

CROATAN SOUND BEING DREDGED

Inland Waterway Improvement Project Costing Uncle Sam \$210,000 Is Directed by a North Carolina Boy

For three months past, the work of dredging out the channel in Croatan Sound has been going on, under the supervision of George M. Parker, surveying engineer, who, by the way, is a North Carolina boy who graduated from State College in 1919. Croatan Sound is the relatively narrow body of water connecting Albemarle and Pamlico Sounds, and is a very important part of the Inland Waterway. Heretofore its value has been greatly reduced by the shallowness of the channel, and now the government is at work on a dredging undertaking which, when completed, will open this narrow sound to vessels drawing as much as twelve or thirteen feet of water.

The work going on is over a stretch of eleven miles, and a channel 200 feet wide and 13 feet deep is being cut out, requiring the removal of 300,000 cubic yards of sand. The estimated cost of the dredging is around \$210,000. Parker, the surveying engineer in charge, is using the dredge H. S. Taber, built at Dubuque, Iowa, in 1914. The Taber cost \$200,000, is 210 feet in length, 42 feet in width, and is capable of a speed of 12 miles an hour under the power of its twin 700-horsepower propelling engines. It is equipped with a pumping plant developing close to 1,000 horsepower. Its crew of 64 men works in three eight-hour shifts a day. Captain George O. Rogers, of St. Louis, is the commanding officer.

The H. S. Taber first saw service in the shoal-infested waters of the Arkansas and Mississippi rivers. It was used in the cutting of a channel 17 feet deep eighteen miles out into the Gulf of Mexico from the mouth of the Mississippi—a feat which many leading engineers of America scouted at as impractical or impossible. However, the channel was cut to a width of 250 feet, and now makes navigation at the mouth of the Father of Waters less of a hazard.

Among the difficulties now being encountered in the Croatan Sound undertaking, perhaps the greatest is the very rough water which greatly hinders, and sometimes completely stops the work. The sand at the bottom of the sound is lifted by the suction of a twelve-foot centrifugal pump, and is forced through a 20-inch pipe line, 750 feet long, which puts it at a safe distance from the channel.

Blockade Shoal, two miles west of Roanoke Island, is the present scene of the dredging operations, and the cut being made through it is in order that the Inland Waterway channel may be straightened. This shoal has been the peril of sailing masters ever since the Civil War.

In 1862, when the North Carolina seaboard was attacked by a federal fleet, there was a deep but narrow channel at Blockade Shoal, and this channel was the entrance way to Albemarle Sound. An enemy controlling this water passage would have ready access to Edenton and other thriving towns on the rivers of Northeastern Carolina. In an effort to block the invaders, Confederate forces defending the coast towed a number of small vessels into this narrow channel, and sank them there. This was an effective blockade until the Yankees captured the nearby defending forts, and blasted away enough of the sunken ships to reopen the passage.

The powerful tidal currents rushing down Croatan Sound during the years that followed fast piled sand about the debris of the wrecks, and in time Blockade Shoal was formed. It became a very profitable fishing ground for fishermen with purse nets, and many large catches have been made there. Among the strange and antiquated articles brought to the surface during the dredging operations of the past month are wonderfully carved and well-preserved rudders of a distant era, along with pieces of decks, stems, hatch coamings, anchors, chains, blocks, and even a few old cannon balls of solid iron. These things proved the greatest obstruction to the dredging enterprise, but it is believed that, barring accident, the work on the shoal will be completed in the next six weeks.

This is the only important dredging undertaking now under way in North Carolina. It was begun in April, and will go on until ships may travel Croatan Sound in safety, unhindered by the dangers of lurking shoals and shallow, wreck-strewn waters.

FOUR MORE WITNESS IN TRIAL MRS. KABER

Cleveland, Ohio, July 15.—Four more witnesses are to be heard and arguments of the attorneys before the case of Mrs. Eva Catherine Kaber, charged with murdering her husband, goes to the jury.

Mrs. Kaber was carried into court by two bailiffs. When seated, she sobbed, clutched their arms and begged them not to leave her.

INDIA TO COMBAT SUPERSTITIONS

Methodist Episcopal Missionary Tells of Progress in Government and Church Schools on Ganges

Chicago, July 15.—Courses in nature study and physical geography have been introduced into the native government high schools of India to combat superstitions which tend to hinder the advancement of the people, according to information received by the board of foreign missions of the Methodist Episcopal church.

These courses are to be instituted at once in twenty high schools and are to be taught by native teachers specially trained in the scientific explanation of the phenomena of India. The Rev. Dr. L. A. Kenyon, acting principal of the Methodist mission industrial school at Allahabad on the Ganges, has been chosen to train these teachers.

