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The Rockport

The Only Newspaper Published in Aransas County

Rockport, Aransas County, Texas, Thursday, January 31, 1946

ROCKPORT TO HAVE \$25,000 MARINE LABORATORY Five Veterans To Be Elected Directors Friday Night

Along The Waterfront

Fishermen got in almost a full week for the first time in several months and the supply of oysters was increased. Seafood shipments showed no big jump with \$12,800 worth of oysters and fish leaving Rockport and Fulton by rail. Shrimping was still more of a hobby than business and neither oystering nor fishing broke any all-time records.

Rouquette and Wendell reported quite a few oysters. High boat for the week was the "Copano" with Lupe Palido as skipper. He brought in about 200 gallons from his trips. About 1,500 pounds of fish were weighed in, most of them trout. The motor was being put in the "Little Monte" Monday and all other boats were in commission.

All of Bill Johnson's boats made good showings during the week. Frank Holt was high skipper bringing in 80 gallons on the "Marilee" after a two-day trip. Running him a close second was Frank Rincho on the "Katherine" with 75 gallons. For her two-day catch the Rodney had 65 gallons. Her skipper is Ernest Garcia. She was tied by the "Lady Alice" on which Richard Carter had 65 gallons. For the fishing boats, the "Tom Cat" tops with Arthur Miller and land Wright coming in with 100 pounds of fish, trout, red drum. Henry Garcia on the "Beth" had 1,800 pounds, most of them trout and reds.

At Travis Johnson's, more fish than oysters were brought in by the boats. No unusually large loads came in but Buddy Warden and Hays Atwood had consistently good catches all week. They brought in red, trout and drum.

S. F. Jackson had a good run of oysters but not many fish. The "Elaine" with Angelo Flores as skipper was lead boat for the week with 150 gallons. Some nice catches of reds were made by trout line fishermen in the basin. The net crews, however, weren't lucky enough to make any very good strikes. Jackson said the oysters are of good quality and the demand for them is good.

A. L. Brundrett had his boat, the "Fay" on the Jackson ways and a boat from Aransas Pass owned by Rudolph Velazquez. Three commercial fishing boats from Aransas Pass were coming out for overhauls the middle of the week.

At Mills' Wharf, fishing was not anything to brag about. A few sheephead were caught around the causeway but everything else was pretty slow.

Wheeler Asked Land Be Thrown Into Acreage

The Commissioners Court Monday morning received an application from J. D. Wheeler, attorney and other San Antonio men asking that two tracts of land be thrown back into acreage.

Wheeler, in a letter to the court said that "A man named Whitehead" many years ago subdivided into a subdivision known as "Aransas." The development failed, and the land reverted to its original owners.

The land is near Estes. Taxes have been assessed on it by the county since that time instead of by the acre which is much less expensive.

The court accepted the application and turned the matter over to County Attorney J. D. Spencer to draw up the necessary papers.

Board Will Name Officers Of C of C Later

Full Attendance Asked for Annual Membership Meeting

The annual membership meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be held Friday (tomorrow) night at 8 o'clock at the courthouse with five members of the board of directors to be elected.

At a directors meeting to follow the membership meeting, officers of the chamber will be elected for the coming year.

The membership committee has prepared recommendations on four veterans to fill seats on the board of directors. The five retiring board members will be chosen by lot.

The Rev. J. H. Kelly, president of the chamber, emphasized the necessity of every member of the Chamber of Commerce being present at the meeting.

"In the year since the chamber has been reorganized, it has done a great deal of needed work for Aransas County. With the experience gained in the first year, even more should be accomplished in 1946 if our purposes are made clear at this meeting and a representative number of persons show their support of the chamber of attending," Father Kelly said.

"Work during the last year has included briefing and presenting plans for entrance of the Intra-coastal Canal through the Cove, sponsoring the bond issue election which is soon to be called for waterfront improvements at Rockport, controlling solicitation with tourists and prospective business concerns, among many other things.

