

MEN-AND THE SEA

TRUE STORIES OF BRAVE OLD DAYS

Gallant Deeds of By-Gone Years in The Walter Raleigh Coastland.



STRANDING OF SCHOONER RICHARD HARTLEY

On the afternoon of September 2, 1913, the 469 ton schooner, Richard F. C. Hartley, bound from New York to Charleston, S. C., with a cargo of salt, ran ashore on the North Carolina coast during the prevalence of a severe east-northeast gale, the vessel and cargo becoming a total loss. The schooner broke up very shortly after she struck precipitating the seven members of her crew into the sea. Five of them were hauled out of the surf by life-savers of the Chicamacomico Gull Shoal, and New Inlet Stations. The two others, the cook and a seaman (names unknown) were drowned.

When the schooner was overtaken by bad weather she was 20 miles off Bodie Island, N. C. It appears from the testimony of her master that the gale carried away her topmast jibboom, and head sails, and that after this wreckage went overboard it got under her bow, rendering her more or less unmanageable. The buffeting of the seas, which were running high, set her badly aleak also. As she was in

great danger of foundering, the master chose what was doubtless the lesser of two evils and headed her for the shore, hoping thereby to save the lives of his crew and himself, if not his ship.

The schooner was discovered by the surfman on watch at Chicamacomico Station about two o'clock in the afternoon of September 2. She was at that time a mile or so offshore and headed for the beach with a flag in her rigging, union down. The news of the discovery was promptly telephoned to the Gull Shoal and New Inlet Stations, respectively below and above the station first named. The Chicamacomico life-savers thereupon set out down the beach with their breeches buoy gear. They came abreast of the vessel two miles from their station and were soon joined by the crews of the two other stations, the vessel having stranded in the meantime twelve or fifteen hundred feet out from the shore. The velocity of the wind at this time was fully 70 miles an hour. Moreover, it blew almost directly toward the land, rendering the outlook for putting a line over the schooner exceedingly doubtful. However, as the state of the sea was such as to prevent the launching of a boat, the breeches buoy offered what appeared to be the only chance of effecting a rescue.

Moments were precious. Only 30 minutes had elapsed since the vessel struck. She lay low in the water, with her jib, foremast and mainmast broken off, and was already breaking up. The life-savers could see that she would last only a short time. The crew, all of whom were still alive, were huddled on top of the cabin, clinging to the spanker boom.

The first shot, fired with a 6-ounce charge of powder, carried a No. 9 line not more than half-way to the vessel. Before another line could be sent out a heavy run of seas swept over that part of the ship which had offered temporary refuge for the sailors, further crumbling the schooner and carrying overboard all hands except one man. Fortunately, practically all of the seamen who were precipitated into the water succeeded in laying hold of floating wreckage which the wind, offsetting the force of the swift long-shore current, spent in toward the land. When these came within wading depth, the life-savers rushed to the water to their rescue.

Almost miraculously, considering the state of the wreckage-filled surf, five of the six were hauled safely to the beach. The sixth man was not seen after the boarding seas carried him and his shipmates away. While the rescue work of these mentioned was going on a No. seven line was shot out with eight ounces of powder in the hope that it would fall within reach of the

"READ... AND WATCH YOUR WORLD GROW"

Did you know that:

—More than 40,700 schools have no school library; 10,600,000 young Americans attend these schools.

—Public schools with libraries average approximately only 5 books per pupil.

—Less than half of all college libraries have 50,000 volumes.

—Actual (est.) per capita annual expenditure for public libraries is \$1.44.

—25 million Americans have no public library service.

—50 million Americans have sub standard service.

Is it any wonder that President Kennedy said recently that "... there is an important gap in the availability of books and libraries to our citizens... I hope very much that National Library Week will have widespread citizen participation and... serve to encourage all of us to improve libraries and to stimulate reading throughout the nation."

National Library Week, which will be observed this year from April 8-14, is the annual climax as well as the starting point of many year-round local and national activities designed to develop reading and library resources.

The Dare County Library and its staff have friends who have planned an extensive program to whip up enthusiasm for reading and library improvement during National Library Week. "Read and Watch Your World Grow" is their theme for this year, but the phrase is meaningless unless given recognition by the people.

