The Virginia Citizen.

DEMOCRATIC WEEKLY.
[Enteredat Irvington P.O. as 2d class matter.]

VA. CITIZEN PUBLISHING CO.
PUBLISHERS.

SUBSCRIPTION: $1.00 a year, in advance.

W. R. ROWE, OFFICE MANAGER.

All communications or business letters should be addressed to the VIRGINIA CITIZEN, Irvington, Va., to receive prompt attention.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

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For Supt. Public Instruction:
JOS. D. EGGLESTON.

For House of Delegates:
[Lancaster and Richmond.]
R. CARTER WELLFORD.
[Northumberland and Westmoreland.]
T. AUGUSTUS JETT.

Friday, September 10, 1909

GREAT DOINGS.

Within the last week great doings went on in, above and on land and water. September 1st Dr. Cook announced that he had discovered the North Pole (as recorded in our last issue); to be followed in five days by record of similar triumph by Lieut. Peary, both Americans; that same week (August 27) Henry Farman went up in his aeroplane, remaining in the air over three-and-a-quarter hours, and flying 118 miles; the next day Glenn H. Curtiss flew about twelve-and-a-half miles in less than 16 minutes; on August 30th the submarine boat Narwhal made a record breaking speed and time of immersion greater than ever before attained; and the steamer Lusitania broke all Atlantic records, crossing the ocean in 4 days, 11 hours and 42 minutes, an average of nearly 26 knots an hour. Next?

THE last hope of the epicure and the castiron-stomach man is about to be dissipated. Pure-food scientists had left but little for the seeker after health to feed upon, and corn bread—the solid, healthy old standby of our venerable forefathers—all thought would stand the test. Within a few days the doctors have discovered a new disease—pellagra, so-called—produced by eating corn bread, and within ten days double that number of cases have been announced. All we can do now, since wheat and other things are so high, is to continue mincing at our cornpone and await death with as much equanimity as possible, while our faces grow wan and the eye becomes dim expecting any moment an announcement that we have pellagra as a result. It is either this or to learn the art of living without eating. What matters it if we die learning—like the old woman's cow—just so we learn?

That is a very good suggestion which the Danville Register makes of submitting the question of "primary or no primary" to a vote of the Democratic party. That would stop a great deal of unnecessary talk, and definitely settle the matter.—Petersburg Index-Appeal.

That suits us, provided that the Primary to which the question is submitted should be so safeguarded as to ensure an honest recordation of the will of a majority.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

The VIRGINIA CITIZEN believes it was first to suggest submitting the issue of the primary to the voters, but it is glad to see the thing pushed along by such stalwart helpers. In the light of some recent local events, we believe the question of "primary" or "no primary" should be safeguarded in the primary.

WHEN he gets pushed to the wall the editorial scribbler on the N. N. News tries to distract attention by bawling out that his adversary is "driven to a virtual admission" (N. B.—stereotyped and copyrighted by the Montross end of the N. N. News.) The CITIZEN admitted virtually nothing in its contention on the Richmond county primary. We reproduced facts, and not one of them was controverted. If it wants it's readers to know the truth of this matter we challenge our Warsaw contemporary to republish its editorial of August 20th (and any other it desires) with our reply of the 27th. The truth should be interesting reading. That's all.

SOME piqued politicians and their friendly papers make much ado over the fact that Martin, Swanson, Flood, Byrd, Ellyson, et als., consulted as to the plan of campaign and when to call the State committee together. If these gentlemen are not the party leaders then who are, pray? If they had let the party business go by default the same kickers would have howled.

THE fact that there were over seventy-three thousand votes polled in the recent primary will take the wind out of the sails of the Republican braggarts who are claiming that thirty thousand stay-at-homes augured well for the vote to be polled by that party in November. The Democratic nominees are assured of seventy-three thousand votes—and each Democrat should do his part to make it more—while the Republicans cannot reasonably hope for over fifty thousand, and a strong probability of less.

THE West Point News is usually a helpful paper to that far-off place at the head of the York, but a late issue unintentionally damaged the healthfulness of the city by publishing that "our popular druggist, Dr. ——, reports that he was never so busy filling prescriptions since he has been at West Point than recently". Wouldn't do that again, neighbor. It looks bad for W. P. Redeem yourself friend Broaddus by saying they were out-of-town customers.