"If the chamber is to continue the activities and extend them to include all county needs, membership must not only be large but must be interested and ready to serve. This week several new members have joined the chamber and we want interest of older members to be as great as theirs."

Membership cards to be displayed in stores for 1946 will be ready for distribution at the meeting, Father Kelly said.

More Than 600 Poll Taxes Sold Early This Week

Six hundred and thirty six poll taxes and three exemptions for voters becoming 21 years old had been issued early this week, A. R. Curry, tax assessor-collector, announced.

He expects poll tax sales to run about 800. This will leave a last minute rush for the sale of nearly 200.

The office will remain open tonight (Thursday) until 12 o'clock to give late comers every opportunity to get their poll taxes, Curry said.

It is not necessary for a veteran who has been out of service less than 18 months of have either a poll tax or an exemption, Curry said. They can vote without either.

Porter Little Receives Two Gold Stars From Admiral Clark at Naval Air Station

Lt. (jg) Odus Porter Little, one of Rockport's most decorated service men, was decorated with two gold stars by Rear Adm. J. J. (Jocko) Clark, commanding officer of the Naval Air Training Bases at Corpus Christi.

The Gold Stars were received in lieu of the second and third air medals for service in aerial operations against the islands of Honshu and Hokkaido, Japan, in July and August.

Little had received the Air Medal for an attack upon a battleship. He was an officer in the son of Mr. and

They Got Busy Filing Discharges Now Have Everybody Doing It

A discharge filed in the county clerk's office this week shows that Rutherford B. Sipes served in 11 engagements on the Philippine Islands. But the names of the places at which he fought are unfamiliar to any student of present day history.

With the Infantry he fought at San Toil, at Angeles, Calulet, Sam Van, Cepas, Trewreia, Tarlac, Gerona and Passeeque. None of those were flown over by a pilot in the AAF for the airplane hadn't been invented when Sipes fought there. The discharge filed Jan. 23, 1946, is dated June 31, 1901.

Clerks had difficulty making out the words written in ink on the yellowed paper. On their previous

Several Cafes Given Two Days To Clean Up By Health Department

Other Food Handling Establishments Found to Be Clean

Several cafes in Rockport were given two days notice Tuesday to clean up or enforcement proceedings will be instituted by the State Health Department.

J. E. Padgett, state food and drug inspector, with Mayor Albert Collier inspected all local food handling establishments and found everything in perfect order with the exception of the cafes.

Padgett said the soda fountains, the grocery stores, the meat market and the slaughter house are all sanitary and conforming to health department regulations.

In some of the cafes, he found many breaches of regulations. He reported that in some, the premises needed cleaning, the plumbing was bad, food was uncovered and refrigeration and other food storage spaces were dirty.

Padgett said all operators agreed to follow his suggestions and bring the cafes up to health department standards. He will return today to check them and if his recommendations have not been followed enforcement proceedings will be instituted.

The last inspection made in Rockport was in the summer. Since that time, Padgett said many health cards held by workers in food handling establishments have expired and new ones will have to be issued immediately.

Mayor Collier said that city ordinances cover cleanliness of food handling establishments. The ordinances have not been strictly enforced here, he said, but in the future they will be.

When Municipal court is opened, which will probably be in the next week, the city will have a means of prosecuting any operator who does not live up to the ordinances.

Jim Herring, who had spent a 40 day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Herring, is reporting to his new station at Greensburg, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. I. E. Allemang have as their guest this week, J. F. Burkhalter of Houston.

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records they had no discharge issued before the year 1917.

On the face of the Spanish-American War discharge is written, "Know Ye that Rutherford B. Sipes, a cook of Co. I of the 12th Infantry who was enlisted on the 1st day of January, 1899, to serve three years is hereby honorably discharged from the army of the United States by reason of expiration of his term of service." The discharge was signed at Camp Angel Island, Calif.

The combat listed was in the fall of 1899, and at the bottom of the discharge is written: "Remarks, service honest and faithful."

