

THE INDEPENDENT

N. C. STATE LIB.
RALEIGH

VOL. XIV. NO. 691.

Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post-office at Elizabeth City, N. C., June 9, 1908.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1921.

Published Every Friday by W. O. Saunders at 305 E. Fanning St., Elizabeth City, N. C.

\$1.50 A YEAR

FUN, FROLIC AND THRILLS WHEN COAST GUARD COME

Throngs Will See Hydroplanes Assist in Rescue In Mimic Shipwreck, While Cinema Cameras Grind — Other Stunts

With flags flying, band playing, airplanes hovering overhead and everybody out for a good time, Elizabeth City will welcome the annual convention of the Surfmens' Mutual Benefit Association which meets in this city Tuesday, June 28. Elizabeth City has had several of these conventions before and every one of them has been the occasion of a great holiday.

The Surfmens' Mutual Benefit Association, organized right here in Elizabeth City nearly a quarter of a century ago, is a fraternal, benevolent and protective organization composed entirely of men in the U. S. Coast Guard or life saving service. These seasoned veterans of the surf are friendly, frolicsome and full of pep. When they come they not only graciously receive entertainment, but they do a bit of entertaining on their own account. They will entertain Elizabeth City next Tuesday with a number of spectacular exhibitions, showing just how they work in actual service.

Commodore W. E. Reynolds himself, commandant of all the Coast Guard, affectionately known as "The Old Man" (he is hardly 50), will leave his desk in Washington and come down to see the Coast Guard put on their stunts. The Fox Film Co., producers and distributors of news films will have their camera men to get moving pictures of these exhibitions, the first of their kind ever made for the screen. These pictures will be shown in every moving picture theatre in America.

With both The Old Man and the moving picture men here to watch them, the men of the Coast Guard are determined to give the biggest show possible. Picked crews, composed of men who have participated in the saving of lives from many of the worst wrecks recorded in the annals of the service, will man the life boats and other life-saving apparatus. One of the crews will be in charge of John Allen Midgett who was decorated by the King of England for the heroism of himself and men in braving a sea of fire to rescue the crew of a British oil tanker which was destroyed by a German submarine off the North Carolina coast during the world war.

Tuesday The Big Day

Tuesday will be the feature day of the Surfmens' Meet. The day's doings will commence at two o'clock with a duck race, for which everybody will be eligible. A number of ducks will be leased at a point on the river bank, and the contestants will swim after them. The prizes for the winners will be the ducks themselves. Each swimmer will be permitted to keep all that he can capture.

The beach gear apparatus will be brought into play at 2:30 and the spectators will be shown the life savers' way of rescuing the crew of a stranded schooner, with a real vessel anchored in Pasquotank River in full view of all. A crew from the Fifth District will compete with an outfit from this, the Seventh District, in the various drills and races of the day. At 2:45 the two U. S. Coast Guard hydroplanes, scheduled to arrive here Monday, will go thru a series of demonstrations which will include the carrying of shot lines to the "sinking" schooner in the river, showing the application of the latest development of aircraft in life saving operations. A second beach gear drill will be given at 3:30, and this will be followed by a race between two surfboats, manned by eight rowers each, over a mile course. At a point in this race, the crews will overturn the boats, right and bale them, climb in and complete the race, demonstrating their training for an accident that may happen at any time in a heavy sea.

Meanwhile, the crowds will be regaled with music by Ziegler's band, under the leadership of F. R. Hufty, director of the Elizabeth City Choral Society. Hufty is something of a musical genius, and can be depended upon to make the band's part of the day's celebration a success. The baseball teams of Hordford and Edenton, the two fastest non-league baseball outfits in this part of the State, will play on the local diamond Tuesday afternoon, and a hard-fought contest is indicated, because this game will break an existing tie in games won by the contesting aggregations.

A Thrilling Race

Another feature of Tuesday afternoon will be a race between a hydroplane, skimming the surface of the water, and a high-powered motor boat, both capable of a speed of 45 to 50 miles an hour under the conditions of the race, which do not permit the airship to rise clear of the river. Crack swimmers will also compete for the championship of the Coast Guard Service, and a ludicrous touch will be added in the tub race, in which contestants will endeavor to beat each other in tubs, paddling with their hands. There will also be a tilt-contest between rival crews in canoes, the objective of each crew being to capsize its opponents' craft, with long poles as weapons.

