

# THE HYDE COUNTY HERALD

THE NEWS OF THE RICHEST AGRICULTURAL COUNTY IN THE FOREMOST HISTORICAL AND RECREATIONAL AREA OF NORTH CAROLINA

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## SHORTAGE OF NAVY MATERIAL VALUED \$18,000 UNSOLVED

### Trifling Cases Against Two Employees Thrown Out of Court

Cases against two employees of the Manteo Naval Auxiliary Air Station petered out in Federal Court this week, and a third case against an employee who admitted having tools he used at the base in his home, brought a technical conviction and fine of \$50.

An alleged shortage in inventory of tools, materials, etc., running up to \$18,000, at the base over a period of two years had been reported to the FBI, whose agents on the 16th of March, came to Manteo, and according to their testimony in Federal Court this week, made a search of the homes of many employees of the base, and of officers at the base. Various articles allegedly belonging to the Navy, were found at these homes and cases in which Naval personnel were involved were turned over to the Navy for discipline, while civilians were taken to Federal Court where they found it necessary to contribute \$150 in fees to attorneys to defend them. John Wilson's case was first heard, and a small fishing tackle or tool box and a quantity of gun shells had been found at his home, which he said was given him by an officer of the base. A bucket of paint, which was supposedly Navy paint, but made by Montgomery Ward and found on his premises, was another item offered as evidence. Judge Hutcheson ruled there was insufficient evidence and threw the case out of court. Lloyd Meekins, who lives near the base, had recently painted his house, testified that of the paint used, he had bought two gallons from a Negro formerly employed at the base and who boarded at his home. He was charged with having stolen the paint. He was acquitted. John Reber, Jr., of Nags Head, an employee of the base, used his own car for transportation on the base. He carries the tools back and forth, and had carried home \$48 worth of tools, which he said he intended to return to the base. On his own admission of having government property off the job and in his possession he was found guilty, and fined \$50, and given a suspended sentence.

Thirty Roanoke Islanders employed at the base, had deplored the great waste of items thrown on the trash pile, and rather than see these things burn up, have taken wasted things they could use and carried them home. Technically, they are guilty of violating the law. The great waste and loose practices at this station that have prevailed since its construction have long been local scandal. Tens of thousands of dollars worth of useful materials have been burned up, at a time when the government is imploring people to save tin cans, kitchen grease and old paper. Various officers have had ample supplies of shells for hunting, and have been able to supply their friends. Hundreds of enlisted men have been turned loose on the mainland with Navy rifles, and naval ammunition to hunt anything they could shoot at.

The great waste and extravagance manifested, has been deplored by thrifty people, who think it more criminal not to save something and thus violate the law by carrying it home, than to keep within the law, and allow it to be destroyed. The Manteo station is undoubtedly as well and economically run as are all other such stations, for government inefficiency and waste everywhere seems the watchword, and the example is set at the top and has so been for years. Those who have travelled far among such establishments, say the situation here is only a drop in the bucket.

Certainly after two years, it seems remarkable that an effort to find \$18,000 worth of stuff should peter out in to such a fizzle as this attempt to prosecute three simple employees. It looks like an example of inefficiency somewhere, and also as if there might be an Ethiopian in the kindling in more places than one.

### ANNUAL EASTER PROGRAM AT MIDDLETOWN CHURCH

The annual Easter program will be given at the Middletown Christian Church Sunday night, April 8th, at 8:15 o'clock. The public is invited to attend this service.

## WAESCHE NOMINATED FOR FULL ADMIRAL

Vice Admiral Russell R. Waesche, top officer of the Coast Guard has been nominated for the rank of a full admiral by President Roosevelt and confirmation by the Senate would make him the first Coast Guardsman to hold the four-star rank. His nomination was made along with that of Lieut. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegrift, Marine Corps commander, for a full general.

Admiral Waesche, who took over as head of the Coast Guard in 1936, has directed the greatest expansion in its long history. It now has a strength of 175,000 officers and men, which is 15 times that of peacetime.

Showing vision and foresight, Admiral Waesche saw the war clouds hanging over this country and secured the approval of Congress for a general expansion of the service. By the middle of 1940, he had a full recruiting program under way.

Admiral Waesche came to Dare County late in the summer of 1937 to participate in a Coast Guard program down at Fort Raleigh. He rowed in the boats with the surfmen and won their admiration.

A native of Frederick County, Maryland, Admiral Waesche is a graduate of the Coast Guard Academy at New London, Conn. He became commandant of the service in 1936, 30 years after his graduation.