The discharge took only 45 years to find its way to the record books.

Two Fined for Shooting Birds Out of Season

Charges were filed in justice of the peace court this week against J. R. Coleman and Raymond Coleman of Taft, each of whom allegedly shot migratory birds out of season.

Each man pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and costs or \$21 by Judge Joe Smith. The charges were filed by T. A. Harris, state game warden.

Two Squadrons Now Practicing On Field Here

Activity at Rockport Airfield has increased since the first of the year, Lt. F. D. Dodgen, commanding officer, said yesterday.

There are now two squadrons instead of one practicing flying at the field. They are squadron 2 Baker out of Main Station and 18 Able of Main Station.

No indication has been made by the Navy that the field will revert to Aransas County any time soon. They had announced that this section might be taken any time after the first of the year.

Dodgen said more personnel will have to be brought to the field if it is to be kept in operation. Of the 15 men who are stationed here, only 12 are left. A new ambulance driver is on duty, J. W. Cox, pharmacist mate third class.

Repairs Made on Two Streets

The first street repair work to be done in Rockport for some was begun this week.

Two blocks are being shelled and graded. Shell was dumped Tuesday on Church Street. The holes will be filled and the street graded from Austin to Magnolia Streets.

The same type of work is being done by the city on the street in front of the city hall between the same two blocks.

Mayor Albert Collier said this was all the street repair work that could be done at the present time.

Methodist Women to Serve Supper Saturday

The women of the Methodist church are serving a chili and hot tamale supper at the recreation hall Saturday. Service will begin at 12 noon and continue all afternoon and evening.

Desert and coffee will be served with the dinner.

On the serving committee are Mrs. Joe Smith, Mrs. John Townsend and Mrs. C. C. Lovless.

Survey Shows Approval Of Bond Issue

Interest was running high, especially on the waterfront this week, in the prospective navigation district election which is called by the Commissioners Court, will give the public a vote on a \$85,000 bond issue for waterfront improvements at Fulton and Rockport.

Everyone in business deriving profits from the water appeared to be in favor of the issue. No objections were encountered.

Details of the plan to build a breakwater at Fulton and dredge a harbor and channel and to improve Rockport facilities, will not be made public until the hearing set by the Commissioners Court for Feb. 23. Complete approval of the plan is reserved in many instances until full knowledge is available.

At Fulton, everyone with whom the plan was discussed was convinced that a vote would carry almost solidly in that community. They said there was no question about how the election would go there, so the balance will rest with Rockport voters.

In Rockport also, those interested in the election appeared to favor it. As plans are to beautify the beach and seawall and improve facilities in the basin for boat dockage, the funds spent would effect all types of businesses in Rockport and Fulton dependent upon tourist trade, fishing interests and other waterfront activities.

Juvenile Returned To Authorities

The juvenile, brought to Rockport under charges of theft at Laxsiter Cleaners and Caspary's Service Station, is being returned to Corpus Christi authorities, Judge B. S. Fox and Sheriff A. R. Curry, said.

Two shirts and a watch stolen at the cleaning shop have been returned. The pair of pants that were taken could not be returned as the boy was wearing them and had no others.

Jess Newbern Dies At Shaylor Home While On Visit

Jess Newbern of California died at the home of his sister, Mrs. G. A. Shaylor, Thursday.

Newbern was visiting in his sister's home at the time of his death. His body was sent to California for burial and no services were held locally.

Someone Liked the Old Days With All Relics of the Times

Mabe he was an antique collector, ch Watson?

Saturday night about 9:30 o'clock a coupe parked in front of J. S. Carway's repair shop on the main street of Rockport and the headlights were left on to shine into the shop.

Sunday morning, Carway found the padlock had been pried off of the front door of his shop. There was little sign of plunder in the shop. On the wall had hung five guns, and now there were but three.

