

Coast Guards Absolved of Blame In Failure To Rescue Stranded Youths

Superintendent Price Returns from Investigation of Near Tragedy on Widely Famed Hatteras Banks

MANY INTERVIEWED

Nobody There Except Stowe Disposed to Censure Crews of Stations, He Declares, Citing Findings

Exonerated of the crews of Big Kinnakeet and New Creed's Hill Coast Guard stations, on the Hatteras Banks, of all blame in connection with their failure to rescue Roosevelt Stowe and Milton Haskett, both of this city, who were stranded for 48 hours in a small speed boat in Pamlico Sound during the severe cold snap immediately after Christmas, was announced Thursday by Ensign J. A. Price, superintendent of the Seventh District of the Coast Guard.

Superintendent Price returned Wednesday night from a week's trip to the Hatteras Banks to investigate charges of negligence filed by Captain B. F. Stowe, of Hatteras, in connection with the incident. He interviewed the entire crews of both stations, he says, along with a number of private residents of the banks country, and in not a single instance did he find blame attached to the Coast Guardsmen for their failure to discover and rescue the two youths.

In Desperate Straits Stowe and Haskett were rescued Monday afternoon, December 28, by the former's brother, Samuel Stowe, who had gone out to search for them alone in a small motorboat. They had been stranded on Giant Shoal, off Inixton, since the preceding Saturday afternoon, and were in desperate straits from exposure and lack of food and water. It was upon their statement that they had fired guns, had burned flares on the deck of their craft, and had shown distress signals that Stowe's father, Captain B. F. Stowe, filed charges against the Coast Guardsmen at the two stations nearest Huxton.

Examination of Government charts today disclosed that the point at which the boys' boat was stranded was five and one-quarter nautical miles, or about six land miles, from Big Kinnakeet Station, and a fraction of a mile farther from New Creed's Hill Station. Superintendent Price stated, at that distance, it would have been impossible for the Coast Guardsmen to have discerned the speed boat with the naked eye, he declared, remarking that in three days spent there, he was never able to see two boys within 150 yards or so of the spot where the boat was.

Superintendent Price reminded that the boys are conspicuous objects, 15 feet high and painted black and red, whereas the cabin of the boat was painted white, and was not more than five feet above the water level. "The sound was full of floating ice at the time," he reminded, "and that would have made it all the more difficult to discern a small boat of that color."

The investigation disclosed also that the crews of the two stations had had no word that the boys were missing. Supt. Price said, adding that Captain Stowe had got in touch with the telegraph operator at Cape Hatteras on the Monday that the boys were found, and that the latter had communicated only with Chicamacomico Station, far up the banks, having no idea that the boys' boat was so close at hand. A searching crew went out from that station, he stated.

First Word Monday Supt. Price explained further that the first word he received that the boys were missing was brought him by L. C. Lanster, of this city, brother-in-law of Stowe, that Monday afternoon at 1:45 o'clock. He stated he immediately sent a telephone message to all stations along the beach, but that it somehow became garbled in playing, and by the time it reached the Hatteras Banks, it was so garbled that no importance was attached to it. A phone message from here to Hatteras must go via Virginia Beach, he explained, and thence from station to station along the coast, each station being phoning it in turn to the next. The boys were rescued about 1 o'clock Monday afternoon, and hence suffered little or no added hardship through failure of this message, he declared.

"From that distance, the firing of shotguns couldn't have been Continued on page 4

Finds Her Daughter at Last



After seven years of searching, Mrs. Samuel Pullin of Terre Haute, Ind., has found her daughter, Beatrice Tanner, 11, and has taken her home with her. Mrs. Pullin was obliged to give the girl up in 1918, when her first husband deserted her, and after her marriage to Mr. Pullin she could not locate her. An advertisement in the Salvation Army War Cry, however, at last led to discovery of the girl in an orphanage in Bradford, Pa.

Young Pasquotank Farmer Tells How He Built Big Business From 12 Hens

The story of one young Pasquotank County farmer's success in building a flock of twelve hens into a business yielding a gross return of \$29,000 a year, and accomplishing this in a period of six years, is told by C. L. Newman, associate editor of the Progressive Farmer, in last week's issue of that publication.

Here is Mr. Newman's story: While visiting that very superior farming section that lies north and south of the Albemarle Sound in the northeastern corner of North Carolina recently, we went to see the Jennings Poultry Farm near Elizabeth City.