On Tuesday night, the visiting life savers will be tendered a banquet at the Southern Hotel. The business sessions of the meet will continue thru Wednesday.

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NOW A MEMBER OF THE FISHERIES COMMISSION



W. O. SAUNDERS
THE editor of this newspaper becomes a member of the North Carolina Fisheries Commission under a commission issued by Governor Morrison under date of June 18, 1921. Mr. Saunders' appointment is for a term of four years, beginning June 1, 1921. In the appointment of this Elizabeth City man to a position of unusual importance to eastern North Carolina Governor Morrison has again indicated his interest in Elizabeth City and the northeastern counties.

FREE CONCERT BY CHORAL SOCIETY

Public To Be Given a Rare Treat at Courthouse To-Night

Elizabeth City will enjoy a rare free musical treat to-night in a concert to be given at the courthouse by the Elizabeth City Choral Society. A picked chorus of 25 voices will render a number of selections and there will be several solos, duets and quartet numbers, including the Rigoletto quartet number to be sung by Mrs. Joe Greenleaf, Mrs. W. P. Duff, L. E. Skinner and Frank R. Hufty.

The purpose of the concert is to bring together a large audience of Elizabeth City people to tell them about the plans of the Choral Society and enlist their co-operation and support. As the Choral Society isn't begging for anything, no one need stay away thru a fear of having their bank accounts conscripted.

The Choral Society is a community organization and will succeed or fail according to the community interest in it. The meeting to-night will better acquaint the public with the plans and aspirations of the Choral Society and, incidentally, the audience will receive a great musical treat for which no admission will be charged.

FIRST STEPS TAKEN IN COUNTRY CLUB PROJECT

Committee Appointed to Canvass for Members and Locate Available Sites

Preliminary steps looking to the organization of a Country Club in Elizabeth City were taken Wednesday afternoon at a meeting of a dozen or more country club enthusiasts in the lounge of the Chamber of Commerce. It was the sense of the meeting that no permanent organization be attempted until the city has been canvassed for prospective membership and the largest possible number of people interested.

Two committees were appointed at Wednesday's meeting. One of these committees will make a canvass for memberships, to determine just how many people are interested. The other committee will locate available sites. Another meeting to be called in a few days will determine future action.

Among those present at Wednesday's meetings were W. A. Worth, C. O. Robinson, N. Howard Smith, S. B. Parker, Dr. Wm. Parker, Miles Clark, W. G. Gaither, W. P. Duff, Mrs. F. V. Scott, Mrs. W. A. Worth and Mrs. C. W. Howell.

W. A. Worth was elected chairman and R. C. Job secretary of the temporary organization.

STRAIGHTENING OUT CITY'S BOOK-KEEPING

A. Lee Rawlins & Co., expert public accountants of Norfolk are making an audit of the books of the city of Elizabeth City for the purpose of unraveling its tangled finances and installing a book-keeping system that will enable a city official of average intelligence to ascertain at any time just where the city "is at" financially. It is admitted that the city's book-keeping system has been altogether inadequate and the auditors are going back seven years to get things straight.

North Carolina ranks second in the enlisted and commissioned strength of the eight Southern States in the Fourth Corps area and only Georgia, with the big city of Atlanta to draw from, is ahead of North Carolina.

CROWLEY HAS NO FEAR OF PIRATES

Coast Guard Superintendent Scouts Theory of Pirates Taking Ships Off Carolina Coast

Theories that Russian pirates operating with a craft of the German U-Boat type are responsible for the mysterious disappearance of several ships and the wreck of the schooner Carrol A. Deering on Cape Lookout are scouted by Capt. R. T. Crowley, superintendent of the Seventh District Coast Guard with headquarters in this city.

All sorts of wild rumors started after the Deering went ashore several weeks ago. The Deering, a big five mast schooner went ashore in one of the worst storms of the year. The Coast Guard could not get within half a mile of her and revenue cutters could not get so near, until the storm abated. When the Coast Guard did reach the Deering they found no one aboard. Her small boats were gone, indicating that the crew had tried to get away in the storm and had been carried to watery graves. Capt. Crowley thinks that is just what did happen.

