

THE HYDE COUNTY HERALD

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PROPOSED FISH LAW POINTS TO FED. CONTROL

All Fish Would Be Graded by Federal Agents; Plan to Save Undersize Fish

A step toward the long feared Federal control of the fisheries, which would mean uniform laws enforced in all states, and protection for species scarce, or threatened with extinction, is being planned early in January, according to the following announcement from Washington:

A long-discussed move to establish a Government-operated system of compulsory inspection and voluntary grading of fish and fishery products will be argued in Congress next session.

The House Merchant Marine committee, headed by representative Bland (D.-Va.), has called a public hearing for January 16 on a bill for the purpose offered by Representative McCormack (D.-Mass.).

The bill would set up the inspection and grading service under the Federal Bureau of Fisheries, and the service would apply to "fish, fishery products, fishery by-products, shellfish, crustacea, seaweeds and all other forms of animal and vegetable life and the products and by-products thereof," in interstate or foreign commerce.

Bureau inspectors would be required to examine all fishery products before they were admitted to any processing plant whose products move in interstate commerce, and all products found unfit for human consumption would be condemned and destroyed or used for fertilizer or non-food purposes.

The inspectors would also have authority to enforce sanitation standards to be established by the bureau in the processing plants.

The bill would not apply to any fish taken by any individual fisherman and sold directly to consumers or to retail dealers.

The bill would also prohibit the importation of fishery products which failed to meet the same specifications to be established by the inspection service under the bill.

The grading service to be established under the bill would be entirely voluntary on the part of the processor, and upon the processor's application, the bureau, in cooperation with other agencies of the Federal State or local governments, would supply certificates of class, quality and condition of fishery products offered for shipment.

CHRISTMAS 40 YEARS AGO

By BILL ARK LAWRENCE (In the Mecklenburg Times)

To those of us who were children more than forty years ago, we hardly see how any child could want more than he has every day in the year. The gifts and luxuries which we enjoyed at Christmas time are common place every day in the year now. The only raisins, oranges and foreign nuts we had during the year were not even plentiful at Christmas, and all the child got of these would not half fill his stocking.

There was little candy during the year and at Christmas we had stick candy, gum and chocolate drops to last most of the big Day. Apples grew on most every farm and some of them were saved for Christmas, and there was enough to go around with the family and some to give to the neighbors who had none.

Other gifts for members of the family and close friends were limited to handkerchiefs, lace collars, vases, tin horns, tin trains, dolls, and pocket knives. There was little else to buy and little else expected. Some of the older people did do a little knitting of special gifts for special friends and loved ones and occasionally there was a new quilt for the married son or daughter.

Now everything is available and everything is expected up to the limit of the pocketbook or bank account, and so many times to the straining of the credit of the giver. Forty years ago no one thought of giving a gift that had not been paid for in full at the time it was given.

In those days the families would get together and the men and boys spent most of the day hunting with dog and gun. This sometimes continued through the whole of Christmas week and the families would spend a day in each other's home. The hunters usually furnished plenty of rabbit, turkey, squirrel, quail and other game for families to eat.

The women did the cooking and cared for the small children and had a good time with their visiting. It was a great time for all, and there was plenty.

During the evenings the group would gather around the organ and sing gospel hymns, while the young people sat in the corners and courted or played games in the parlor.

Many of the boys of the teen age had a little money and spent a part of it for firecrackers, which they shot during the holidays. Those who did not have the money for firecrackers usually devised some other means of making a noise. Every family had a gun and powder to load it with. This could be used to make a noise, but the boys wanted a louder noise than the gun would make, so they would get the anvil from the shop and put powder on the holes and "shoot anvils." That would make a noise. Occasionally a stick of dynamite would be fired to wake up the community, and it did. We believe that this had more to do with the laws against fireworks in this state than anything else.

Once we tried to make a noise that was a little different. A hole was bored in a big stump and an iron used to place over the hole in which the powder had been packed was weighted down with a few sticks of wood. When the charge was fired the iron came down and a big log of wood on top of it broke the handle off. It was the best iron in the house and we learned from mother that this was no way to make a noise.

