THREE RARE FISH FROM PASSAMAQUODDY BAY, N. B.

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ABSTRACT.

Isurus nasus (Bonnaterre), Tautoga onitus (Linnaeus), and Prionotus carolinus (Linnaeus) are reported from Passamaquoddy Bay, New Brunswick, 1934-1935.

The recent occurrence in Passamaquoddy Bay of three species of fish, which have visited its waters very rarely, indicates, possibly, some alteration in the ecological conditions of the Bay of Fundy waters, which serve ordinarily as an effective barrier to these fish which occur more plentifully to the south and east.

Isurus nasus (Bonnaterre). Mackerel shark. A specimen, 8.0 feet long, was captured in a herring weir (A. Thurber) just outside St. Andrews harbour on Oct. 3, 1935. The only other record is that of a specimen¹ probably captured in the Passamaquoddy Bay region and brought to the Biological Station at St. Andrews in Aug. 1900.

Tautoga onitus (Linnaeus). Tautog. Two specimens were taken in a herring weir (Gilman) at Oak Bay, a tidal tributary to the St. Croix River, one in the summer of 1934 and the other Aug. 5, 1935. This latter was 53 cm. long and weighed 3.6 kg. after preservation for about three months in formalin. Huntsman² writes: "Except for a single specimen taken in Passamaquoddy Bay in 1909 or 1910, there is no evidence of its normally entering the Fundy region."

Prionotus carolinus (Linnaeus). Sea-robin. A specimen was captured in a herring weir (S. Mallock) at St. Andrews on Oct. 2, 1935. It was 30 cm. in length and weighed 274 gms. after preservation in formalin for over a month. Huntsmanf² reports a single specimen secured at Campobello Island during Aug. 1911.

- ¹ Prince and MacKay. Contr. Canad. Biol. 1901. 55-58 (1901).
- ² Hunstman. Contr. Canad. Biol. 1921 (1922). No. 3, 49-72 (1922).