## PRESSURE COOKER CLINIC SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 12TH

### Hyde Women Urged To Take Advantage of Getting Cookers Checked Free

A pressure cooker clinic will be held in the Swan Quarter agricultural building, Thursday, April 12, it was announced today by Miss Iberia Roach, home agent. Hyde County women are urged to take advantage of this opportunity and have their cooker checked.

The purpose of the clinic, which will be conducted by H. M. Ellis, agriculture engineer from State College, is to check the accuracy of pressure gauges, safety valves and the general condition of the pressure canners; to advise owners on making corrections; and to instruct and advise pressure canner owners on the cleaning and care of pressure canners.

According to Miss Roach, this will be the last year that the cookers will be tested free of charge. It is important, therefore, she says, that pressure cooker owners should avail themselves of this opportunity.

Those who are planning to have their cooker checked should take it to the home agent's office in Swan Quarter prior to April 12th. The canners must be thoroughly cleaned before they are brought to the clinic. No canner will be accepted that has not been properly cleaned. It is suggested that owners unscrew the petcock and soak all the little parts in vinegar, then rub with a soft cloth. Those who have any special difficulty should make a note on the tag, giving name and address.

## FSA COOKER OWNERS INTERESTED

Miss Eva L. McMillan, Associate F. S. A. Supervisor, states that many Farm Security borrowers owning pressure cookers plan to take advantage of getting their cookers tested in the clinic. Miss McMillan is assisting the families in properly cleaning the valves and petcock on the cookers.

A large number of cookers were cleaned and turned into the office during this past week. Judging from the number of cookers already turned in and the questionnaires that have been mailed back to the office there will be approximately 125 cookers belonging to F. S. A. borrowers to be tested.

Miss McMillan urges all the families not to neglect getting their cookers cleaned and in before April 12. She will be glad to help those needing assistance or advice.

## VISITING HYDE RELATIVES

Cpl. and Mrs. Royden Neal of Geiger Field, Washington, are visiting friends and relatives at Engelhard. Mrs. Neal is the former Miss Charlotte Marshall of Engelhard.



Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations.  
**STRUGGLE FOR THE APENNINES**—Soldiers of the valiant Fifth Army in Italy have made few headlines during the bitter fighting through the rugged mountains of Tuscany. It was a winter campaign of unexampled hardship. This picture shows something of the handicaps of the Apennine terrain. Members of a unit of the 85th Division are digging a dugout for a kitchen. Below them a mortar crew is on duty and in dugouts on the hillside Infantrymen literally live on the firing line. (Photo by T/4 Harry Hartman, Army Pictorial Service.)

## ENTERTAIN AT ANNUAL BANQUET THURSDAY EVENING

### Swan Quarter Vocational Students Host to Mothers And Dads

The Home Economics Club and the Future Farmers of America of the Swan Quarter high school entertained at a Mother-Daughter Father-Son Banquet Thursday evening, March 22nd in the Home Economics Department of the school.

The tables were decorated with spring flowers, blue candles, yellow and blue nut cups, blue programs and individual yellow bouquets. The Farm Family Living Class served as waiters and waitresses.

Guests from the State Department of Public Instruction were Miss Mabel Lacy, District Supervisor of Home Economics, T. B. Elliott, District Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture Education and Roy H. Thomas, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture Education.

Other invited guests included the County Superintendent of Schools, the County Board of Commissioners, local school committees, parents of the club members, and business friends of the community.

Blandina Credle, president of the Home Economics Club, served as toastmistress for the banquet. William Wheeler, president of the Future Farmers conducted a meeting during the program.

The Home Economics Club advisor is Mrs. Alice R. Williamson. The Future Farmer advisor is J. M. Worrell.

## ENJOY HOT DOG ROAST

Members of the Engelhard High School Home Ec Club and their guests enjoyed a hot dog roast at the home of T. J. Mann, III, Wednesday night.



Released by U. S. War Department, Bureau of Public Relations.  
**IN THE TRENCHES IN ITALY**—Firing an 81-mm. mortar from a dugout on the battle line of the Fifth Army in the Apennines. Left to right, Pfc. Forrest M. McClain, Lenor, N. C.; Cpl. Marlin Swibert, Carlisle, Pa., and Pfc. Weldon Worrell, Hillsville, Va., of the 85th Division. (Photo by Harry Hartman, Army Pictorial Service.)