A SINGLE robber held up a Pennsylvania train and made the hands carry the bullion to a spot in the woods. When he bade them adieu, he marched off with a heavy sack of new pennies, thinking them gold. His chagrin has not been registered yet, as he has not been located, but it is said his disgust was chiefly because the artist's initials were lacking.

FROM examinations and reports the quantity of oysters on Virginia beds and rocks is greater than for many years past. All that is now wanted is the market. For two seasons there has been little or no market for Virginia oysters, but there are promises of good demand this season.

WE ARE wondering why Royall E. Cabell, Federal Collector, and W. P. Kent, Republican nominee for governor, should be dined and wined, and get top-of-column, first page, when a Democratic campaign and candidates are appealing to the Democracy of Virginia and its newspapers.

'TWAS ever thus in the political hour. Promised work and good wages prior to Taft's election, thousands of workmen in Pennsylvania today are facing the grim situation of a lockout. Periodically fooled before election, they reap the results after their masters get the whip-hand.

WITH a good menhaden fish season (drawing to a close); a good tomato crop (now at its height), and a promising outlook on the oyster market (the oysters are here) we are ready to hallo, although not quite out of the woods.

TOP O' the morning to you, Brothers Moseley and Atwill, upon the Danville Methodist's passing its seventeenth year. The "Siventeenth" is an omen of good luck to Emerald patriots. May it be so to you and yours.

PEDAGOGS can now assure their pupils that the North pole is no pole at all, nor yet a hole in the ground. Only a great big iceberg, with ground or water beneath it. My! how we are learning things!

LET us all get together now to elect the Democratic nominees and see how badly we can lick the common foe.

POLITICAL.

It cost Harry Tucker $15,829.40 to run for governor. Political fun comes high. It cost Harry Houston $23.50 to run for the House of Delegates, but if he got a dollar's worth of fun out of the contest we never heard of it.—Newport News Times-Herald.

In a speech at Nottoway courthouse the other day Judge Mann stated that since he was to be honored with the highest office in the gift of the people of this commonwealth he would never again be a candidate before them for anything and that he now had but one ambition and that was to do all in his power to advance the best interests of all the people of Virginia and to give them, in the highest sense of the term, a business administration. That is the most sensible resolve we have ever known a Virginia candidate for governor to make in advance of election.—Times-Herald.

In referring to the defeat of Hon. Hill Montague, of Richmond, in the recent primary for re-nomination for a seat in the Legislature, the Clifton Forge Review thinks that it was due to Mr. Montague's refusal to vote for the confirmation of Judge Rhea. "Judge Rhea," says the Review, "is a Democrat, was appointed by a Democratic Governor and was up for confirmation before a Democratic Legislature. He and the great majority of Democratic voters had a right to expect the Democrats to stand by the party, but Mr. Montague put his party aside for the time being and voted with the opposition. In view of his action, we were not surprised to learn that Mr. Montague had been put aside by the voters."

THE SKY IS CLEARING.

(Richmond Times-Dispatch.)

Political developments of the last few days have cleared the Democratic horizon considerably. The strong utterance of Judge Mann on the good roads question, the calling of the State Democratic Committee, and Mr. Byrd's interview, have all contributed towards driving away the clouds.

All of these things contribute to the same end—the betterment of the Democratic party and the welfare of the State. With the Governor pledged to a wise and comprehensive road policy, and with many legislators advocating like measures, Virginia has every assurance that the next Assembly will not take a step backwards in dealing with the State's highways.

OUTLOOK FOR OYSTERS GOOD.

Reports Agree That Coming Season is to Be a Good One.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 2.—Assurance of an abundant supply of wholesome oysters during the present newly opened season is given by Dr. H. F. Moore, expert on oysters and assistant of the United States Bureau of Fisheries who returned today from an extended and exhaustive investigation of the oyster beds of Maryland and Virginia.

"The State Boards of Health are taking active interest in the supervision of the beds to insure cleanliness," said Dr. Moore, "and the pure food bureau of the Department of Agriculture is maintaining strict supervision on all interstate shipments. Many cases of typhoid fever are unfairly charged to the oyster. While some cases may be traced to the mollusk, the oyster is not responsible for as many cases of the fever it is credited with. Every precaution is being taken, though, and the boards of health of the several States in the East are prohibiting the planting and replanting of oyster beds in impure waters."