We found Mr. Carlton Jennings, the bustling young proprietor, busy culling a few hundred hens, and asked if he thought then the best time to cull.

"Any time is a good time to cull when you have shakers in the flock," was his answer. "Now is a good time and it's the best time for this particular lot of culling. I have a lot of boarders in this flock and I have been following the plan of culling at any time I find that culling is needed. I have put this flock to work and if 25 per cent of them do not lay, then I stand to lose 20 per cent production along with labor and feed. To cull all the time—almost daily in fact, and find that it pays."

Began With Dozen Hens "What led you into the poultry business?" we asked. "The start was when my mother gave me 12 hens. They were nice—not a loan. I was proud of owning a dozen hens and at once began to take a keen interest in them. I took a keener interest in them when I found out that I had to care for them. It was then

that I decided to do some experimenting. I fed them the best ration I knew, and soon realized that I knew very little about chickens. I read, studied, and watched. The first year I sold enough eggs from my 12 hens to pay for their food and leave a profit per hen of \$2.71. I then began to figure the profit on 100 hens, and next on 1,000 hens. Times were hard in 1920 and 1921 and hard times and a natural desire to work with poultry pushed me into the business almost before I knew it.

NUMBER FARMS IS ON INCREASE IN THIS STATE

Only County in Albemarle Showing Decrease Is Currituck Where State Has Laid No Paved Roads

CHOWAN IS LEADING

First in Albemarle Section, and Sixth in State as Against Pasquotank's Position as Seventeenth

The number of farms in northeastern North Carolina is on the increase. Figures recently issued by the United States Census Bureau of the Department of Agriculture show it with unmistakable clearness.

Only one county in the entire Albemarle District showed a decrease in the number of cultivated farms during the five-year period embraced between 1920 and 1925. That county was Currituck. It is significant that Currituck is one county in this immediate section in which the State has not laid a foot of paved road.

Chowan County leads all the Albemarle counties in the percentage of increase during the five-year period in the number of its farms. Chowan's percentage of increase was 18.1 as against 12.5 for Pasquotank. Chowan's rank in the State is sixth, as against seventeenth for Pasquotank. Hoke County leads the State, with 2,127 farms, a percentage increase of 43.5.

Currituck's percentage of decrease, namely 11.4, was very nearly that of Pasquotank's percentage of increase. Gates was the only county in the State in which there was no change in the number of farms owned. Gates is another county of the district where none of the State's money has been spent, thus far, for paved roads.

In Perquimans and Dare the percentage of increase was very slight, less than three in each case. Hyde is next to Pasquotank in rank among the Albemarle counties, Camden next to Hyde, and Hertford next to Camden. Then comes Tyrrell, followed by Pitt, Beattie, Dare and Perquimans.

The standing of various counties in northeastern North Carolina in the number of farms operated is indicated in the following table, lifted from the complete table of all the counties in the State published by University News Letter:

Rank	County	No. Farms 1925	Per Cent Increase 1920-25
1	Chowan	1,261	18.1
2	Beaufort	3,711	14.9
3	Washington	1,273	14.7
4	Pasquotank	1,520	12.5
5	Hyde	1,248	12.5
6	Camden	928	7.2
7	Hertford	2,213	6.2
8	Tyrrell	675	5.0
9	Pitt	6,228	4.9
10	Bertie	3,444	3.1
11	Dare	70	2.6
12	Perquimans	1,496	2.3
13	Gates	1,584	0.0
14	Currituck	873	11.4

The Jennings Poultry Farm had together 3,000 hens. The equipment is modern and is being constantly improved and expanded as the business grows. The incubator has a capacity of 10,368 eggs. The brooder house capacity is 12,000 chicks. The big incubator has four compartments, and one-third its full capacity is set every Monday. The last season's hatch had reached 75,000. Baby chicks and pullets 8, 12 and 15 weeks old are sold.

Thousands Swan Counted In Waters Currituck Sound

The Count Was Made by Biological Survey of the Federal Department of Agriculture and Report Published in Department Bulletin Recently Issued

By The Associated Press

Currituck Jan. 21.—Two thousand nine hundred sixty-six swan were counted on Currituck Sound early in December. While on Lake Mattamuskeet, 2,394 were counted.

The count was made by experts of the biological survey of the United States Department of Agriculture and the report of the count in a bulletin of the department has just been received here. Practically all of the swan population of eastern North America concentrates for winter quarters in Chesapeake Bay, Md., Back Bay, Va., and Currituck Sound, N. C., and adjacent waters, says the department. Here they can be counted with reasonable accuracy, and the experts found a total of 14,567.