His party has taken many extended tours about India, notably to the Himalaya Mountains and to the Marble Rocks and Nirbada Falls of Central India, features of India which have been especially revered by the various native religions.

This has been found quite successful in breaking the hold of superstition on the native mind in the Methodist mission schools in India, of which there are 1,170 in addition to several universities.

Army Horses In Mesopotamia Killed

London, July 15.—Horse lovers throughout the country have been shocked by Colonial Secretary Winston Churchill's announcement in the House of Commons that 30,000 army horses in Mesopotamia are to be killed because it is too expensive to bring them home.

It was explained that they are mainly heavy draft horses for which there is no local use, and that they had to be fed on imported fodder. The nearest possible markets are India or Egypt, but the difficulties and cost of transportation thence are said to be prohibitive.

Shipping men say it costs 40 to 50 pounds sterling to bring a horse from the East to England, not counting the horseman's wages.

The War Office view is that it is better for the horses to be killed humanely and scientifically than to be left in the hands of natives who would not care for them properly, and no one would suggest turning them adrift in the desert.

LIGHTNING PICTURES CEDAR TREE ON MAN

Eastman, Ga., July 15.—Struck by a bolt of lightning, Travis Grimsley is carrying on his back today the photograph of a cedar tree near which he was sitting at the time.

Greek Troops Making Progress

Athens, July 15.—The Greek official agency says that Greek troops engaged against Turks are making progress at each end of the battle line and are not encountering sharp resistance.

GERMAN DESTROYER ATTACKED BY GUNFIRE

Newport News, Va., July 15.—A former German destroyer was the object of attacks today from the gunfire of American destroyers.

MUSIC HAS ARRIVED

Much of the new music which the Choral Society will use during the coming season has already arrived. Director F. R. Hufty stated Friday morning. Rehearsals will begin at an early date.

If Asheville is able to raise \$40,000 in a single day to bring Anna Case to that city for one evening, there are those who think that Elizabeth City should find no difficulty in handling \$1,000 in season tickets for a Choral Society program through the winter and spring.

The cases that drag through the courts without getting anywhere are those of the State versus John Dough.

GOVERNMENT WILL SELL PICRIC ACID

Opportunity Offered to Farmers of This Section to Get Explosive For Ditching and Blasting Operations

The government is offering 12,500,000 pounds of salvaged picric acid to the landowners through the U. S. Department of Agriculture for the purpose of stimulating land clearing activities.

Picric acid is a product eighteen per cent stronger than dynamite and is packed in double-dipped paraffined cartridges weighing six ounces. The cartridges are packed in wooden boxes each containing 100 pounds of picric acid, and in the division 6,720 boxes were allotted to the farmers of North Carolina at a price of six cents per pound, plus one cent per pound for distributing, or a cost of seven cents per pound plus the freight charges which perhaps will range between one and six cents per pound. This makes the total cost per cartridge range between three and seven cents. This low-priced explosive will give the farmers in this section an opportunity to clear their fields of a number of stumps and open a number of swamp ditches which have detracted from their beauty and value.

Picric acid is a comparatively safe high explosive. It is more insensitive to shock or impact and to friction than are the commercial explosives, but it is slightly more sensitive to shock than TNT. Picric acid is a high explosive and should be treated as such. It should not be exposed to fire or flame and no metals should be allowed to come in contact with it.

This product has no poisonous effect. It can be used in any open air blasting operations and will not cause headaches or other ill effects, and is not affected by the ordinary temperatures encountered in agricultural blasting.

The insensitiveness of picric acid requires the use of a No. 8 detonator or cap, and can be fired by the safety fuse or electric current. For blasting stumps picric acid can be used in exactly the same way as dynamite is used. The charges should be placed in the same manner, and the same number of cartridges should be used in the charges as in the case of dynamite. As has been stated, a number 8 cap should be used for picric acid instead of the usual No. 6 for dynamite.

Farmers in Pasquotank County desiring a portion of the allotment offered this State should see County Agent G. W. Falls in the near future.

TAKEN TO PETERSBURG FOR SAFE KEEPING

Petersburg, Va., July 15.—Two negroes suspected of killing a white farmer in Dinwiddie County were brought here today for safe keeping.

RAINBOW VETS PARADE

Cleveland, Ohio, July 15.—A business session and parade featured the program of the Rainbow Division veterans convention here today.

Old Log Building To Be Preserved

Chehalis, Washington, July 15.—An old log building near here which housed one of the first Federal courts ever held in the Pacific Northwest has been rehabilitated and presented to the state.

The building, erected in 1845, housed General Phil Sheridan and General George B. McClellan when they were in the Northwest before the Civil War and had to travel between Fort Vancouver, on the Columbia river, and Fort Steilacoon, on Puget Sound.