The natural beds of Maryland and Virginia are well stocked with the oyster growth and the planters of these States have a considerable supply of the bivalves.

[Richmohd Times Dispatch.]

The month with an "R" is here and with it oysters. Not of the small, lean variety, but of the kind that generally come at midseason. All the oysters received yesterday were taken from Virginia beds. In resturants the counter where the bivalves are served was the most popular. It is roughly estimated that 500 dozen were sent in to supply the demand.

One hotel proprietor boasts the largest sale, having served more than sixty dozen on the half shell, and another is second, with more than forty dozen. "This will be the greatest year the Virginia tongers have ever known," said one dealer, "as the demand will about equal the supply. It is almost impossible to get oysters North, and this will greatly increase the output from this State. The oysters received are of a much better grade than they were this time last year, and in fact, we could not complain if they do not improve as the season advances."

Reports from Norfolk indicate that the outlook is good. Some planters have examined their private beds, and finding them well stocked with oysters of good quality, are led to hope for a prosperous season. In addition, the tongers expect the market to be strong, as the "sets" in Narragansett Bay and along Long Island Sound were failures this year. The Virginia bivalves will therefore be in demand, and should find a ready market in the North.

The consensus of opinion among dealers this year is that the entire crop will be from 15 to 20 per cent, better than last year. They judge this, however, from the favorableness of the summer season for the growth and development of natural rock.

This is pleasant news to all who are interested in the welfare of this great industry, and should be the occasion of rejoicing throughout Tidewater.

[Baltimore American.]

It is claimed by those throughly acquainted with the business that the present supply in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries promise to be larger and of finer quality than during last season, as a great many medium-sized oysters which were left on the beds have had a chance to mature, and these will constitute the principal catch of the season. Reports from different sections of the Bay and its rivers are meager, but from the accounts of boatmen there will be plenty of oysters for the local supply and the packing houses.

The opening of the tonging season for oysters was marked by the beginning of work on local oyster grounds by most of the oystermen. Prospects of a large catch are excellent, while the dry season has improved the flavor of the oysters by allowing the water to become salty. Prices are low at this season and most of the oysters are caught and bedded.

[Norfolk Ledger Dispatch.]

Captain Tilton Conklin, one of the largest oyster planters in this section, said today that the indications point to a good oyster season in Virginia so far as the supply is concerned. The oysters have had favorable weather for early spawning, are now fattening up, and he thinks everything points to a fine year.

The outlook for good prices for Virginia oysters seems good. They are somewhat ahead of the Maryland oysters and just so long as the Virginia market can keep in advance of the large supply sent out from Baltimore following the beginning of "oyster dredging," the local packers will do well. The Chesapeake oyster dredgers deliver most of their hauls to the Baltimore market.

[The Washington Herald.]

Virginia oyster growers and planters are pleased with prospects for the season, which begins on Tuesday. It is stated that the advance orders already booked give evidence of the fact that the public is oyster-hungry, and the dealers are pleased with the outlook for supplying the demand. Virginia oysters are, it is reported, somewhat further advanced than those of Maryland and for this reason the local dealers expect that the trade will be brisk from the start, more so than usual.

Last season Norfolk dealers were practically barred from the more Northern markets on account of the plentiful crop in the Connecticut and Rhode Island beds. Consequently, they had only the Southern and Middle Western trade to depend upon. Hot weather in these localities contributed toward decreasing the demand there, for it is a well known fact that the average consumer will not eat oysters unless the temperature is unusually low. Warm weather seems to destroy entirely the taste for the bivalves.

[Fishing Gazette, N. Y.]

The oyster season this year has opened under most auspicious circumstances. Stuck has never been finer than at present, the country is prosperous, which means the people have money, and the weather is cool—the kind that is needed for an active market. The wholesale New York City trade is in an enviable position. * * At Crisfield, Md., the season looks good to both the oystermen and packers. The bottoms are filled with stock of exceptional quality and size, which means an unusual catch throughout the season. There is every indication that prices will be good. * * The Chesapeake Bay oysters and the bivalves found in the waters adjacent to same. have a world-wide reputation, and are considered the best produced in the United States.