Carway took one look and began scratching his head. The three guns that still hung there were modern weapons, in the best of condition. Gone were a .32 caliber rifle so worn out that after it was brought into the shop Carway had decided it was not worth working on, and an 1937 model pump gun, also completely worn out and of no apparent value.

The uninvited guest showed other signs of an unusual personality. He had left by way of the back door after all of his trouble to get the front door open.

Some persons have strange hobbies.

DRIVERS OF CAR, TRUCK ESCAPE WITHOUT INJURY

Drivers of both vehicles escaped injury when car and a truck collided on the business route this side of the Triangle Saturday night.

Names of the drivers of the truck from Corpus Christi and the passenger car from Ingleside were not known locally. Sheriff A. R. Curry said the wreck was not investigated as the drivers came to a settlement without court action.

Red Cross Quota For County Is Set at \$1,020

Aransas County has received a Red Cross quota of less than one-half what was raised in the county last year.

The quota for 1946 is \$1,020. In 1945, the county was asked to raise more than twice that much, \$2,400. Charles Pieton has accepted the chairmanship of the drive. He has served in this capacity for two years and successfully taken the county over the quota.

The drive will open here March 1. Committees and details of handling the solicitation will be announced at a later date.

Two Rockport Boys Come Home On Same Ship

Two Rockport boys returned from the Pacific on the same boat and arrived at their homes a day apart, one on furlough and the other with a discharge.

Anron Phagan seaman second class, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Phagan, arrived Sunday on his 20th birthday. He had been stationed on the Hawaiian Islands and Philippines for 20 months. He is now on 30-day leave and will report to the Naval Air Training Bases at Corpus Christi for re-assignment.

Phagan was with the amphibious fleet, doing repair work on the boats. On the boat with him coming over was Noble Charles Gray, son of Mrs. Dorothy Gray. He was discharged as a boatswainmate first class.

Leo Phagan, who arrived home recently, has gone to Camp Wallace for a discharge and is expected back this week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. DeWilton Jeffries and son De visited in Refugio and Sinton Thursday.

Uncle Billy Silberisen Dies

Uncle Billy Silberisen, who has lived in Rockport since he was a young boy, died at Aransas Pass hospital Wednesday night.

He had been seriously ill for several weeks. Silberisen would have been 90 years old in April.

His daughter, Mrs. Martha Gye, of Galveston has been here since he became ill, staying at the home of a son, James Silberisen. Funeral arrangements at press time were pending the arrival of another son from California.

Mrs. W. H. Woellett and son, Winston Woellett, seaman first class, of Poth have been guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bracht.

Mr. and Mrs. Ingle Turner and children of Refugio spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith.

Plans to Be Drafted When City Grants Rights to Site

Staff Will Study Problems of Fishermen

A \$25,000 appropriation for the Marine Laboratory will be made by the City Commission in a day by the City Council.

Joel Hedgpeth, for the commission said plans are now being made for the granting of city of Rockport, under the jurisdiction of the navigation Commission to be taken by the city before the city council and the laboratory here.

As soon as definite plans on the site has been developed, Hedgpeth said the project would be in the hands of an architect, then, he said nothing definite would be known about the building or the equipment put in it with the \$25,000 appropriation.

The site anticipated is at the south end of the seawall in the corner made by the eastern extension into the bay.

Just how large a staff will be maintained at Rockport is their purpose will be to study the problems of the commercial fishermen on the Texas coast. Conserving resources of the coast and using them to best advantage of the public and the fishermen is the object of the commission, Hedgpeth said.

It is expected that there will also be a small aquarium in the building that will be an attraction for residents and tourists. Though local interest, this may be enlarged at a later date.

The marine laboratory will be the only one in Texas, the only state-operated laboratory on the Gulf Coast and the one on the Gulf Coast of the one at Apalachee.

Albert Collier and Dr. G. G. Gunter, both former marine biologists for the commission, have emphasized the need for the laboratory for a number of years. Hedgpeth submitted the report which final approval was given to the commission.

Another action by the commission at the Thursday meeting was the appropriation of \$25,000 for further oyster conservation.

