

Sidewalk Skipper

Although a few menhaden were caught the latter part of October, it was too rough for most of the boats to do anything. Rumor has it that many of the boats which usually fish here in the winter will stay in Louisiana or up north.

But judging from past years, all that has to happen here is for the boats to come in with the sideboards up about three nights in a row and other boats will chug here so fast you can't see 'em for spray.

Price of shrimp has been better this year, but the catch off "because of the ignorant law," declares David Beveridge of Beaufort. He is referring to the fisheries commission regulation which wouldn't let boats shrimp until July 1 this year.

In May and June, Cap'n Beveridge says, there were a lot of shrimp here, but by July they were all gone.

Cap'n Berkley Willis of Davis who put his boat up on Noe's railways the other day for a general overhaul, was asked if he's been getting any shrimp.

"Well, it's like this," he said, leaning on the long-handled brush he was using to swab the hull. "I've been runnin' my boat—and I'm about \$500 to the lu'ward than when I commenced. And I'll tell you this, and it's just as true as Genesis, as long as the fish commission keep messin' with things, we're not goin' to have any fish.

"They've all gone down to the Gulf and the boys down there are gettin' 'em." Cap'n Willis turned to his boat, and then changed his mind. "And I'll tell you something else," he declared, "I'm goin' to have to pay \$60 more in taxes just to run this boat, besides my state and county taxes."

He said he usually fishes the boat himself but if anyone does go with him, it's his boy, Clement.

Bob Slater of Machine and Supply company, Beaufort, recently returned from Detroit where he attended a school on the new 110 series General Motors Diesel engine. Bob says his company is making up Marine auxiliary units for menhaden boats and large trawlers.

Crip Jones of Beaufort has had his cruiser Jenkit up on the ways at Noe's for overhauling.

The Sea King will sail in Carteret waters this season with a new depth recorder. This boat fishes for R. W. Taylor co., Morehead City.

Winston Hill of Atlantic has installed a new 110 series GM Diesel in the Edith.

Lon Willis of Beaufort says the Evelyn L. Willis will fish this year. "It's been so bad," he declared, "don't know whether we can even afford to send her out."

The Universal Fish and Prawn company of Southport have had an engine and clutch overhaul job on the trawler Paul Francis. Capt. T. H. Watson of Southport has also had a new GM Diesel put in his trawler.

Wallace M. Quinn's new menhaden plant in Louisiana was featured in a full-length article in this month's Atlantic Fisherman.

Most of the shrimpers at Southport are reported to have left for Florida shrimping grounds. Clyde Potter's shrimpers fished out of northern Gulf ports this summer but they will head for Key West within the next several weeks.

A 24-volt system has been installed in the Robert E. Coker, Institute of Fisheries research boat. Boats of that size usually operate on a 12-volt system but higher voltage was necessary to operate the Coker's direction finder and fathometer.

The fathometer, lent to the Institute by the Submarine Signal company, is the latest type recording device and is used to run bot-

tom profiles across the sounds in search of new oyster beds.

Beaufort Fisheries has had a new set of GM Diesels installed in the Doswell S. Edwards.

Before she went north to fish in Delaware this summer the Willis Brothers' pogy boat, Tender Heart, had a depth recorder installed.

They're still buying all the clams they can get down at Williston. The shucked clams are shipped to Heinz at Pittsburgh and those in the shells go to Cleveland where they're used at clambakes.

One of the Willis Brothers said Friday that they were shipping 50,000 clams to Cleveland the next day. He said they average about 4,000 to 5,000 bushels a year to that market.

Capt. Alfred Pittman, skipper of the Lois Nancy, says this fall is the best sportfishing season boatmen have had in many a year. If the sunny, warm weather contingencies, he predicts the season will continue longer than in any other recent year.

Trash fish which come in on the trawlers are shoveled up and hauled off to the Canal Fish company, located on the inland waterway, where they are made into scrap and then sold to companies which grind it into meal.

Hanging on the west wall of S. W. Davis Brothers retail fish market, Beaufort, is a painting of the Smith menhaden boat, Calcasieu, done by Sammy Davis of Harkers Island.