But a few days later Christopher C. Gray of the Cape Hatteras station picked up a bottle containing a scrawled message purporting to have been written by a member of the Deering's crew. The bottle message read as follows: "Deering captured by oilburning boat something like chaser. Taking off everything. Handcuffing crew. Crew hiding all over ship. No chance to make escape. Finder please notify headquarters of Deering."

Supt. Crowley who investigated the wreck of the Deering has seen the message and the bottle in which it was contained. He places no credence in it, since no name was signed to it and it bears all the earmarks of so many similar bottle messages that are a common trick of practical jokers and idle persons who find pleasure in mystifying and exciting the public with such things.

In meantime newspaper men with lively imaginations continue to write harrowing stories about pirates and Bolsheviki on the Carolina Coast. Tuesday's News & Observer carried the following scare under a Washington, D. C. state line:

"Visions of Bolsheviki pirate crews sailing Cape Hatteras waters in true swash-buckling, Spanish main style, are beginning to haunt the minds of fisher folk dwelling along the shore. Secretary Hoover has been asked to take a hand in solving the mystery of four coasting craft vanished completely in fine weather. A short time ago a schooner rammed into the sand bars at the cape with all sail set and her people missing. No explanation of the disappearance has been found. Now, with three other craft mysteriously gone, natives along the coast hint darkly at crews of piratical Russians hovering at sea just over the skyline to seize peaceful merchantmen."

Capt. Crowley says he knows nothing of four coasting craft mysteriously disappearing. His office keeps painstaking records of every shipping disaster between Cape Henry and Cape Lookout. The fate of the crew of the Carrol A. Deering is easily explained in light of the facts; their was in all probability the fate of many another gallant crew that has tried to save itself in a storm before the arrival of the Coast Guard.

\$1,300 FOR A NEW FOUR MAST SCHOONER

That's What Roanoke Islanders Pay For What's Left of a Beautiful Ship

The big, four mast schooner Laura A. Bames, which went ashore off Bodie Island on the North Carolina Coast two weeks ago, worth probably a half million dollars before she stuck in the sands of Currituck beach, has been sold to a group of Roanoke Island business men for a paltry \$1,300, according to reports reaching this city. The purchasers are said to be headed by Theo. S. Meekins, of Manteo.

But the purchasers will not realize anything like the worth of the ship. The ship itself can not be saved. The purchasers must content themselves with salvaging the schooner's fittings. But even at this they will recover a goodly sum. The ship's anchors and chains alone represent a handsome figure. The ship's boats, including one trim new power launch with a Lathrop engine will bring good money. And then there is the ship's wheel, compass, sails, rigging, masts, interior woodwork and rafters of other movable odds and ends that will bring up the total.

Wallace L. Twiford, postmaster and merchant at Manteo, Dare county, died Sunday morning, June 19, at Sarah Leigh Hospital in Norfolk, where he had gone for an operation following an illness of several weeks. He is survived by two sisters, Mrs. S. T. Pinner and Miss Zanie Twiford, of East Lake; three brothers, William Twiford, of East Lake, W. M. Twiford and Romie Twiford, of Manteo. Interment was made at the Methodist burial ground at East Lake, where Mr. Twiford's boyhood days were spent. He was 61 years of age.

\$1.00 bill sent by mail at our risk brings you THE INDEPENDENT for eight months. It's your move.

Takes High Honors in Music



MISS EMERALD SYKES

MISS SYKES is an Elizabeth City girl whose musical talent is being heard from. She recently graduated in piano and pipe organ at the Fayetteville Conservatory of Music. Speaking of her graduation the Fayetteville Observer said: "The graduation of Miss Sykes is the first of the new year and if the recital last night is to be taken as an earnest of future events of similar character, the friends of the institution and the Fayetteville public generally have reason to expect a future of the greatest promises for the Conservatory of Music." Miss Sykes is a graduate of the Elizabeth City High School; studied music at Meredith in 1918-19 and left Meredith to follow her teachers who went to Fayetteville. She was two years at Fayetteville. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Sykes of this city.