No mention was made of whether money will be spent or not to be done with it.

About \$26,000 has been spent in Aransas Bay planting six oyster reefs along the Fulton shoreline. The planting was completed last December through March.

Pirates To Be Theme of Annual This Year

The "Pirate's Log," Rockport High School annual will have as its theme this year "pirates," David Herring announced yesterday. The annuals will sell for three dollars. Subscriptions are being taken only until Feb. 1.

The equipment has been gathered and the staff members are ready for lay-out work. The annual will be 72 pages this year, the largest a Rockport annual has ever been.

Individual pictures of students will be made Feb. 5. A number of students have pictures made.

On the staff are Herring; Co. editor; Joe Berger; Joe T. editor.

January 25

Organized Saturday Afternoon

Donald of San Antonio, married January to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke of Rockport. The ceremony was performed at San Antonio.

Rooke was recently discharged from the Army after serving as a staff sergeant overseas. He is employed by the Grayhound Bus Company and living at San Antonio where the couple will make their home.

The bride previously has visited in Rockport. She and Rooke are expected to spend next week-end here.

Natlie Smith, who has been working for Central Power and Light Company at Taft, has returned to Rockport to live.

Mary Ann Close was elected president of the Junior Miss Sewing Club at its first meeting Saturday afternoon at Miss Close's home.

Other officers elected were Bernice Gene Shults, vice-president; Peggy Joyce Owens, secretary; and Joyce Nell Townsend, treasurer.

All girls present were initiated into the club.

Mrs. W. F. Close served refreshments of cookies, sandwiches and punch to Miss Close, Miss Shults, Miss Owens, Miss Townsend, Marjorie Hunt, Loyce Mae Shults, Bettie Lou Garrett and Kathryn Atwood.

Mrs. Lefty Moore of Ingleside spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. W. D. Ward.

Mrs. Johnson Named Treasurer of Association

Mrs. Travis Johnson was named treasurer of the Cemetery Assn, the only new officer elected at the annual meeting Monday afternoon at the courthouse.

Mrs. John Sorenson was re-elected president. Other officers re-elected were Miss Vivian Picton, first vice-president; Judge B. S. Fox, second vice-president; Miss Velma Picton, secretary; and Mrs. S. F. Jackson, parliamentarian.

Albert Collier went into office as third vice-president, the post always held by the mayor of the city. Retiring treasurer was Miss Ruth Lipscomb who resigned as she has joined the school faculty and is unable to perform the treasurer's duties.

A vote of thanks was extended to Miss Lipscomb for her services. Each committee gave its an-

MRS. JOHNSON IS ENTERTAINED AT STOCKER HOME

Maj. and Mrs. Benj. Stocker entertained their guest, Mrs. E. C. Johnson of San Antonio at their home at Oak Shore Apartments Wednesday afternoon.

After an afternoon of handwork, a supper was served the guests. Covers were laid for Mrs. John Sorenson, Mrs. Wilma Stevenson, Mrs. C. M. Hodgens, Mrs. Paul Reese, Mrs. Paul Sorenson, Mrs. C. D. Hudgens, Mrs. A. E. Sowerbutts and the honoree.

Mary Lou McLester Entertains Bridge Club Monday

Mary Lou McLester was hostess to the bridge club at her home Monday night.

Wilbern Hamblin was high score winner for the game and also won traveling prize. Charlotte Cron won second high.

The hostess served tuna fish sandwiches, potato chips, angel food squares and punch to the guests, Miss Hamblin, Miss Cron, Colleen Smith, Lucille Haynes, Bonnie Cron, Patti Ballou and Mary Elsie Rowe.

The following committee heads were appointed to serve another year by Mrs. Sorenson; Mrs. Pat Hooper, grounds; Mrs. Jim Hooper, ways and means; and Mrs. J. W. Brundrett and Miss Grace Smith, membership.

