

WEAKFISH ARE NOW RUNNING BETTER

Many Caught at Fourteenth Street Pier — Prize Winners in July

Weakfish were running well at the Ocean City Fishing Club during the week, and a large number were caught at Fourteenth street pier, 1 perch; T. Shore, 23

Those making the best catches, as reported by Piermaster Ed. Klein, included the following:

L. N. Cuobertey, 1 king, 17 weak, 7 croakers, 1 perch; Dr. Gore, 2 weak, 1 croaker, 1 perch; E. Davis, 16 weak, 5 croakers, 1 perch; T. J. Fegley, 1 king, 23 weak, 2 perch; C. A. Dietz, 1 king, 24 weak, 4 croakers, 1 perch; F. Wildman, 1 king, 4 weak, 1 perch; G. R. Kingeter, 6 king, 14 weak, 6 croakers; G. C. Winneberger, 5 weak; 1 croaker, 1 perch; O. Winneberger, 11 weak, 1 perch; H. Hartley, 17 weak, 1 perch; T. Shorelan, 23 weak; James Tolan, 2 king, 12 weak, 2 croakers, 1 perch; Frank Campion, 17 weak, 1 croaker; B. Rockwell, 17 weak, 2 croakers, 4 perch; F. H. Stewart, 10 weak; J. Miller, 11 weak; Wm. Jones, 14 weak; M. Davis, 1 king, 17 weak, 2 perch; L. Bremer, 15 weak, 2 croakers, 1 perch; Wm. Blair, 9 weak.

Prize Winners

Members of the Ocean City Fishing Club winning prizes for the largest fish pulled in during July are:

Caught from Pier—Wm. Jones, weak, 9 lbs. 6 oz.; 200 yds. line. H. H. Hamilton, croaker, 43 oz.; tackle envelope. Benj. Rockwell, king, 25 oz.; half dozen leaders; H. Hazlett, rock, 22 lbs. 9 oz.; 200 yds. line. F. Campion, drum, 58½ lbs.; marble knife. Jos. Roberts, channel bass, 45 lbs.; gold button.

Caught from Surf—C. A. Dietz, weakfish; butt rest.

Caught from Boat—S. P. Bowman, weakfish, 8 lbs.; fish basket. W. E. Goldman, croaker, 3 lbs.; half dozen hooks. C. E. Holgan, New Inlet, N. J., three tuna weighing 35½ lbs., 31 lbs. and 8 lbs. W. A. Leavitt, New Inlet, N. J., three tuna weighing 39 lbs., 30 lbs. and 19½ lbs.

Total number of fish caught from pier in July, 2316.

JERSEY FISHERMEN WANT MORE WRECKS

Praise State Commission Plan to Sink Old Federal Hulks Off the Coast.

FOOD FISH ARE ATTRACTED

Submerged Ships, Captains Say, Will Benefit Pounds and Hook-and-Line Anglers.

Special to The New York Times.

BRANT BEACH, N. J., Sept. 17.—Plans of the New Jersey Fish and Game Commission, outlined this week to Governor Moore, whereby antiquated and discarded Federal ships, now useless in harbor basins, may be wrecked off the New Jersey coast in order to attract ocean fish in greater numbers, were praised today by shore officials and by fishing captains. Fishing fleet captains declare the plan, if carried through, will give New Jersey the greatest fishing coast in the world.

Under the commission's plan, scores of old vessels, now a liability to the Government, may be converted into an asset, increasing the sea-food supply of the country and developing a great fishing ground reaching from Sandy Hook to Cape May. Governor Moore has been asked by the commission to take up the proper Federal authorities the proposal for the old vessels. It is proposed to float these ships to points along the coast within the three-mile limit and shatter the hulks with dynamite, scattering the wreckage over the ocean floor. The work would be carried on through cooperation of the Coast Guard and the disposal of the wreckage would not menace navigation.

Say Wrecks Attract Fish.

At Barnegat City, Beach Haven, Forked River and Tuckerton, captains said that in sea fishing they always sought the proximity of the few wrecks along the coast. Barnacles, sponges and other marine animal and vegetable life grow on submerged wreckage and furnishing food for fishes, attracting great schools of the best food fish.

Superintendents of the big commercial fishers here said the pounds nearest the submerged wrecks get the largest catches. More wreckage, they said, in two years make it possible to quadruple the catch of sea fish by the pounds and by hook-and-line fishermen.

Commissioner Harry M. Armstrong of Jersey City brought the plan before fellow-members of the State Fish and Game Board.

For the privilege of fishing near some submerged wreck, public and private fishing craft will travel all the way from New York Harbor to points off Long Beach, he said. "All along the New Jersey coast the sea-going anglers will seek the nearest wreck, even though it be miles away. Any submerged solid matter that will form a place for the growth of ocean fauna and flora will bring the fish to that section. Even so small a surface as that afforded by the chains that hold the marking bars and channels of the inlets will grow a supply of barnacles and other crustaceans sufficient to attract schools of seabass and other fish."