And there was the nice custom of kissing the young lady under the mistletoe. But this should be done properly or your efforts are in vain. Every time someone kisses under the mistletoe a berry should be plucked from the branches for there are only as many blessings bestowed as there are berries. And if the mistletoe ever touches the ground its properties of good luck are destroyed.

The romantic story of the mistletoe is an old one and still popular. The reason for failure in most cases is that the rules are not strictly carried out. Remember the rules and "she who is not kissed under the mistletoe at Christmas will not be married in the year which follows."

COLORED PREACHER INJURED IN WRECK

(Crowded out last week)

Caho Farrow, colored preacher of Swan Quarter, was injured and his mule killed last Thursday night when his cart was run into by a Mr. Johnson of Pantego, who was said to have been blinded by the lights of a car he was meeting. The accident occurred near Marvin Swindell's on the lake road.

STATE'S GREATEST WATERFOWL REFUGE IN HYDE COUNTY



HYDE COUNTY contains the greatest waterfowl refuge in North Carolina in the famous Lake Mattamuskeet, largest lake in the State. The Lake, which is 18 miles long and some seven miles wide, at one time was practically dry, by reason of a gigantic pump which took out one million gallons a minute and turned it into Pamlico Sound. The great agricultural reclamation project was dropped as being too expensive, and it was turned over to the Government as a game refuge. Thousands of ducks and geese now inhabit the lake, and fishing and hunting both under re-

strictions are permitted. The great pumping plant shown above has been converted into a hotel, and its tall smokestack made into an observation tower. In the foreground is the canal through which the water was spilled into Pamlico Sound. Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey gives Mattamuskeet high rank in his recent report.

Since use of bait and live decoys in hunting ducks and geese has been outlawed by Federal regulations, the waterfowl were banded

chiefly by Federal workers.

A total of 2,007 waterfowl were banded at Mattamuskeet during the 1939 fiscal year, Gabrielson's report showed. Top place was held by the Sand Lake refuge in South Dakota with 7,705 bandings.

Gabrielson also included Mattamuskeet among the list of refuges that have other public values than wildlife conservation.

He said the refuge provided the only recreational facilities within a radius of many miles, and it had been found that controlled use for public enjoyment did not interfere with the waterfowl.

WARREN WATSON NAMED FOR HYDE CENSUS WORK



W. WARREN WATSON, prominent Hyde County man, former chairman of the County Commissioners, and former State President of the Association of County Commissioners has been named to compile the business census in Hyde County.

D. W. Lupton, District Supervisor of the Census of the First Census or Congressional District announced that his office had completed preparations for the taking of the business census in January. The Bureau of the Census only allotted 12 people to do this work in the entire district and selections have been made as follows:

Pitt—Frank Brooks, Greenville and Mrs. John Andrews, Ayden. Beaufort—Ruffin O'Neal, Washington and R. H. Paul, Jr., Edward. Martin—Claude T. Smith, Robersonville.

Pasquotank—J. J. Hughes, Elizabeth City. Hyde—W. W. Watson, Lake Landing. Dare—Mrs. Vivian Ryder, Mantoo.

Camden and Currituck—James A. Taylor, Maple. Washington and Tyrrell—Delbert Allen, Plymouth. Hertford and Gates—W. A. McGlohon, Murfreesboro.

Chowan and Perquimans—R. T. Brinn, Hertford. These enumerators will be in conference during the week with Mr. Lupton and the Assistant Supervisor, W. A. Everett, of Edenton.

Mr. Lupton stated that the farm and population census would not be taken until April and that enumerators for that work would be selected until the latter part of March. No information has yet been given him as to how many enumerators will be assigned to each county and those who do the work must successfully pass a test.

Enumerators do not receive any salary nor travelling expenses and are paid fees for their work.