THE OYSTER QUESTION.

(Newport News Times-Herald.)

The president of the Chamber of Commerce of Newport News has received the following letter from Mr. W. McDonald Lee, Commissioner of Fisheries:

DEAR SIR: I see by the newspapers your Chamber has been agitating the subject of abolishing the Baylor Survey, and has been addressed along this line by Mr. Armstrong and others. Coupled with the speeches were some strictures upon the Commission of Fisheries. The tone of the press would lead one to believe that the Chamber of Commerce has been so impressed by these exparte views it will likely urge the next Legislnture to follow them out.

It strikes me that your body could hardly go before the Legislature fortified with only one view of the great oyster problem. In fairness to itself, I do not see how the Chamber can stop its ears to the tongers' side of the question, to say nothing of omitting views that might have been presented by the oyster officials, who should (and I believe are) absolutely conservative, taking sides with neither of the extremists.

Ignoring the many-time criticisms on the Commission of Fisheries, I would have been glad, had it been agreeable to the Chamber, to arrange a date on which to present the views of my commission, and more than glad if it could have been at a time when Mr. Armstrong was presenting his views.

Very truly yours,
W. MCDONALD LEE.
Commissioner of Fisheries for Va.
Irvington, Va., Aug. 20.

The Chamber of Commerce is endeavoring to gain information on this important subject and to that end invited Mr. Richard Armstrong of Hampton to address the body at its last meeting. This invitation was entirely voluntary, without hint or suggestion, of course, from Mr. Armstrong or any of his friends. When the invitation was extended Mr. Armstrong said that he would accept provided it should be made clear that he would speak by request of the board of directors and not as a volnnteer. And in his address, he emphasized the fact that he was not criticising the Commission of Fisheries or the Commissioner of Fisheries, but the system. The fault, said he, was in the law and not in the manner of its execution.

MR. CURLETT REPLIES.

EDITOR VIRGINIA CITIZEN:

I wish to reiterate that I mailed Mr. Chinn a list of gentlemen to represent me in the primary in Richmond Co., and further was assured by him that there would be a Mann-Curlett judge at each precinct. How well that promise was kept he and the judges appointed know. Whether the letter ever reached Mr. Chinn or not, I am powerless to say, except to take his word for it—which I do. I felt hurt in not receiving any reply to my letter.

Now, as to reflecting upon judges: such a thing was never contemplated; but it seems reasonable if Mr. Wellford's friends should lay such stress upon two out of three judges in Lancaster I ought at least to have had one out of three in Richmond county. The more high-toned and influential the judge the more the influence he would exert, and still could be perfectly fair.

As to Dr. Middleton, Mr. Chinn heard the gentleman make his assertion at Sharps as to Republicans voting, as also did Hon. Jno. M. Lyell at Farnham. The Doctor went further and stated at Wharton Grove, after the primary, he still believed a Republican could vote in the primary under a pledge to support the nominee.

But we will see how near Mann will come to polling the late primary vote in Richmond county. It is up to you, gentlemen. Don't begin to "shrink" now.

JNO. CURLETT.

CRISP NEWS.

Latest reports from the flooded district of Mexico report the deaths at 3,000.

A lighted cigarette accidentally dropped in a box of fuses hurled 12 men to death and injured many more at Key West, Fla.

Five hundred dollars in notes without a line to indicate the name of the sender was recieved at the State auditor's office. The letter came from a man who in March sent a similar amount to the conscience fund.

The State Corporation Commission has granted a charter to the Newport News and Yorktown Railway Corporation, which proposes to build a steam road from Newport News to Yorktown, a distance of about twenty miles.

TOMATO CANNING OUTLOOK.

From extensive reports the tomato crop along the Rappahannock valley is extra good. Along the Potomac the crop and pack has been fair, while on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland there will not be half a pack.

The fruit in the Northern Neck is exceptionally large and solid, packing more cans to the bushel than usual.

Packers of corn on the Eastern Shore of Maryland say there will not be a third of a crop.

Gunby & Son, Irvington, canned 338 cases (676 dozen cans) of tomatoes Wednesday.

NEWBILLS GREAT RIDERS.