Atlantic City Press

Anglers Club to Close 1924 Club House This Week-- Unsatisfactory Season

Extremely Cold Weather Temperatures During Latter Season Mainly Responsible for Termination of Sport Abruptly Believe 75 Per Cent of Weak Fish Spawned Well Out to Sea--Severn Catches Largest Weak Fish Off Pier

The Anglers Club, of Absecon Island, will close its clubhouse in Margate the latter part of this week and is drawing down the curtain on what has been a very unsatisfactory fishing season in regards to the catches made.

Extremely cold water temperatures during the late part of July and all of August probably due to prevalent East and Westerly winds was mainly responsible for the lack of game fishes along the beach front of Absecon Island this year.

During the early part of the season, in May and June indications pointed to a record breaking season particularly with channel bass and weak fish, but then along came the cold water at the critical stage of the spawning season for fishes that frequent these waters. And perhaps the weak fish hatch this year has been the poorest ever known.

It is likely that 75 per cent of the weak fish spawned well out to sea and as the small fish were unable to beat the bays through adverse winds and cold waters this condition naturally slowed down their activities and made them an easy prey for the larger fish, particularly of the blue fish family.

The largest weak fish caught off the pier this year, according to William B. Severn, chairman of the awards committee, was landed by Frank Hagman, of Ventnor, the fish weighing nine and one-half pounds. Mr. Hagman was awarded the club gold medal for this catch.

The second largest weak fish fell to the rod of Henry Parsons of Barclay Court, Mr. Parsons' fish weighed eight and three-quarter pounds and he was awarded the silver medal.

The gold medal channel bass watch jobs were awarded to the following members: Joseph H. Roberts, of New York, who topped the list with a bass weighing 45 pounds, 3 ounces, the largest taken by rod and reel along the Jersey Coast for the past five years. Fred Weigman, of this city, was second on the list with a bass weighing 43 pounds, 7 ounces, and Harry W. Hamley, a Philadelphia member, took third honors with a bass weighing 40 pounds even.

In the blue fish awards, Henry W. Stelwagga, president of the club, topped the list with a ten-pounder, landed at Little Beach. J. W. Shaner, secretary of the club, came in for second place with an eight-pounder, and Joe Roberts, having landed a six-pounder.

plained conditions this year was a decided falling off of that gamey and dependable croaker, which are usually taken here by the thousands. More than 1500 croakers were taken at the anglers club pier last year and it is hardly likely that the total count this year exceeded more than 100.

One of the most promising and encouraging features of the fishing season was a great number of large striped bass taken along the beach front from Ventnor to Longport. These striper's ranged in weight from two pounds to 22 pounds and more of them were caught here this year from the surf than at any time during the past five years.

Other members of the anglers club to receive medals for record catches include John Zell, striped bass, 14 pounds; Harry Platt, striped bass, 16 pounds, 3 ounces; Frank Jacobs, striped bass, 11 and three-quarter pounds; Bernard Bouquet, weak fish, 10 and one-quarter pounds.

The Anglers Club plan extensive improvements at the pier and clubhouse, which is rated as the finest in the country, before the formal opening of the season in May, 1925.

During the winter months the club will hold frequent meetings and are planning several social gatherings, which will include a unique banquet, to be given early in the year at one of the beach-front hotels.

U.S. Atlantic City Press

Record Season for Bass

Anglers Report Some Big Catches. Off Season for Variety Fishing

Exceedingly cold ocean temperatures have made this year the poorest for variety fishing known in a decade. Northwest winds have prevailed with a constancy seldom experienced by fishermen.

The same cause has made this year the finest for striped bass fishing and more fish of this species have been caught along Absecon Island shores than at any previous time during 25 years.

Monday at Longport John Zell, of engine company No. 8, brought to gaff a 14-lb. striped bass off the stone wharf, near the Aberdeen hotel, that was hooked with rod and reel. At Dorset av. Ventnor, Monday while fishing from the surf, Frank Jacobs, of the Chelsea postoffice, caught an 11½-pound striped bass and another weighing 6½ pounds. At the same place Sunday last a New York angler caught three striped bass, the heaviest being 21 pounds.

Members of Anglers' Club

Mr. Jacobs and Mr. Zell are members of the Anglers' club and will be awarded the club's bronze medal for weight between 10 and 15 lbs. A silver medal is given for fish weighing between 15 and 20 lbs., and a gold medal for fish weighing over 20 lbs. Scales of the fish caught by Zell and Jacobs together with recital of their lengths have been sent to the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries at Washington, and through the new method employed there of scale reading the government authorities will determine the age, yearly growth and spawning period of the specimens. The scientific method checks up with accuracy the life story of the fish and does away with the former custom of making microscopic examination.

From May 11 to date, Frank Hagman, of Ventnor, holds the prize for catching the largest weak fish caught on the Anglers' club pier. A week ago Sunday he landed one weighing 9½ lbs. Harry Parsons, of Barclay court, stands second with a weak fish that weighed 8½ lbs.