Retail fish dealers report that spot have been right plentiful, a nice lot of roe mullet have been on the market, and in the past week grey trout, pig fish and flounder. Shrimp have been selling, per pound, in the 60-cent bracket.

Possession of state patrol boats' radio crystal by commercial fishermen helps the state patrol boats not a bit. And for weeks after lightning hit the local radio station, those programs were coming in on the state's ship to shore radio out at the section base, something which just shouldn't be.

C. D. Kirkpatrick said the broadcasting station promised to fix things as soon as it could get the equipment.

Cap'n Noe, whose ways are located at the Beaufort bridge told Ernest Davis the awful truth the other week: "Your boat is like lots of people, it's just been a round too long."

Work Progresses

(Continued from page 1)

In some instances, these microscopic plants were fed to oysters kept in the laboratory and their food value ascertained.

"Radioactive phosphorus has been added to the material in which the microscopic plants were grown and observations made as to the part played by phosphorus as a fertilizing material, much the same as studies are made of the phosphorus of fertilizers for our well-known large garden plants," the scientist explained. In addition, the changes in phosphorus in oysters after eating these minute plants were measured. These studies will be continued so that later a more complete knowledge will be gained of the various links of the food chains which lead from the small marine plants of the sea to our well-known sea food organisms, such as clams, oysters, shrimps, and fishes, Dr. Chipman reported.

It is planned to study other radioactive materials soon in connection with the studies of these food cycles and, in addition, obtain an answer to the problem of the taking up of radioactivity and the time that the marine animals or fish may remain radioactive when these substances are present in the water, a situation which might arise from pollution or the dropping of an atomic bomb in our coastal waters.

Bottom Charts Will Be Available Late This Year

Shrimp Survey Completes Work Valuable to Owners of Trawlers

As the result of the shrimp survey, engineered by the Institute of Fisheries Research, six charts showing bottom conditions off the North Carolina coast will be available to fishermen the latter part of this year.

These charts will be the first of their type ever made for these waters. The charts are numbered 1 to 6 and cover the area from Cape Lookout to Little River, and from shore to depths as great as 100 fathoms. Chart No. 1 shows bottom conditions off Carteret county from Cape Lookout to New river. This chart covers depths to 18 fathoms. Size of the finished charts will be 11 inches by 15 3/4 inches.

A text explaining the charts and telling of the work in making them has been written by Carter Broad, shrimp specialist with the Institute of Fisheries Research, W. A. Ellison, jr., director of the institute, with notations also by members of the shrimp commission, headed by William Wells of Southport.

Broad, who is chiefly responsible for the collection of data and making of these charts, has commented on the work as follows:

"The type of bottom on which a fishery is located is of prime importance to that fishery. Regardless of what sort of fish may be present in the water, the bottom must be of such a nature that trawl nets may be operated on it. Bottom type is doubly important to a shrimp fishery for, not only must the bottom be smooth and free of obstructions, but — if experience can teach us anything about catching shrimp — it must also be muddy.

"While the primary purpose of the shrimp survey was to find and develop new shrimping grounds,

the survey act, cognizant of the dependence of trawl fisheries on the nature of the bottom, also included a provision for surveying and charting the sea floor off North Carolina.

"Three separate but related sets of data have been collected in the shrimp survey. Hydrographic data were collected to answer the ques-

tion: are conditions offshore favorable to the habitation of commercial shrimp? Bottom data were collected to answer the question: are the offshore banks suitable to use by a trawl fishery? Data on the inhabitants of the offshore waters were collected to answer the question: are there shrimp or fish present? See **BOTTOM CHARTS**, Page 12

IMPORTANT



WE

HANDLE

COMPLETE

MARINE INSURANCE COVERAGE

On All Boats

From the smallest private pleasure boat to the largest commercial vessels . . . our marine coverage is available.

MUTUAL INSURANCE AGENCY

S. A. CHALK, JR.

Bank Building

Morehead City

Dial 6-4336

SAVINGS FOR PREFERRED RISKS



For Better

MARINE PRODUCTS

See

J. M. DAVIS

DISTRIBUTOR

TEXACO PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

Phone 2-3321

MOREHEAD CITY

BEAUFORT