SURPRISE PARTY

A delightful surprise party was given Miss Odell Long at her home on Cypress street Thursday night. Many games were played and afterwards refreshments were served. Those present were: Misses Naomi Aydtlett, Eloise Aydtlett, Rena Ward, Wilma Culpepper, Katherine Davis, Clarine Bright, Ross Bright, Mildred Dozier, Odell Long, Messrs. Claude Ward, Ernest Corbett, Elton Aydtlett, Wyatt Aydtlett, Wilton Bunch, Marvin Williams, Marvin Owens, Alton Owens, Vernon Davis, Larry Skinner.

If your boy doesn't seem very bright don't despair. Congressmen get pretty good pay.

* Fear New Outbreak of Pellagra In South *

Washington, July 15.—The Public Health Service fears a new outbreak of pellagra in the South as the result of the poorer classes being forced back to living principally on salt pork and corn bread.

FORTUNE SEEKERS FLOCK TO ALASKA

This Time It's Oil Instead of Gold That Draws the Crowds Northward By Steamboats and Dog Sleds

Juneau, Alaska, July 15.—First of the fortune-seekers to make the round trip this year to the new oil fields at Fort Norman, in the McKezle valley of northern Canada, nine men passed through Juneau recently en route to Edmonton, Alberta, where they will record their locations on oil lands.

"I believe the district will be a world beater," John McDonnell, one of the "sour-dough" leaders of the party said. "One gusher at Norman produced 1,500 barrels a day, according to reports which I believe are below correct figures."

Every member of the party said the oil was of high grade and asserted it was used in the Fort Norman country for lighting and heating and even was used, without being changed from its crude state, in gas engines.

The mine men "mushed" into the oil fields over a 750-mile trail, part of which was snow-covered, across the continental divide from White Horse, Yukon Territory. They made the trip to Norman in twenty-one days, which is considered fast time, and used thirty-five dogs to pull their sleds.

Originally most of the men came from Vancouver, B. C., which they left March 5, of this year, coming north to Snagway, Alaska, and crossing the White Pass trail to White Horse by railroad. Leaving White Horse March 13, they took the trail to Carmacks, on the Yukon River, and then struck out across the mountains for the big Canadian basin. At Fort Norman they found themselves among the first stampedeers of the year to get "inside."

Hundreds of men from Canada and the United States are planning to go to the new fields this year over the Canadian route, through Edmonton, Fort McMurray and Peace River.

Most of this route is by steamboat down the Peace and Mackenzie rivers. Although fast time can be made in summer over this interior route, the men who passed through here declared the trail from White Horse was the best winter way to Norman. There is plenty of game along the route for food and the going is easy, they said.

Crops Bountiful More Diversity

Chicago, July 15.—Crops this year generally will be plentiful and the diversity greater than before, according to reports from presidents of thirty leading railroads gathered by standard farm papers.

Millions Will Go To Indian Tribes

Muskegee, Okla., July 15.—Distribution of a million and three hundred fifty thousand dollars by the government to members of the Choctaw and Chickasaw Indian tribes will commence August 15. It is announced here today.

Lloyd George And De Valera Confer

London, July 15 (By The Associated Press)—Prime Minister Lloyd George and Irish Republican Leader De Valera held another conference here today in the effort to settle the Irish problem. No others were present.

"See America First" is the only American slogan that has ever been adopted as a national policy by foreign countries.

HOOVER STATES HARDING PROGRAM

Chicago, July 15.—Points in President Harding's program for governmental assistance in the recovery of commerce and industry as outlined by Secretary Hoover before the convention of the National Association of Real Estate Boards here today include the revision of the tax system, the reduction of governmental expenditures, the settlement of tariff, the upbuilding and safeguarding of commerce, the reduction of armaments, the development of natural resources, and the refunding of foreign loans.

TROOPS QUELL DOCKYARD RIOT

Kobe, Japan, July 15.—Troops were called out here after thousands of workers on the docks had charged the police cordon in an attempt to take possession of the dockyards and carry out the project for control by the workers.

VANSICVER GOES TO NAGS HEAD ON SUNDAY

"The Annie L. Vansilver, which has recently been thoroughly overhauled, will leave at eight o'clock Sunday for Nags Head, returning about nine o'clock Sunday night.

"The steamer will leave from the foot of Burgess street at the North River Line offices, instead of from the foot of Main street as previously announced.

"There will be refreshments on board and every provision will be made for a pleasant day," say the managers.