HOME-KILLED

Fewer hogs are being fed to maturity this year than usual in Bladen County, since farmers are killing and salting their pork at home because of the currently low market prices for hogs.

FAITHFUL HANNAH CHURCH

Colored Church Twice Destroyed by Elements Complete Again Despite Prayers of Erstwhile Minister

By THOMAS E. SPENCER

About a quarter of a mile north of the business section of Middletown, with its steeple towering above all the buildings in its vicinity, stands the Faithful Hannah Negro Baptist Church—the church that for the past 34 years has done its part in converting the Negroes of this section to the Christian faith. The building has just been completed, having been destroyed twice in the past two decades by freaks of nature which many of its neighbors and members believe to have been acts of God, as was predicted in the early twenties by Sam Spencer, minister of the church, who was opposed to a majority of the congregation's desire, to construct a new and larger building to take care of the church's growing membership.

The church in its infancy was a small structure, but like most churches of that period grew rapidly, until it would not house the fast growing congregation. Therefore, it was decided that it would be best to tear down the small building and construct a larger one in its place. The minister, Sam Spencer, was opposed to this progressive move and was dismissed from his ministry of the church for this reason. To retaliate, he is said to have prayed a prayer that no new church building would stand. Nevertheless, the congregation raised the money and in 1923 they tore down the little church and

started constructing a larger one in its place, but before much work had been done, a wind of a whirlwind nature blew it down. Not to be daunted by the mishap, the faithful members of the church again raised money and built a large building. This house stood for several years and was the scene of many revival meetings and gala affairs, but in 1933 a storm struck the Hyde county coast, destroying many buildings—among them was Faithful Hannah.

Nature, through these violent acts, seemed resolved that this church would not stand as was predicted by Elder Sam, and gossip went around thick and fast among the superstitious colored folk that God had turned His wrath upon the members of the church for constructing a new house of worship. But the more enlightened members of the congregation were resolved to have the building re-erected. They held socials, took special collections, and campaigned for money to rebuild their church.

Today, after much hard and patient work, they have at last completed their building. Its green steeple towers many feet in the air as a symbol of success. These colored people have thought church, talked church, hoped church and now they have a church, which makes us think of the words of Emerson, "Every thought is a prayer and every prayer is answered."

HATTERAS HAS PUBLIC HEALTH RELIEF STATION

Dr. Crankshaw in Charge, Good Work of Hospital Is Recognized; Warren Aids

Representative Lindsay Warren stated this week that the U. S. Public Health Service has established what is known as a third class relief station at Hatteras for the treatment of beneficiaries of the Public Health office and it has been authorized by the Administrator of the Federal Securities Agency. Final arrangements for the opening of the relief station are nearing completion and it is felt and hoped that its establishment will in some measure help to relieve the medical care problem of all beneficiaries in that locality. Dr. D. W. Crankshaw has accepted the offer of appointment as Acting Assistant Surgeon in charge of the relief station.

When Mr. Warren visited Hatteras in September a delegation of local citizens talked with him about the matter as it was hoped to turn the community building into a small hospital. He took the matter up with the U. S. Public Health service which has been conducting an investigation since that time. It is believed that the location of this relief station at Hatteras will be of much service to the people on the beach.

MRS. CARRIE CLARK, 80, DIES IN ELIZABETH CITY

The death of Mrs. Carrie M. Clark, who was almost 80 years of age, at the Elizabeth City hospital Friday morning is of more than passing interest in this section. Mrs. Clark was the widow of the late Carey C. Clark, captain of a tank steamer that plied up and down the waters of Eastern Carolina and who was blown up with his vessel in 1918. She was the mother of Miles Clark, and Mrs. Howard Kramer of Elizabeth City, and has two living sisters, Mrs. Fleet Ray of Sheffield, Pa., and Mrs. T. E. Coulter of Lorraine, Ohio. For more than 20 years she had taught a Methodist Sunday school class. She was a native of Oil City, Pa. Elizabeth City loses a citizen universally beloved. She was generous, gracious, and kind, and few people were more affectionately regarded.