LOST CHANCE TO SELL THE BONDS

While Waiting For Ayldett's Orders, School Board Loses One Chance To Sell

Failure of the Board of School Trustees of Elizabeth City to meet on Friday, June 10, 1921, forfeited the one opportunity to sell \$140,000 of school bonds and now there is no buyer for the bonds. The trustees had a fairly attractive offer from a western bond buyer, thru the First & Citizens National Bank of this city. But the school board would not meet to consider the offer because E. F. Ayldett, chairman of the board, was out of town, and he left no instructions for calling a meeting. There are sixteen men on the school board and not one of them seemed to dare to make a move in the absence of the chairman. In meantime the bond market went to pieces and taking advantage of the tardiness of the trustees, the St. Louis bond buyers withdrew their offer after June 10.

The indications are that no progress will be made this year in the matter of carrying out the program for an expenditure of \$400,000 in the improvement of the city's public school system. Nothing happens to discredit the charge made by this newspaper that certain interests in this town are not eager for the expenditure of this money.

Additional school grounds can not be acquired or contracts for buildings awarded until bonds are sold. No one knows where to sell bonds now. The disgraceful conditions of former years will continue in our present overcrowded school buildings another year at least. In meantime the suppression of the facts and recommendations brought out in the school survey made in this city last winter has succeeded to date. Printed copies of that report were to have been made public months ago and the public has been given first one excuse and then another as to why the survey was not made public. And now the public doesn't even get excuses. The only facts given the public concerning this survey were published by this newspaper and some in authority tried to discredit the work of this newspaper in that connection.

A SUIT OF PAPER CLOTHES

A suit of paper clothes from Germany is attracting much attention in the show windows of Raulfs & Cox, clothing furnishers, of this city. Paper clothes originated in Germany during the war and is much worn in that country to-day. Paper twine, such as grocery use in tying up bundles is woven into fabric that looks like basket weave cloth and the durability of it is such that it can actually be washed and ironed, tho it is not guaranteed to stand many washings. A suit of this material retails for about \$2.

Read "The Man For the Ages" beginning in this issue of THE INDEPENDENT.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MAY REGULATE FISHING

Bill In Congress Would Put North Carolina Fisheries Under Federal Regulations and Supervision

A BUNDLE OF PEP AND A MASTER OF ATHLETICS



L. M. UPCHURCH

ELIZABETH CITY has succeeded in securing a director of Community Service to carry on the work here for the months of July, August and September. Wake county, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, holds several track records, has worked in athletics in several schools, was ranking division athletic officer at Camp Wadsworth, S. C. and later General Athletic Officer at Camp Jackson, where he directed the training of men in wrestling, boxing and bayoneting. He has coached basketball, football, volleyball and almost every other popular game. He has had training in the Boy Scouts, dramatics, folk dances, games, gymnasium, industrial work, story telling, pageantry, summer camps and community singing. He is 29 years old and married.

Mr. Upchurch is expected to arrive in Elizabeth City Monday, June 27.

FARMERS' MARKET DAY A SUCCESS IN WASHINGTON

Housewives Carry Their Baskets To Courthouse Lawn Every Saturday Morning

A farmers' market day inaugurated in Washington, N. C., on Saturday, April 2, and continued every Saturday since that date has proven most successful, according to the Washington (N. C.) Daily News. Every Saturday morning farmers of Beaufort county bring their eggs, butter, poultry, vegetables and other products of the farm, kitchen and dairy to the courthouse square in Washington and there the Washington housewives come with their market baskets and select their purchases from a large and varied offering of the best the farmers have to sell.

When it was first proposed to inaugurate a farmers' market day in Washington there were many doubters who declared the scheme wouldn't work because women who were used to phoning their orders to the grocer wouldn't bother to bring a market basket and carry their own purchases. But the women do and every Saturday morning one may see scores of Washington women, many from the best homes in the town, shopping from the farmers' stocks on the courthouse lawn.

Elizabeth City could make even better provision for a farmers' market day than Washington has done, by utilizing the open space around the city market. The suggestion remains to be adopted and worked out by the Farm Demonstration Agent or some civic organization.

