, owned by D. Atwood and Company, was anchored at its moorings several hundred yards offshore when the ice, driven by a southwest wind, entered the harbor during the night and forced the craft from its anchorage and to shore near town landing.

Two Coast Guards in the station's amphibious duck left for the scene and, in trying to tow the craft, moved it about 10 feet when it grounded again. The Coast Guards

could not determine whether it was a rock or just that the tide was going out to leave it high and dry.

The men with the duck plan to float it again on flood tide tonight. The Coast Guards were Motor Machinist's Mate 1st Class Arthur Silva and Boatswain's Mate 2d Class William E. Joseph.

Ice, driven by the wind, had been entering the harbor for some time and while the dragger, a 45-foot craft, is grounded out the ice is piling up around it. It is feared that if the ice moves out on a flood tide it might take the craft with it. The ice has completely filled the harbor, Coast Guards reported, but it was believed no other craft were endangered.

Thursday, February 19, in Provincetown

Dear Friends,

Although a cold southwest wind, further chilled by its trip over the ice floes of the harbor, is blowing along the Cape tip, the sun is gurgling away the dirty remains of Winter in street and lane.

But the harbor, not the town, contains our big news of this week, for never in our worst of storm-beaten and wind-groggy weeks has the outside world showed such intense concern about our fate and welfare, or have unidentified scribes woven such fantastic yarns about the catastrophic events happening at this end of the Cape. We have been amazed, almost terrified, by the news about us that has come over the radio—a glacier pushing up from the harbor has sheared off the town like a razor—the entire waterfront has been evacuated—the Red Cross is doling out soup, doughnuts and blankets—the Navy is bombing the ice floes—all of our piers and shore installations have been ground to kindlings.

Well, folks, it just aint so, not a word of it, and so far, not a bit of damage of any kind has been done by ice in Provincetown and isn't likely to be.

It is true that the ice floe which has been bunched in around Eastham and Wellfleet started traveling up along the shore. When it reached North Truro it just removed all of the landing gear used by the Pond Village Cold Storage in bringing up catches from the trap boats. Tuesday night John Worthington, down at the meeting of the Wellfleet Board of Trade, said that with the ice still covering everything he couldn't say how much damage had been done but replacement costs might run \$40,000 if nothing can be salvaged. That happened last Saturday.

For days a westerly wind held that ice in a strip measuring about three miles wide against the Truro shore, and packed along Beach Point and our East End, with the wind holding the extremity here at the foot of Pearl Street. In places, it was reported that the ice had piled up to 20 and 25 feet. But no one in town was even a little bit perturbed. We had had ice like that many times before. To be sure the fishermen moved their boats from moorings to the wharf but they didn't seem worried.

Then someone heated up a story for the raido, and this was expanded and further embellished and then came out-of-town reporters from Boston, Springfield, Worcester and New York. They chartered boats and planes to look at our ice. Soon it became evident, even to the dullest of us, that we really had something here.

Senator Donald W. Nicholson's office in Washington called up late yesterday morning with word that everything needed would be done, and we thanked them. Half an hour later Admiral John H. Cassady of the Quonset Air Base in Rhode Island called to say that Washington had asked him to help and asked whether bombing would be effective. We said that in a layman's opinion it wasn't necessary. He called again and said that two crack fliers would be sent up to investigate and shortly before 2 a Navy fighter and a Navy bomber flew over. The Admiral called again to say that the fliers had reported no cause for concern. Later the Coast Guard, Ojibwa, 110-foot ice breaker came in from Boston, commanded by Chief Boatswain's