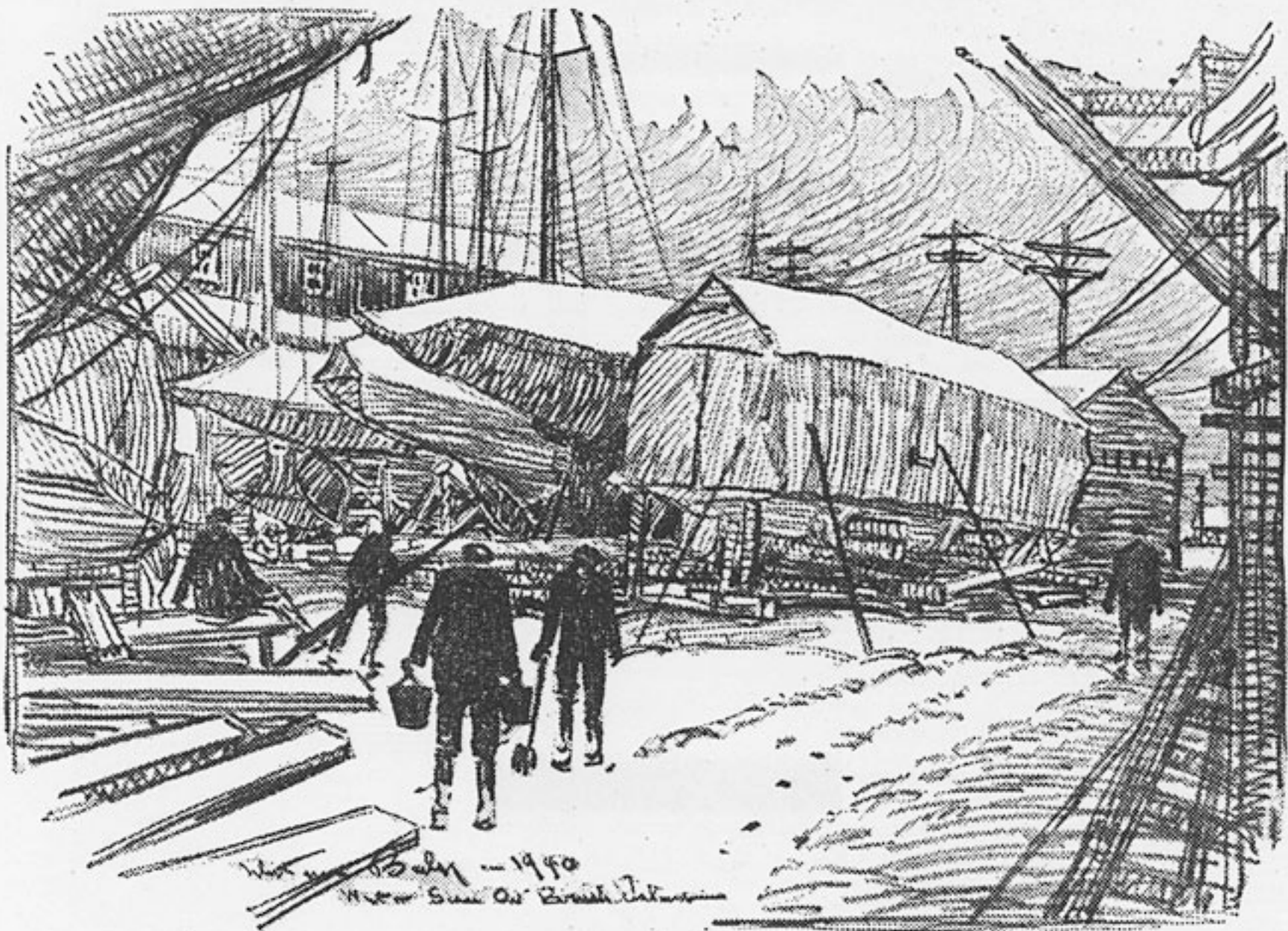


# Winter Scene on Brush Island



The first real snowfall of the season came to Stamford on Thursday Morning, Dec 5. It was on this very morning that the artist visited the waterfront in a neighborhood known as "Brush Island." The water of the Sound was a cold pale blue, and a light snow had already whitened the great boat sheds, the docks, the hulls of ships and the dark Winter coverings of yachts in dry-dock. Here and there out darted men in black silhouette against the snowy landscape. 12/7/1950

In old times, Brush Island, which juts out from the mainland of Stamford's "South End" district, was an actual island. At

high tide, the water came in through the salt marsh and cut off the unwary visitor until a change of tide. Brush Island, however, was a good vantage point from which to watch the earlier Stamford yacht races and often throngs of people came to this spot in Summer time to watch the pretty and exciting spectacle and to cheer the winning boat. But as time went by, boatmen used this territory to beach their craft and therefore much of the earlier marshland of Brush Island was filled in until there was no separation from the mainland. Various boatyards soon appeared; one small one was operated by the Smith Brothers who had moved

their plant over from Water St. In this yard small craft such as the common dory and the oyster boat were built. Just to the east, another yard was also started which became one of the busiest along the Sound and which turned Brush Island to a busy place.

The above sketch shows a typical Winter scene on Brush Island in what might be called "Boat Land." Here cloaked by snow lie craft of all descriptions. They are waiting for the season loved by yachtsmen for whom no Spring comes too early since it brings long busy hours in getting individual boats in shape.

—Whitman Bailey.