## BLUE-GASOLINE CASE CONTINUED IN COURT

### Manteo Baptist Minister's Case Center of Much Interest; Order Stands

Much interest has prevailed in the recent case of the gasoline ration of Rev. W. C. Blue, pastor of the Manteo Baptist Church which was to have been heard in Federal Court in Elizabeth City this week, but was continued by Judge Hutcheson to the next term, when Mr. Blue and the attorneys for the OPA both failed to appear in court.

Friends of Mr. Blue think this ends the case, and former Mayor L. D. Tarkington, staunch supporter of his minister, thinks the ration board should never have bothered Mr. Blue at all, about his trip to Florida in the winter with an A card. On the other hand, there has been much criticism of the preacher, not only for taking the trip, but for his attitude in the matter, which is characterized by some of his best friends as "extreme bullheadedness."

Ration board officials requested Mr. Blue to appear before the board and show cause why his gasoline ration should not be revoked. This was done only after pressure was brought on the board from higher up. Mr. Blue ignored their several requests, and refused to do any explaining. Whereupon the board "grounded" his car for six months, and notified all filling stations not to sell him any gasoline. The legal division of the OPA brought a case against him in Federal Court. Whereupon Mr. Blue hired Attorney Henry LeRoy, prominent Elizabeth City Baptist to defend him. Mr. Blue's friends related that Mr. Blue thought his attorney had everything fixed up in Raleigh, and there would be no more of the matter. As a matter of fact, there seems to have been some effort before Federal Court came up on the part of the authorities in Raleigh to mollify the situation and let Mr. Blue go his way rejoicing.

Wide speculation as to this course has prevailed locally. Some express the thought that maybe the laws are not sufficiently strong to maintain a case for the OPA. Others think the attorneys dislike to go into the case, rather than raise a stink by uncovering the source of gas tickets which has kept Mr. Blue's car going, and fear it might involve prominent people. Most likely it may be that church loyalty among Baptist in Raleigh may be rallying to Mr. Blue's cause.

Generally in Manteo, the situation is greatly deplored because Mr. Blue seems to have been developing so well as a preacher, and doing a fine job with the Manteo Baptist Church. The outgrowth of his refusal to smooth matters over as might had been done in the beginning has neutralized much of his force for good. In fact it is said he is planning to take a new church, and it may have been that his trip to Florida party for his health, was to look over certain church fields in that state.

## PLEASANT GROVE CLUB MEETS WITH MRS. WILLIAMS

The Pleasant Grove Home club of near Engelhard met at the home of Mrs. C. N. Williams last Tuesday afternoon. Eight members were present.

During the last meeting, Miss Iberia Roach, home agent, gave out more Red Cross material to be sewed. She gave a demonstration on "Well Planned Meals from Pantry Supplies." \$45 was donated to the Jane S. McKimmons Loan Fund.

## HYDE NEGRO IN STATES AFTER BEING OVERSEAS

Pfc. Susman L. Collins (Negro) son of Mrs. Henrietta Collins of Lake Landing has recently returned from service outside the continental limits of the United States and is now temporarily stationed at the Ground and Service Forces Redistribution Station here.

Pfc. Collins served 35 months as Machine-Gunner in the Asiatic-Pacific theatre of operations. He is a recipient of the following decorations Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and the American Defense Medal.

Before entering the service Pfc. Collins was employed by Edward Barber, of Lake Landing, North Carolina.

## TRAWL BOATS ILLEGALLY FISHING WITH IMPUNITY IN CAROLINA WATERS

### Fifty Boats Alleged to be Operating Along Dare County Coast, Fishing Within 300 Yards of Shore, Prove Harmful to Industry of Natives; Huge Catches Made



(U. S. Marine Corps Photo)  
**Marine Pfc. Carl E. Bliss of East Syracuse, N. Y., is shown with his canine charge, "Boy," a captured Jap war dog seized on Guam and retained for use in action against his former masters. The shepherd-collie is with the Second War Dog Platoon, now serving with the Second Marine Division somewhere in the Pacific.**

## NEW OFFICERS OF HYDE O.E.S. INSTALLED

### Ceremony Held Last Thursday Evening; Mrs. Long Is New Worthy Matron

New officers of Hyde Chapter, No. 213, Order of the Eastern Star, were installed in ceremonies at the lodge hall at Lake Landing last Thursday evening. Mrs. Ruby Long is the new Worthy Matron and J. M. Long is Worthy Patron.