All bills for the year were paid including bills from the county for assistance rendered in preparing additional ground added to the cemetery during the year. A vote of thanks was extended to Heldefels Bros. for shell donated for use in the cemetery.

Colleen Smith, Johnson Are School Favorites

Colleen Smith was elected most popular girl in Rockport High School and Joe Johnson, Jr., most popular boy by vote of the student body in an election conducted by the student council and annual staff Friday.

Miss Smith, a member of the student council and on the annual staff, was elected most popular girl for the second year as she carried the vote in the 1945 election. A junior, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Smith.

Johnson is president of the junior class, sports editor of the Pirate Log, on the annual staff, captain of the football team and a member of the basketball team, received the honor for the first time. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Johnson, Sr.

Wilma Rouquette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zeph Rouquette was elected most beautiful girl. The blond girl is in the junior class.

Most handsome boy was the honor given Norman McLeod. On the football team he is president of the sophomore class.

Mary Elsie Rowe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Golden Rowe, was chosen most vivacious. She is a member of the sophomore class.

Most athletic boy was the title given Russell Rowe. He lettered at end and was the outstanding passer for the team. He is a forward on the basketball team and on the track team. A senior, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Golden Rowe.

Favorites elected by each class are Rowe and Charlotte Cron, seniors; Johnson and Miss Rouquette, juniors; Norman McLeod and Miss Rowe, sophomores; Glenn Owens and Laverne Thompson, freshmen.

The pictures of the favorites will appear in the school annual.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills Are Honored At Coffee Sunday

Mrs. J. H. Mills honored her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mills, with a coffee at her Lamar home Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills were married recently and living in Goliad. About 30 of their friends called during the afternoon that they spent at Lamar.

Personal

Mrs. I. E. Posey spent the week-end in Goliad.

Jean Hinton of Corpus Christi was a week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke.

Miss Katie Lee Cron was a week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke.

Mrs. Charles Warnken and son, Charles Warnken, Jr., of Poth were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Barnard, Miss Vivian Picton, Miss Velma Picton and Miss Grace Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rooke had as week-end guests their niece and nephew, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lewisa of Corpus Christi.

Mr. and Mrs. Cy Grett and son of Corpus Christi were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rowe.

Mrs. L. D. Darrah of Fort Worth was a week-end guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sanders.

Mrs. Darrah, a former resident of Rockport, will leave her family there.

Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Abrahams who are making their home on a ranch near Taft were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Jackson.

Evans Corbin of Ingleside spent the week-end here with his wife and children in the S. F. Jackson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mills of Goliad were week-end guests of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mills and Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Sellers.

Guests Friday night of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rowe were Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Barker of Ingleside and two children and Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Warren and two children of Aransas Pass. Mrs. Barker and Mrs. Warren are Mr. and Mrs. Rowe's daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Kelly had as their guests last week-end Mrs. W. P. Willis and children, Billy Cleve and Johnnie Carol, of San Antonio.

Mrs. L. D. Ainley and three children have returned to Rockport to make their home. They had been living at San Francisco with a son who was recently transferred to the Navy to the east coast. Mrs. Ainley is Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Kelly's daughter. The children are David Dinah and Darrell.

Mrs. Ed Ankele of Angleton is the guest of Charlie Ankele, her son. Mrs. Charlie Ankele has gone to San Antonio to stay for an indefinite time and take treatment from an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist.

Ruth Linda Herring of Corpus Christi spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Herring.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Johnson of Sinton spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Picton.

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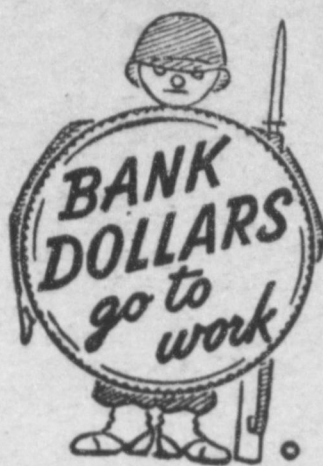
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