The greatest number was found on Chesapeake Bay, including the Susquehanna Flats, where 6,929 were counted. On Back Bay, Va., 2,916 were observed, and on the Potomac River, near its junction with the Chesapeake, 169 were counted during the same census. This is the first fairly complete census of these birds the survey has been able to make, says the bulletin, and, for this reason, little can be said with certainty as to their increase or decrease. There is little doubt, however, it adds, that the swans have become bolder in the presence of man, as a natural result of the protection given them over a 10-year period.

ELKS MINSTRELS ARE POSTPONED

Additional Week Given Cast in Order to Assure Biggest Show Ever

Postponement of the Elks Minstrels for a week was announced today by the committee in charge. The show will be given at the Alhambra Theater here on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, February 2 and 3, and at Edenton the following night, instead of the corresponding nights the preceding week. Proceeds will go to charity.

The change in dates was arranged in order to allow time for plans for the show to be worked out in greater detail. It is announced, and to give the cast an opportunity to become letter-perfect in the number of songs. All members of the cast are society girls, and numerous social functions this week have interfered seriously with rehearsals. These are being conducted nightly at 7:30 o'clock at the Elks Club.

A guarantee that the show this year will be the best ever, is offered by N. P. Parker, general chairman. It will include a Charleston contest, featuring the new dance that has taken the country by storm, and will have all the newest songs. A musical comedy, with practically every society girl here participating, will feature the second act.

Reserved seats will go on sale at Sells on Friday, January 29. The Elks' booster of The Daily Advance will be issued on January 29 also.

Rehearsals are going along nicely. While several masculine members of the cast were on the sidelines last night, awaiting their cues, Bill Duff is said to have dropped in with a box of his favorite cigars, and to have offered a saxophone to anybody who could smoke seven of them. John Bray took him on the story runs, and after smoking five, called for a harp. He was revived however, and is expected to recover entirely in several days. Details of the incident were reported by Dr. J. W. Selig, an active member of the minstrel cast.

Second Demonstration by Dr. Nixon is Asked An invitation to give a demonstration of removable bridge work at the annual convention of the Virginia-Carolina Dental Society in Richmond in April was tendered by Dr. H. S. Nixon, Elizabeth City dentist, after he gave a similar demonstration before the Fifth District Dental Society at Wilson this week. Dr. Nixon reported after his return Tuesday.

DIFFERENCE IS MATTER ONLY OF 26 MILLIONS

And That Not So Big a Matter As Government Expenses Go If New Rates Help Business

BUT THERE'S THE RUB

So Mellon Likely Withhold Judgment Until Tax Bill Is Passed by Senate and Ready Go Conference

By DAVID LAWRENCE

Washington, Jan. 21.—Twenty-six millions of dollars represent the difference between the amount which Secretary Mellon has indicated that taxes should be reduced and the reduction proposed in the bill which the Senate finance committee is about to report as the compromise between Democrats and Republicans.

If \$26,000,000 were the only figure involved, there would be little hesitation to take a chance on the next 12 months bringing in more than estimated receipts. Business conditions always improve with reduced taxes, so \$26,000,000 would be likely to be made in increased income. But the Senate has shown a disposition to alter the rates irrespective of the \$230,000,000 limit set by the Treasury for tax reduction. It is likely Secretary Mellon will withhold final approval till the measure actually passed by the Senate is ready for conference between the House and Senate. Then it will be necessary for the Treasury to state whether the Senate has gone too far and whether the Treasury can afford to take the risk.

The problem is one of policy rather than statistics. The Treasury announced that it expected a surplus of about \$30,000,000 and that the taxpayers could be given the benefit of that surplus through diminished rates. Judging by past experience—and the Treasury experts have been remarkably accurate in predicting the new bill proposed by the Senate finance committee would amount to about \$26,000,000 more than the \$30,000,000 limit.

If no further changes are made in rates, however, and the Senate finance committee bill is not amended so as to deprive the Government of more revenue, then it may be that the present bill will be approved by conference and by the administration generally. For a \$26,000,000 item is not a large one and the better business conditions would probably take care of it.