SAT DOWN WITH DEATH BUT LIVES TO TELL IT

78-Year Old Elizabeth City Man Recovers From Stroke of Paralysis

How it feels to sit face to face with death for days and resign one's self to it has been the experience of M. B. Culpepper, one of the oldest and best known residents of Elizabeth City. Mr. Culpepper suffered a mild stroke of paralysis several weeks ago. He was speechless for several hours and for days he couldn't use his limbs. Mr. Culpepper is 78 years old and when one is paralyzed at the age of 78 the chances of recovery are not very encouraging. But Mr. Culpepper has recovered and is again about the streets, apparently as sound as ever.

"But I thought I wouldn't get around to see my friends anymore," Mr. Culpepper told the reporter this week. "I always had a horror of paralysis and when it struck me and left me sitting there helpless I thought my time had come. But I didn't feel a bit alarmed about it; I just figured that I had to go some time anyway and one time probably would be as good as another."

Walter Allman, a young Burke county man, was almost instantly killed in an automobile accident near Bridge-water.

If a bill recently introduced in the Congress of the United States becomes a law the regulation of the shad and herring fishing industry of the inland sounds and rivers of North Carolina will be regulated by the Federal Government under the Department of Commerce and North Carolina. Carolinians will have as much to say about when and how they may catch and sell a shad or a herring as they now have to say about when and how they may kill a cannasback duck.

A copy of the bill as introduced by Congressman Lathum and known as H. R. 213 has been furnished this newspaper by Congressman Ward. The bill is now before the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and powerful influences are working for a favorable report and its passage. Here's the bill:

"A bill to protect fish not remaining the entire year within the waters of any State or Territory, and authorizing the Department of Commerce to define the seasons and regulate the manner and conditions under which they may be taken or destroyed."

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all fish that do not remain the entire year within the waters of any State or Territory shall hereafter be deemed to be within the custody and protection of the Government of the United States and shall not be taken or destroyed contrary to regulations hereinafter provided therefor: Provided, however, That this Act shall not apply to fish when they may be in waters solely within a State or Territory, which waters are not the outlets of streams having their sources beyond the borders of said State or Territory."

"Sec. 2. That the Secretary of Commerce is hereby authorized and directed to adopt suitable regulations to give effect to the previous paragraph by prescribing and fixing closed seasons, the manner and conditions under which and the means by which said fish shall not be taken or destroyed, and it shall be unlawful to take or destroy any fish within the protection of this law during said closed seasons, or to violate any regulation prescribed by the Secretary of Commerce for their protection, and any person or any company, corporation, or association who shall violate any of the provisions of this law or regulations prescribed hereunder shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined not more than \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year for the first offense, and upon conviction of each subsequent offense not exceeding \$1,000 or be imprisoned not exceeding three years, or both, in the discretion of the court."

"Sec. 3. That the Secretary of Commerce, after the preparation of said regulations, shall cause the same to be made public, and shall allow a period of three months in which said regulations may be examined and considered before final adoption, permitting, when deemed proper, public hearings thereon, and after final adoption shall cause the same to be engrossed and submitted to the President of the United States for approval: Provided, however, That nothing herein contained shall be deemed to affect or interfere with the local laws of the States and Territories for the protection of fish remaining the entire year within their waters, nor to prevent the States and Territories from enacting laws and regulations to promote and render efficient the regulations of the Department of Commerce provided under this statute."

"Sec. 4. That there is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of carrying out these provisions, the sum of \$30,000."

Commenting upon the bill in a letter to the editor of THE INDEPENDENT, Congressman Ward says:

"The proponents of the bill support it on the ground of shifting and unstable state legislation and the conflict of laws between states and imperfect enforcement of state laws. There has been a discussion of it before Mr. Hoover and considerable interest is manifested in it. It is true that our state laws on fishing have not been as successful and free from contest and changes, for the last twenty years, as I think they ought to have been, but it does not seem to me that that is a sufficient reason for the Federal Government to take everything on the earth and 'in the waters under the earth' into its own hands. I want to know what the people think about it, and ask them to write me."

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

M. Leigh Sheep Co. announce their annual Seven Day Wonder Sale elsewhere in this newspaper to-day. This sale opens Saturday, June 25 and continues for just seven days. The advertisement is full of reasonable money-saving suggestions for women, sustaining the reputation of this popular woman's wear store for sales of merit.