HUNTING GUIDES INJURED IN WRECK

(Crowded out last week) John Lee and Earl Harris, hunting guides of Swan Quarter, were injured Monday morning as their car crashed into a fish truck on the lake road. The heavy smoke near Marvin Swindell's prevented the drivers from seeing the approaching car. Lee was injured most seriously, sustaining several broken ribs and chest bruises.

TELEPHONE OFFICIALS TO RAISE BEEF CATTLE IN HYDE CO.; HAVE CAMP

Reed Growth in Extensive Area Provides Excellent Winter Feeding; Soy Beans, Hay and Corn to Be Raised For Further Feed; Camp Houses Built For Employees to Enjoy Week End Hunting and Fishing

ENGELHARD TO GET 2ND DAILY MAIL JULY 1ST

Bids Being Received For Extra Round Trip From Washington Postmaster Says

Engelhard is to get a daily two round trip mail service from Washington after July 1, instead of the one trip service at present, it has been announced by Mrs. M. A. Matthews, postmaster at Engelhard. Mrs. Matthews said that when the two round trips become effective the trip now being made to Middletown by the mail carrier from Washington would be discontinued with a new messenger route probably being instituted from Engelhard to Middletown.

Bids are being received this month, Mrs. Matthews said, for the Washington-Engelhard routes.

The announcement this week culminates efforts being made by Engelhard people for some time to secure an extra mail from Washington each day, giving service comparable to that received at Swan Quarter.

AAA LEADER REPORTS SOIL BUILDING GAINS

In a preliminary report on Triple-A activities in 1939, E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College, says gains were made in every phase of soil building during 1939, and that there is promise that 1940 will be even a greater year for the Agricultural Conservation Program.

The use of ground agricultural limestone increased to 108,464 tons as grants of aid alone, with individuals buying and applying an equal amount in excess of that required for practices under the program. This compares with 78,169 tons of lime used in 1938 and 30,584 tons used in 1937, Floyd said.

In 1939 the use of triple-superphosphate as a grant of aid totaled 3,514 tons, as compared with 1,863 tons in 1938 and 370 tons in 1937. The construction of terraces totaled more than 20,000,000 linear feet during the past year, as contrasted with 15,233,000 linear feet in 1938 and 9,849,000 linear feet in 1937.

There were also encouraging gains in the seeding of lespedeza, winter legumes, and blue grass," the AAA executive said. "We had a greater participation in carrying out soil building practices by employing producers in 1939 than in 1938."

Floyd estimated that 151,600 farms earned some payment for agricultural conservation and soil-building during the year, and 75 per cent of the total soil-building allowance set apart to be earned by producers was earned.

In addition, cotton parity payments are being made to 118,000 farmers, and wheat parity payments to 3,024 producers.

SCHOOL MASTERS OF ALBEMARLE MEET 8TH

Columbia will be host to the schoolmasters of the Albemarle area January 8, in the annex of the Methodist church, it was announced this week by W. T. Crutchfield, county superintendent of schools who will act as host. A dinner will be served the school folk who are expected from Washington, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Currituck, Dare, Camden, Gates, Chowan and Bertie counties, Mr. Crutchfield said. The complete program will be announced later.

THREE FAMILIES CHANGE RESIDENCES

(Crowded out last week) Three families have changed residence in the last few days in Swan Quarter. Dr. and Mrs. N. P. Pitts have moved into the home with Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence. J. Allen Harris has taken the house vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Pitts and C. G. Cahoon has moved from Juniper Lake to the house vacated by Mr. and Mrs. Harris.

That this area provides excellent opportunities for the raising of beef cattle is the opinion of two executives of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company of Tarboro, who are starting beef cattle operations on an extensive farm which they have acquired in Hyde County which borders on the Pungo River.

The telephone officials, Mr. Porter, president, and Mr. Mullins, looking to the time when they will retire from the company five years hence, sought and located about 800 acres in Hyde County in the Scranton section. They took over the land a little over a year ago, and have already done much to reclaim some parts of the land which had not been cultivated in ten or fifteen years.

