

Fishermen Get Caught On Billy's Barbed Pen

By Billy Arthur

These days and nights I think I know how John Charles McNeill felt when he wrote:

"When de nights is warm and de moon is full;

You kin ketch more cats dan you care to pull.

No trouble 'bout de bait;

A grub'll do or a l'il fat meat, For all he wants is sump'n to eat.

En he ain't no han' to wait."

However, I hesitate to lay down all and get going because of the criticism, the jokes and the suffering a chronic fisherman as I encounter. It seems that I always meet people as James Larkin Pearson who said in 1911 that "the more worthless a man, the more fish he catches." Or, the editor of the New Bern Tribune who wrote in 1934 that "many a man will stand out in the sun and fish all day Sunday because it's too hot to go to church."

And such wags as Luby Hardison of New Bern who didn't believe the weight of my fish. "I know a fellow who weighed his eight-months-old baby on the same scales," said Luby, "and he tipped them at 56 pounds." Or, Josephus Daniels who noted in a July, 1882, issue of the Wilson Advance that Raleigh had a store "where worms are sold for fishing bait. That is nothing. There are stores in Wilson where fish are sold so that a man need not trouble himself with worms."

The discomfort has changed but little since the April 24, 1879, issue of the Raleigh News carried:

"He dug his bait and off he hied

Unto the placid Neuse's side.

His hook sank in the wave;

He sat with basement very wet

But only one bite did he get

And that — a mosquito gave."

Another displeasing phase was poemed by "S. W. H." in the November 19, 1906, Charlotte Observer:

"When yer take the hoe behin' the house an' dig a can o' bait

Then yer snatch a bite o' supper an' yer can hardly wait,

An' then get out yer fish poles, cause yer know they're goin' ter bite

An' fishin' in the mornin' ain't like fishin' long 'bout night,

"An' while yer waitin' fer yer fish, yer scarcely breathe

out loud.

Yer never notice how the moon has got behin' a cloud.

Then yer get a nibble an' then the fishin' stops;

Upon yer head and neck and hands yer feel the big wet drops.

"We did not bring no drinks along, we didn't see the use;

But the heavens opened up their hearts and let us have the juice.

To see a fisherman that's dry, the clouds thought was a sin

So they put the liquid to us and drenched us to the skin.

"We got our catch and homeward made our dripping way.

Next time we go a-fishin' I want a dryer day;

So I want'er go on record, and I want'er make it plain —

I'm fer fishin' in the moonlight, not fer fishin' in the rain."

As said before, I hesitate. But not for long. Then I get going, because I want to live like "Jim Ray" of Duke University's H. E. Spence:

"Funniest man you ever see, Allers hones lak an' square,

Good a neighbor as can be

But we thought him awful quare.

Fore the sap waz gud n' riz Jim wuz down on Minner Creek

Jes a-fishin'.

"Mebbe lucky, mebbe not; Nuthin' ever daunted Jim.

Knowed each cool and shady spot

where the bigges' fishes swim;

Knowed 'zactly the kind ov bait —

Wriggling worm or shining grub,

Brought the fishes while you wait,

Tempted sucker, trout and chub

When a-fishin'.

"Kinder riled ole Farmer Jones, Sorter had it in fer Jim,

Cussed his dratted lazy bones,

'Lowed he wuz o' worthless lhm'.

Farmer Jones'ud work all day,

Worry 'bout his craps at night.

Nuthin ever worried Ray;

All he wanted wuz a bite

When a-fishin'.

"Kinder pestered Parson Brown;

When he'd nuthin else ter say,

Uster knot his face 'n frown,

Tuck his tex' on ole Jim Ray.

'Lowed as how he orter work,

S'p'rt the orphants and the

SENATOR SAM ERVIN
★ SAYS ★



WASHINGTON — On Thursday of last week, the Senate approved the bill extending the Selective Service Act for four years, and the Doctors and Dentist Draft Act for two more years. As I have heretofore reported, this bill had been carefully studied by the members of the Senate Armed Services Committee, who reached the abiding conviction on the evidence presented before them that the extension of these laws for the times stated above was absolutely essential to the maintenance of an adequate National Defense.

Armed Services I have enjoyed very much my service upon the Senate Armed Services Committee, and would like to pay tribute to its distinguished Chairman, Senator Russell of Georgia, and my other associates on the Committee, namely, Senator Byrd of Virginia, Johnson of Texas, Kefauver of Tennessee, Stennis of Mississippi, Bridges of New Hampshire, Flanders of Vermont, Smith of Maine, Case of S. Dakota, Duff of Pennsylvania and Welker of Idaho. When these Senators are dealing with bills affecting the National Defense, they base their decisions solely upon the consideration whether the bills are reasonably calculated to promote the security of the Nation. In other words, they act as Americans rather than as Democrats or Republicans. This is, of course, as it should be.

On Friday of last week, the State of Louisiana presented to the United States for permanent location in Statuary Hall, the statue of one of her most distinguished sons, Edward Douglass White, soldier of the Confederacy and one time Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. Edward Douglas White became a Justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana in 1879. After he had served in that capacity for fifteen years, he was appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States by President Grover Cleveland. After he had performed the duties of that office an additional sixteen years he was elevated to the post of Chief Justice of the United States by President William Howard Taft. He occupied this last office until his death in 1921.

It thus appears that Edward Douglass White was called to judicial labor on the Nation's highest tribunal after he had ripened his experience as a Judge by long service on his State's highest Court, and that he was elevated to the Chief Justiceship of the United States after he had further ripened his experience as a Judge by Court service as an Associate Justice to the Supreme Court of the United States. Unhappily, the grand old American custom of promoting men of ripened legal learning

church, Sed twas his lak to shirk. Jim kept on ketchin perch Out a-fishin'.

and judicial experience to the Nation's highest tribunal has been more honored of late in its breach than in its observance. In my judgment, it is essential to the preservation of our form of government that this grand tradition be resurrected and followed.

Harold S. White On Advisory Committee

CAMP FUJI, JAPAN — M-Sgt. Harold S. White, son of Charlie White, Route 1, Deep Run, recently was named to the Enlisted Advisory Committee at Camp Fuji, Japan. Sergeant White arrived in the Far East last August. He attended Deep Run High School.

Pvt. Clifton Aldridge Gets MP Schooling


CAMP GORDON, GA. — Army Pvt. Clifton D. Aldridge, son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Aldridge, Route 3, La Grange, N. C., recently was graduated from the Military Police Training Center at Camp Gordon, Ga.

Aldridge, who attended the school after completing basic training at Camp Gordon, was taught unarmed defense, traffic control and other law enforcement duties.

A former student at the University of North Carolina, he entered the Army in January, 1943.

Hear the Local News
—By—
JACK RIDER
At 8 A. M. and
12:20 P. M.
Over Station WELS

Pvt. Carson F. Saville Jr., whose parents live at 403 Edgehill Ave., Kinston, is a member of the 1st Infantry Division in Germany. An aidman in Clearing Company of the division's 1st Medical Battalion, Private Saville was stationed at Fort Bragg, before arriving for duty in Germany in May of this year. Saville entered the Army in September 1944 and completed basic training at Camp Gordon, Ga. He is a 1940 graduate of Grainger High School.



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(160) 1946 FORD 4-dr. Excellent green paint and tires. R&H, and a good engine. Unusually clean '46.

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