How long has it been since you read a book? If you are a regular reader, have you made an effort to improve the quality of your reading? The Dare County Library has rearranged its shelves; have you seen the renovation? Are you aware that our county has one of the finest libraries, for its size in the state?

Why don't you visit your library soon. Browse through the collection and don't be embarrassed to ask questions. The library staff is anxious to be of help. Take time to read and read still more, rediscovering each time the wonders, the delights, and the brain-stretching power of the printed word. You'll be glad that you did.

one man still on the wreck. This line, like the first one, fell far short of the mark. Before a third line could be fired, the man was washed overboard to his death. He was never seen again.

That so many persons were rescued in this case is remarkable, considering the attendant circumstances. The schooner literally broke up under the feet of the crew, throwing them into an extremely rough area of the surf, filled with trashing wreckage. The survivors from the master down, heartily of the opinion that the life-savers did all that was humanly possible in their behalf. It was a case where the forces of nature, wrecking their power upon an old vessel, accomplished its destruction before the pigmy efforts of man could avail to save the lives of all the persons imperiled.

The mere lapse of years is not life... Knowledge, truth, love, beauty, goodness, faith, alone can give vitality to the mechanism of existence. —James Martineau

JIMMY FOSTER NAMED 1962 STATE EASTER SEAL CHILD



CHAPEL HILL.—Dr. John W. Baluss, Jr., President of the North Carolina Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc.—the State Easter Seal Organization—announced the selection of Jimmy Foster of Reidsville as the 1962 State Easter Seal Child. Jimmy is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Foster.

Although physically handicapped, Jimmy, with the use of a wheelchair, is doing many of the things that other boys his age are doing. He is in the 5th grade at public school, and his main interests now are coin collecting, model airplane building, and watching football on television.

Each year Jimmy looks forward to attending the Easter Seal Camp which is for crippled children from all over the State. At the camp, operated by the N. C. Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Jimmy will have an opportunity to engage in his favorite sports, fishing and swimming, as well as other camping and outdoor activities.

During the Easter Seal Campaign, March 15 through April 22, Jimmy will bring the message of hope and a promise for an independent future for crippled children who are helped by Easter Seal contributions. Jimmy will highlight his part in the Easter Seal campaign by a visit to Governor Terry Sanford, a former State Easter Seal Chairman, when he presents the first 1962 Easter Seals to the governor next month.

DARE COAST FISH SNARE 15 PRIZES

Three species of big game salt water fishes taken from Dare Coast Outer Banks waters shared top-ten honors in the 51st annual Field and Stream International fishing contest for 1961, it was stated here today by Lansdale "Bounce" Anderson, outdoor writer and film producer, who now makes his home on Hatteras.

Anderson stated he had received advance information from Mike Bill, his former secretary, now fishing contest editor of the national outdoor sports magazine that seven blue marlin, six channel bass and two white marlin taken off Hatteras Island and Oregon Inlet were awarded prizes or received honorable mention.

He pointed out that while the largest blue marlin, a 620 pounder was landed in the Bahamas the next six runnerups, ranging from 410 to 553 1/2 pounds were taken in fish famous Cape Hatteras waters by anglers aboard Hatteras or Oregon Inlet-based cruisers.

The largest channel bass, a 67-

pounder, was caught at Cobbs Island, Va., but the next three runner-ups scaling up to 65 1/2 pounds were taken in Outer Banks waters to win prizes while three more received honorable mention. Two white marlin, weighing 86 and 94 pounds, boated off Hatteras made the top 10 in this class but the money prize whites were caught in Florida or waters of other states.

Most of the top ten fish taken in waters of the North Carolina Outer Banks were taken during late Spring 1961.

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CLEAR the DECKS!

PREVENT INJURIES—PICK UP ROCKS, STICKS, WIRE AND OTHER DEBRIS BEFORE YOU OPERATE YOUR POWER MOWER!

M.Y.F. HAS MEETING

On Sunday evening Engelhard M.Y.F. members, their parents and guests met at the church for a family dinner. Speakers were Leon Ballance, Roy Lowe and Hayes Hurdle. Mrs. Roy Lowe and Mrs. Charlotte Marshall are taking the place of Mrs. Myra Patrick and Mrs. Susie Jarvis as councillors.

Speedy driver's note. Better to be a little late down here than a little early up there.

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