In the tournament contest last week in Essex, out of nine riders thi following were winners, according to the Tidewater Democrat: Henry Logan Newbill (age 18 years), first; Burnley Newbill (age 17), second; John W. Newbill (age 19), third; and Sydney Newbill (age 21), fourth—crowning respectively, as queen and maids of honor, Misses Ella Garnett Hoskins, Bettie Trible, Annie Laurie Dillard and Susan Diggs.

NORTH POLE DISCOVERED.

American the First to Reach the Coveted Goal.

The American explorer Cook, after two years, on Wednesday of last week reached civilization and wires the news that his party reached the North pole on April 21, 1908. This was recorded in our columns last Friday.

This event has set all the world agog. Nothing has so completely occupied the public stage for many years. After prolonged fight against famine and frost Dr. Fred A. Cook, of Brooklyn, has, according to his story, at last succeeded in reaching the North Pole. A new highway, with an interesting strip of animated nature, has at last been explored. Big game haunts were located, which will delight the sportsman and extend the Eskimo horizon. Land has been discovered, upon which rest the earth's northernmost rocks. A triangle of 30,000 square miles has been cut out of the terrestrial unknown.

Dr. Cook's narrative to the King of Denmark and the scientists when he landed Wednesday is reduced as follows:

The only witnesses I had were two Eskimos, certainly, but in all polar expeditions observations have been made by one man. I regard the Eskimo as much more intelligent in finding positions than the white man in the Arctic. These people as a rule are not absolutely ignorant. They know that the earth is round. They have aname for the pole, which they call the "Big Nail."

Concerning the ice around the pole, so far as I could see, it was slightly more active than at one or two degrees south. It drifted somewhat more to the south and east. Its general character is not very different from that at other places. We stayed around the pole for two days making many observations. We planted the Stars and Stripes at the spot we believed to be the pole. I placed a small silk flag in a brass cylinder with my card and the record of the journey with the date. The drift ice may carry the flag away, but to me that is a matter of indifference. I should have been very glad to have found land there.

I am quite prepared to place my observations before any geographical society in the world. I think there is no doubt about my obtaining authoritative recognition. I offer my observations to science the same as other men have done, and I accept the responsibility.

As to the temperature at the pole, it was minus 83. I took about 400 photographs, one of which shows the American flag flying. These as yet have not been developed.

Questioned regarding his great speed, Dr. Cook said:

"The daily distance covered on the northward trip was slightly less than fifteen miles; on the southward trip it was ten miles. This is not an abnormal distance for Eskimos on the ice. They often travel fifty or sixty miles with dogs. One of the greatest advantages of our trip was that I did not take a famine route. We had game for a long time, perhaps for a hundred miles. We fed our dogs well throughout the winter in Greenland, and ran them 400 miles, giving them fresh meat every day. Thus we brought them to the polar zone fat and well. We had the best men and the best dogs."

PEARY GETS THE POLE.

Within Five Days From Cook's Announcement Comes News of Another Discovery.

Strange coincident that, after four centuries of struggle two Americans should announce within a week of each other that each had reached the North Pole.

Lieut. Peary's messages on Monday were brief: "Stars and Stripes nailed to the North Pole"; "Have made good at last"; "I have the Pole April 6" (1909).

When he gets lower into civilization we shall know more of his feat.

LATER: Via Baltimore yesterday morning:—The following message was received here Wednesday:

Indian Harbor, Labrador (by wireless Cape Ray, N. F.), Sept. 8.—I have nailed the Stars and Stripes to the North Pole. This is authoritative and correct.

Cook's story should not be taken too seriously. The two Eskimoes who accompanied say he went no distance north, and not out of sight of land. Other members of the tribe corroborate their story.

PEARY.

NARROW ESCAPE.

Perry Miller and brother, of Mathews, left Norfolk Sunday afternoon in a gasolene boat, bound to East river. About 7 o'clock while off York Spit the boat it is supposed struck a trap stake and swamped. They made a raft out of hatches put on life preservers and drifted with the ebb tide, which took them to Back river. Perry reached the shore and went to the light-keeper, who went out about 150 yards from shore and got the brother who was exhausted. It was between 12 and 1 o'clock at night when they were rescued.

WARSHIPS SALUTE MAURY.