STEAMER TRENTON TO NAGS HEAD ON SUNDAY

"The Steamer Trenton, of the Eastern Carolina Transportation Company, at the request of some of the cottage owners at Nags Head, will conduct Sunday excursions beginning July 17th," says the manager. "The Trenton will leave its dock at 7:30 o'clock Sunday morning, although experience has taught that Sunday excursions are not financially profitable to this company, we are desirous of giving every consideration to our patrons and inasmuch as we hold a lease to the only wharf at Nags Head affording a landing for boats, we have decided to run these Sunday excursions the length of time dependent upon the patronage given. Mr. Hollowell, the owner of the wharf at Nags Head, which he has leased to the Eastern Carolina Transportation Company, will not permit any other steamers to make a landing except in a storm or accident."

MAJOR GEN. McANDREW IS SERIOUSLY ILL

Washington, July 15.—Major General McAndrew, president of the general staff college, and former chief of staff under General Pershing in France, is seriously ill in the army hospital here suffering from a general breakdown.

Mine Union Leaders Given Over To Militia

Charleston, W. Va., July 15.—The supreme court today ordered David Robb and eight other mine union leaders turned over to the state militia.

R. H. Kirkpatrick, former Mingo mine foreman for the Burrell Company, testified that the mine owners of West Virginia had framed up false shooting episodes to procure martial law proclamation so they could break the strike.

RAID PEACE GROVE SEARCHING FOR FUEL

El Paso, Texas, July 15.—Mexican children gathering firewood are slowly wiping out a clump of cottonwood trees northwest of Juarez, Mexico, across the Rio Grande from here, which has been known as "Peace Grove" because it was there that General Francisco I. Madero agreed to a series of armistices which preceded the end of his revolution.

Approximately twenty-five trees marked the historical spot in 1911. Today, it is said, less than half this number survive the raids of the children sent to search for fuel.

The grove won its name in 1911 when Madero led his troops against the Juarez federal garrison, which remained loyal to President Porfirio Diaz. The commander of the garrison and Madero arranged several armistices under the trees of the grove.

Mrs. W. J. Skiles is visiting relatives in Norfolk.

CHARTER IS NOW READY

Big Drive to Sell Stock in Pasquotank Hospital Association Will Start Next Monday Morning—Shares \$10 Each

The charter of the Pasquotank Hospital Association has been drawn up, and is ready for submission to the Secretary of State of North Carolina. The work of raising funds for the community hospital is going on rapidly, and general public interest in the institution is apparently growing daily.

One feature that is of great assistance to promoters of the hospital plan in the selling of stock in the public service institution is that only ten per cent of the stock allotment of each individual has to be paid in a lump sum at any time. The first ten per cent payment is due August first, and the balance at the rate of ten per cent a month until the stock is paid for. In this way, the salaried man may obtain stock in the hospital, and pay for it without inconvenience.

One dollar a month per share pays for the stock, and one may take as much or as little as he feels that he can handle. The big drive for funds will begin on Monday, July 18, and it is believed that the total of \$15,000 will be raised without serious difficulty by the easy-payment plan adopted.

"No, I will not take a single share," said one leading business man of this city yesterday afternoon, when asked to subscribe to stock in the Pasquotank Hospital Association, "but whenever you want it, I am going to donate fifty dollars to the hospital."

Local fraternal organizations and others have pledged their support to the hospital plan, and every indication points to the early success of the move by the Chamber of Commerce to establish it.

Miner Tells Why Men Dissatisfied

Washington, July 15.—W. E. Hutchison, miner from Mingo, W. Va., told the Senate investigating committee today that the men were dissatisfied last year because "we didn't get all the government grants made to miners during the war and because the company stores system required them to pay higher prices than independent stores."

LAUNCH WASHINGTON IN SEPTEMBER

Washington, July 15.—The Washington, the third battleship with electric drive installation, will be launched in September, the Navy Department announced today.

LOST BATTALION HERO IS BURIED

Private Who Carried Message Through German Lines In Argonne Drive Dies On Leave of Absence

New York, July 15.—Full military honors marked the funeral of Private John J. Monson, who died at the hospital here having been taken ill while on a leave of absence.

Monson is said to have been the man who carried the message through the German lines which reunited the Lost Battalion in the Argonne Drive with its division.

STILLMAN TRIAL IS STILL IN PROGRESS

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., July 15.—Attack and defense of the paternity of Guy Stillman was resumed here today in the divorce suit of James Stillman against Mrs. Anne U. Stillman.

Mrs. Stillman's lawyers summoned other witnesses to carry on her counter attack against the banker who she alleged violated his marriage vows in his relations with other women.

IN POLICE COURT

Miles W. Scott, Horace Gregory, A. J. Hartley, Rev. E. L. Cole and Miss Marie Albertson were fined \$10 and costs each in city police court here Friday morning for speeding.

C. T. Scott was taxed with the costs of the case for violation of the city traffic ordinance. Len Williams, colored, paid the costs of a hearing on a similar charge.

Mrs. Ada Barfoot Lester left Wednesday for a vacation at Ocean View.