In the land which they have acquired and in adjoining land belonging to a lumber company from which they can acquire grazing rights, there are hundreds of acres of forest and waste land with a rich growth of reeds. These reeds provide excellent winter grazing for beef stock and with the open land being reclaimed for cultivation with lespedeza, soy beans, and corn, they expect to provide feed for the stock.

Some 50 Hereford heifers have recently been purchased from Alabama and have been turned into the reeds for grazing. With this stock as a start Mr. Mullins, who will superintend the stock raising, expects to go into beef raising in a big way, at the same time improving the stock for beef purposes through breeding.

Not only will they go in for beef cattle, but hogs will figure in their stock raising operations. They have about 150 hogs after operations of only a little over a year.

Recent visitors at the farm known as the Rivershore Farm viewed the cleared fields, the widened and improved road, the new barns and stock houses, and recalled that the place had changed considerably in the past year. Reeds would be touched both the narrow road a year ago, they said, and the chances would have been that a car would have gotten stuck on the road besides.

The area teems with game of all kinds, including fish in the adjacent river. Employees of the telephone company have been permitted to build two log houses on the farm and since the houses were completed a short while ago, the employees and a limited number of guests Carolina hunting, fishing and enjoying camp life in general.

Logs were cut from the farm by a number of colored laborers brought in for that purpose. The logs were stripped, and all work in erecting the camps, except the brick work in fireplaces and chimneys, was done by the telephone employees at various visits.

And so Messrs. Porter and Mullins are starting stock raising operations and at the same time their employees are finding Camp Carolina an excellent place to spend week ends.

TWO JAILED FOR STEALING TRUCK

(Crowded out last week) Alphonso Campbell and Cleo Hardy, both colored, were lodged in jail in Swan Quarter Tuesday in connection with the larceny of a pick-up truck belonging to W. H. Boomer of Swan Quarter Monday night. The truck was taken from the side of the road in front of Mr. Boomer's house. Some members of the family heard the truck pull off so Mr. Boomer came to town and called Patrolman Simpson in Belhaven and with Deputy Sheriff Branch Spencer started toward Belhaven. Patrolman Simpson had found the truck at Canton after seeing the driver flee into the woods.

ENGELHARD HOST TO NEXT MEETING GAA

The next meeting of the board of directors of the Greater Albemarle Association will be held January 11, at 7 o'clock in the Engelhard school. It was announced this week by P. D. Midgett, Jr., president.

IN THE PUBLIC EYE

A brief sketch each week concerning some official or prominent citizen of Hyde County.

This Week: R. L. JONES

Born Roland L. Jones, April 21, 1892, at Fairfield, Mr. Jones has become a prominent figure in the civic and religious life of this community. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Jones, he has devoted his life to farming. Graduated from Trinity College (now Duke University) in 1913, Mr. Jones had not been long out of college when he was drafted in the army in 1918. He served overseas about eleven months, receiving his discharge at Camp Lee, Va., in August, 1919. He is a member of the Hyde County Post No. 211 of the American Legion and was elected commander of the post last June.

A member of the Fairfield Methodist church, Mr. Jones has served for several years as steward and trustee. He is also master of the Fairfield Lodge No. 520, A. F. and A. M., a chair he has held since 1938.

In 1938 he was appointed to the Hyde County board of education and was made chairman of that body.

Mr. Jones is a strong believer in diversified farming and engages, partly as a hobby and partly because he has found livestock a coming and paying proposition on the modern farm, in raising livestock. He has a fine herd of Hereford cattle, and also a number of Duroc hogs and Hampshire sheep.

Mr. Jones was married September 19, 1923, to Miss Inez Starnes of Granite Falls. They are the parents of two children, Margaret and Tommy.

While at college he was a member of the Kappa Alpha social fraternity.

SHEEP

Federal and State research agencies are renewing attempts to adapt sheep types to the region or sections in which they are being produced so as to produce superior animals.