Just before it steamed from Hamp-Roads yesterday morning, the cruiser division was passed by the Virginia oyster police boat Commodore Maury, which was returning from Tappahannock, where a monument was unveiled Wednesday. The Maury had some Norfolk militiamen aboard and it saluted the cruisers. The big warships replied with a salute.—Newport News Press.

STR. WESTMORELAND DAMAGED.

In a dense fog Wednesday morning the Chesapeake Line steamer Atlanta rammed the Maryland, Delaware and Virginia Railway steamer Westmoreland, just below Fort Carroll. The Atlanta was uninjured. The Westmoreland sustained damages amidships amounting to about $2,000. Both vessels continued on their way. As both vessels were going slowly, the collision was slight to what it might have been. The Atlanta's nose rammed the Westmoreland just aft of her starboard wheelhouse, smashing in her heavy guard.

SOME DEATHS.

Charles S. Haynie, one of the best known citizens of Lancaster, died at his home at Lancaster C. H. Friday evening, after a lingering illness, of paralysis, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was a native of Northumberland, where his ancestors had lived from the earliest settlement of that county. For many years he was a merchant at Lancaster and served as postmaster under Cleveland's administration. He was also one of the justices of the peace in Mantua District. He is survived by his wife and the following children: Mrs. Atticus H. James, of White Stone; Mrs. Frederick de Sousa, of New York; Miss Lola Haynie, Mrs. James H. McKenney, Miss Marie Haynie and Raymond Haynie, of Lancaster. The religious services were conducted by the Rev. L. R. Combs, rector of the Episcopal churches in this parish, and the Masonic burial service by Lancaster Union Lodge, of which he had been a member for many years. The interment was Saturday afternoon in the family burying ground near Broun's Store, in Northumberland.

On Friday morning, August 6th, the soul of Mrs. B. C. Brent left its mortal dwelling, where it had resided for 47 years, and fled to its eternal home, and since Sunday afternoon, August 8th, her body has been resting quietly in the cemetery of Bethel M. E. church. Mrs. Brent before her marriage was Miss Florence Edwards, of Illinois. About two years ago Mr. Brent and his family moved to Virginia, and since that time they have made Lancaster county their home. Mrs. Brent became sick very suddenly and it was soon realized by her physician and family that her physical condition was extremely serious and that a speedy operation was necessary; consequently on Tuesday before her death she was taken to the Maryland University Hospital by Dr. Steuart, her husband and eldest daughter, Miss Ethel Brent. At first the operation seemed successful and the sorrow of the husband and daughter was lightened, but only for a short while, for it was very soon visible that her life was ebbing away, and in the early hours of Friday morning it ceased to exist. The news of her death was a great shock to loved ones and friends at her home, for she was such a healthy looking and thoroughly alive woman that it seemed impossible to think of her as being dead. Mrs. Brent was an excellent wife and mother, and a good Christian woman. By those who knew her she was noted for her kind-heartedness and forgiving disposition. Soon after her arrival here she had her membership transferred to Bethel church and since then she had been an active worker there. As teacher of the Bible class her influence will be especially missed and her place will be hard to fill. It seems very hard that she should have been taken just at this time for her husband had just had built a pretty, comfortable dwelling at "Belmont", on the Rappahannock, and she was very enthusiastic over her new home, but lived only a month after its completion. The members of the family, however, have the consolation of knowing that everything in their power was done to prevent her death, for to those looking on never was attention more perfect or devotion more beautiful, and they have every reason to believe that she is free from all pain and suffering and in a home more beautiful than she could have ever had in this world. A grandmother, mother, several sisters, a husband, two daughters and two sons are left in deep grief, but they have the sympathy of many friends.

FISH AND OYSTER NOTES.

Great quantities of Potomac oysters are arriving in Baltimore.

Oysters dropped to 50 and 60 cents in Baltimore Wednesday, owing to excessive supply.

A meeting, called by Hon. J. N. Stubbs, was held at Gloucester Monday (courtday) last to discuss oyster legislation.

Oyster tonging season opened in Maryland and the Potomac river September 1st. In Virginia waters the season begins September 15th.

A clammer in the mouth of Piankatank thought he would also take some oysters. Inspector Christian was "on to him", and he passed up a fine.