Incidentally the administration looks with disapproval on the suggestion that the sinking fund arrangement be changed so as to diminish the amount used to retire the public debt and divert some of the money for further tax reduction. Senator Simmons, the Democratic leader on the finance committee, has proposed that the sinking fund be three and a half per cent instead of two and a half and that the amount used for debt retirement be fixed at \$350,000,000 a year apart from money needed for interest. This he estimates \$175,000,000 out of the payments to be made for the \$350,000,000, and the difference needed each year would be made up by taxation.

Senator Simmons argues that his plan would retire the public debt in 26 years. Mr. Mellon's plan of using a \$250,000,000 sinking fund as well as all payments from foreign governments would allow the Government to retire the public debt in 20 years. The argument of the Treasury is that it would delay passage of the bill to open up the whole question of changing the historic policy of the Government on debt retirement. It is insisted, for instance, that the American Government had better pay off the debt as quickly as possible while the dollar is cheap. In other words, the purchasing power of the dollar in 1917 was about 42 cents on the dollar. It is a little more than 62 cents now. If the dollar should go to par, it would require more effort and increase the burden of taxation in retiring the public debt. In the opinion of Treasury officials,

The administration, of course, has always explained the trick of having flexibility in debt retirement so that if perchance the estimates on receipts did not come up to expectations due to bad business conditions, there would always be a cushion to fall back on through the diminished payments on the public debt for a given year. Setting a \$350,000,000 limit would make the debt retirement policy rigid. There are indications, on the other hand, that Senator Simmons will explain his views to the Senate in the hope of converting his colleagues to the advantages of the alternative scheme he presents.

Man in Washington claims his dog smokes. Better look out for him when he goes to school.

Coolidge May Have Seize Liquor Tug Two Campaigns On Hands After Firing Shots

New York, Jan. 21.—The marriage papers today cited the ocean-going tug Rescue with a cargo of liquor said to be worth more than half a million dollars after a chase off Sandy Hook in which half a dozen shots from a one-pounder were fired.

The Revenue, which is valued at about \$250,000, was formerly owned by Merritt Chapman Wrecking Company. The present owner is unknown to the police. A Coast Guard launch first observed the Rescué and fired a shot across her bow. The tug put on speed. A police launch bearing the Rescué joined in the chase. When captured the four men aboard surrendered.

Waters From Lake Are Menacing Mills

Asheville, Jan. 21.—Unable to withstand the force of waters brought down from the hills by rain, the dam at Lake Lanier near Tryon gave way today and sent a flood of water into the lands below which threatened at noon to overflow into a number of small towns between the lake and Paeolet River valley in North Carolina.

Charlotte, Jan. 21.—Trains on the Southern Railway system between Spartanburg, South Carolina, and Hendersonville, North Carolina, are being detained over the Carolina Clinchfield and Ohio railway, officials of the Southern system here announced. This action was taken because of the washout of the wooden trestle near Tryon.

WELFARE OFFICER TAKES JOURNEY ACROSS STATE

The Rev. A. H. Outlaw, County Welfare Officer, left on the noon train Wednesday with two young charges, a girl and a boy, destined respectively for the Caswell Training School at Kingston and the Stonewall Jackson Training School at Concord. He expects to be back by Monday.

Both youngsters have been in the Anna B. Lewis Home at Nixonton, the girl for a year or more, and the boy for about two months, according to Mr. Outlaw. The girl is 16 years old, and the boy is 11.

Coffin Markets New York, Jan. 21.—Coffin futures opened today at the following levels: March 20.25, May 19.74, July 19.12, October 18.29. New York, Jan. 21.—Spot cotton closed quiet, middling 20.90, a decline of 15 points. Futures, closing bid: March 20.17, May 19.62, July 19.00, Oct. 18.21, Dec. 18.00.

BREAKS ARM IN FALL Walter Overman is under treatment at his home on Cypress street as a result of a fall from a step ladder in the new quarters of the McLellan Store Company, in the Carolina Bank building, Tuesday afternoon, in which he broke his right arm.

HE SAYS SOMEBODY IS AFTER MUSCLE SHOALS Chairman Norris of the Senate agriculture committee said today in a statement that it was "doubted" that the Capitol that one of two large manufacturing interests are attempting a new grab at Muscle Shoals.

PIEDMONT BOOSTERS ARE MEETING AT SALISBURY Salisbury, Jan. 21.—Representatives from 13 Piedmont towns met Wednesday for the purpose of perfecting an organization looking toward mutual interests and industrial developments of this section of the State. The meeting went into executive session this afternoon.