A profusion of spring flowers were beautifully arranged in the chapter room, entrance hall and dining room of the old Mattamuskeet Lodge. The decoration were arranged by the Worthy Matron, Mrs. Alese Mann.

A number of O. E. S. members from the Swan Quarter chapter attended the installation ceremonies.

Mrs. Lydia Miller served as installing officer; Mrs. Marshall Patrick as installing marshalls; and Mrs. Belle Gibbs as installing chaplain.

The following officers were installed: Mrs. Ruby Long, Worthy Matron; J. M. Long, Worthy Patron; Mrs. Maggie Silverthorne, Associate Matron; Dr. J. W. Miller, Associate Patron; Mrs. Myra Patrick, secretary; Mrs. Janie Fulford, treasurer; Mrs. Lucy Cox, conductress; Mrs. Bell Gibbs, chaplain; Mrs. Annie Payne, Marshall; Mrs. Lydia Miller, organist; Mrs. Hazel Silverthorne, Adah; Mrs. Mary Cooper, Ruth; Mrs. Virginia Miller, Esther; Mrs. Lola Gibbs, Martha; Mrs. Nollie Barrett, Electa; Miss Grace Berry, Warden and Mrs. Aldeene Meekins, Sentinel.

After the meeting adjourned, members and visitors were invited to the dining room where a birthday cake was served with fruit punch. Eight candles were lighted by Mrs. Alese, Junior Past Matron, representing the eight years of service of the Hyde Chapter O. E. S.



More than fifty trawl boats many of them from Virginia and states further north are said to be operating illegally in North Carolina waters, sweeping the water clean of many fish that might come into the nets of fishermen in the sounds. These boats, 19 of which were counted last week by one observer, were fishing inside the three miles limit, and some of them within 300 yards of shore. These 19 vessels were in the immediate area near Kill Devil Hills.

Immense catches of fish, principally croakers, were made, and some of the trawl boats brought their fish into Manteo where they were sold to Dave Whitson and to Willie Etheridge. The smaller and less speedy trawlers thereby obtain better prices by selling into Manteo, before the larger boat could get into Norfolk and flood the markets.

Old fishermen predict that this unusual run of croakers predicts a return of blue fish, which seldom come into these waters once in about 15 to 20 years. The coming of the bluefish is something greatly wished for by commercial as well as sport fishermen.

## \$5,800 Catch to Boat

Although the activities of many boats on the ocean side, with a vast amount of net to sweep the seas clean may have kept many fish from coming in the inlets, and crossing the sounds to the pound net fishermen the largest catches of croakers ever known have been taken by some long net fishermen in Roanoke Sound between Manteo and Nags Head. Henry Hayward and Ernest Hayward of Colington made one catch which brought them \$5,800 in one day last week. Dan Baum and other fishermen have made large catches. And day after day the croakers kept coming in. But the high price of 12 cents had dwindled, and by Wednesday of this week fishermen were getting only three cents a pound.

The huge catch of croakers, which are in excellent condition for eating at this time of year, brought into play every available truck, and all the ice that could be obtained at the time. It worked the fish buyers' limited forces pretty hard in getting them to market. But it proved a boon to many fishermen, of whom some have been in a steady run of hard luck for a long time.

Shad fishermen are still viewing this season as a practical failure. Many of the fishermen have not pair expenses. A few fishermen have made fair wages. The end of the season is at hand, and already the buyers of carp are on the scene with their tank trucks. And now fishermen are looking forward to crabbing again this year, for the past two years has brought them big profits from crabs.

## MISS BERRY'S ENGAGEMENT TO MR. MILLER ANNOUNCED

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Berry of New Holland announce the engagement of their daughter, Shirley Grey, to Edgar James Miller, Chief Petty Officer (C/MO/MM) U. S. N., of Clearfield, Pa., son of Mrs. Olga Miller of Greystone Park, N. J., and the late Edgar Miller. The engagement took place March 5 in Portsmouth. They celebrated the occasion with immediate friends at the V.F.W. Club at Cradock, Va.

Miss Berry attended the Engelhard High School and is a graduate of Portsmouth Beauty School in Portsmouth. She is now employed by the Naval Ammunition Depot, St. Julians Creek, Portsmouth.

The groom-to-be attended the Clearfield High School. He entered the U.S.N. in 1939 and has served 16 months overseas. Chief Petty Officer Miller is serving on a mine sweeper which has recently been assigned to duty in the Pacific.

No date has been set for the wedding.

Buy More Bonds and Stamps.