The Oyster Packers & Planters Ass'n will hold meeting at Cape Charles September 14, 10 a. m. Capt. J. C. Robinson, of Hampton, President, has issued the call.

The Chincoteague oystermen have about finished the summer hauling of their barrel stock. The quantity is the largest for years, and the condition for the season very good. The catching of seed oysters for planting begins with September.—Onancock Corr. in Times-Dispatch.

W. McD. Lee, President of our Board of Fisheries, and Secretary Matthews were recently in Norfolk. Speaking of the Nansemond and James rivers, in which the survey has been made, they say the work will be finished in September. Dr. Moore has had able assistance from our Board.—The Oysterman.

Though the oyster season is not yet in full swing, and will not be until the public beds open on the 15th, several thousand bushels have been brought to Norfolk by sloops and bugeyes from the James and Rappahannock rivers within the past four days, and the market is unusually good. * * Hot weather and salty water on the beds during the summer have caused the oystermen to predict that the quality of the natural oysters will be splendid, and all that the tongers are looking for is a short rainy spell to make the shell fruit fat and delicious. * * The oysters brought in yesterday brought from 70 to 90 cents per bushel, and retailed for $1.20 per gallon. The price will probably remain about the same until after the 15th, but by October 1st it will be down to 40 and 35 cents a bushel.—Norfolk Virginian-Pilot.

Boys flying kites haul in their white-winged birds,
But you can't do that when you're flying words;
Thoughts unexpressed may sometimes drop back dead,
But God himself can't kill them when they're said.

—Carleton.

SOME FIRES.

One of the dwellings at Millenbeck, occupied by Fred. Starr, was destroyed by fire Sunday evening. Sparks set fire to the old store, but prompt assistance by a crowd around put it out before any damage was done.

Barn and contents, consisting of hay, farming implements, etc., belonging to George Banks, colored, near Irvington was burned Monday. Fire was started by his five-year-old son lighting a match to find eggs in the hay. Loss about $400 with no insurance.

Store and stock of goods belonging to A. Spicer Mitchell, at Boer, Deep creek, Lancaster county, were destroyed by fire Monday morning about 3 o'clock. At time of origin of fire, which was up stairs, there was no one in the building nor had there been for some time, so it is attributed to rats and matches. Loss between $3,000 and $4,000 with $1,800 insurance in old line company.

On Friday morning of last week at about 10 o'clock Ira Hinson's barn, near Miskimon, was destroyed by fire, with its contents, consisting of nine thousands bundles of blade fodder, one new wheat drill, a mower and wheat binder, two tons of fertilizers and forty bushels of wheat. Loss about $700 with no insurance. The origin of the fire is unknown as Mr. Hinson was away from home at the time.

OWEN DILLARD BURNED.

Steamer Owen Dillard, which for about fourteen years carried the mail between White Stone and Urbanna was burned early Monday morning at her dock in Carters Creek where she had been moored since July 1st when she went out of service. She was owned by Capt. H. C. Bayton, who also owned the Dr. W. J. Newbill, which was burned at the same dock about two years ago. Origin of fire unknown, but is supposed to be incendiary as there had been no fire on the boat for some time. The boat was insured.

NOMINI GROVE.

Several houses were burned near here the past week, attributed to the dry, windy weather. In most cases the men folks were absent from their homes. No insurance. Loss estimated at over a thousand dollars.

It was very gratifying to the writer recently while in company with "Seldom" to hear him speak so highly of the dear old CITIZEN'S Editor, W. McD. Lee. I feel he is worthy of all comments of the highest nature. May he long live to advocate the side of justice and right, as I believe he ever aims to do.

Miss Florrie Fones, of Warsaw, and Mr. Andrew Judson Stephens, of Washington, were married at Cobham Park church near Warsaw September 1st by Rev. G. M. Connelley. They left next morning for Baltimore and other places of interest. They will reside in Washington.

The factory here is overrun with tomatoes; keeping everybody they can get, busy. Really this is a busy time.

The housewives are busy canning and preserving fruits for family use.

Messrs. A. B., R. E., and J. A. Coates went to Colonial Beach, on a pleasuring trip recently.

The farmers here are busy saving their fodder, hauling tomatoes, etc.

Best wishes to CITIZENS' Editor, readers, and all.

R. D. C.

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