

Miller Talk...

—By CLIFF CARPENTER—

Nov 13, 1947

UP WHERE the mighty St. Lawrence flows a mile and half wide in spots, and with a leisurely mile-an-hour-plus current—there the Lake Yacht Racing Association will stage its 1948 regatta.

This mildly-surprising announcement was made yesterday by Newton B. Castle, secretary-treasurer of the old but still-growing LYRA, on his return from the association's annual delegates' meeting at Buffalo Canoe Club.

Pre-session scuttlebutt was that Sodus Bay Yacht Club, flooded out of holding the regatta this year, would be given the blue-ribbon lake show. But, Castle explained, Clayton Yacht Club put in a strong bid, and added to this was a disposition among representatives to wait another year and be certain that high lake waters would not again embarrass the Sodus Club.



NEWTON B. CASTLE

Other front-line decisions at the meeting:

The long-distance Freeman Cup race will precede the regatta. The Freeman will start at 10 a. m. July 19 at the Sodus Yacht Club (thereby giving the folks at that club a good look at the regattas big racing boats), will sail west, rounding a buoy off the Port of Rochester piers; then turn east for the long run to a finishing line at the Clayton Yacht Club. Once in the river the racers must follow the streamboat channel, leaving Carleton Island to starboard.

Course racing will be held in the river on the Clayton Club on Thursday-Friday-Saturday, July 22 through 24.

All officers, including Castle, himself a perennial LYRA trophy-holder, were re-elected. Others are: President, Chuck Spaulding, Youngstown Yacht Club; Vice-president, Wes Gamble, Crescent Yacht Club; Second Vice-president, Clifford Lunt, Royal Hamilton Yacht Club.

Clayton's commodore, John B. Foley Jr., brought that club's bid to the Buffalo session. Foley was accompanied by Vicecommodore James F. Lewis. Sodus' case was put forth by Rudolph F. Rupert.

Thomas K. Wade of Royal Canadian Yacht Club was elected delegate to the North American Yacht Racing Union, of which he is first vice-president. In that connection, the LYRA decided to stick to the new Vanderbilt race rule revisions, provided the NAYRU votes to do so; and instructed member clubs to furnish Wade with data on points in the new rules which they believe need clarifying.

Delegates to the Yacht Racing Union of the Great Lakes are Castle, Lunt and Eimer (Bud) Doyle of Youngstown.

Ten clubs were represented at the session: Rochester, Royal Hamilton, Clayton, Sodus, Royal Canadian, Queen City, Youngstown, Crescent, National and Buffalo Canoe Club. Voted into membership—thereby making LYRA

parent to 32 clubs—were Pultneyville Yacht Club just east of Rochester, and Oshawa Yacht Club in Ontario.

Besides Secretary-treasurer Castle, Rochester's delegation included James G. (Jeff) Dale, Reed George and William P. Barrows.

Barrows, ex-Canada's Cup defender, brought up the projected Rochester Race—planned for the first time late in the 1948 season—simply to inform interested skippers. And he struck a spark, drawing unsolicited assurance from Youngstown and Royal Canadian tillermen that they are definitely interested in the "world's longest fresh water" thrash.

Anti-inflation note: Dues for member clubs were kept at \$40.

HALF-HITCHES: A healthy movement is afloat in that lower area of the muddy Genesee north and south of Stutson Street bridge which has become so heavily populated with mooring facilities—the creation of the Genesee Boating Association. Propelled by Bob O'Kane, Genesee Yacht Club commodore, the association now has a constitution and bylaws, plus these officers: Commodore, Raymond Field; Vicecommodore, Jay Minshall; Rear commodore, Albert Chescavage; recording secretary, I. L. Gillette; financial secretary, Clarence Walizer; treasurer, Theodore J. Vaughan; fleet captain, Max Weiss.

Principal purposes of the organization are to supply a friendly organizational setup to unaffiliated boatmen up and down the river, and to do considerable nautical missionary work and policing in an area that needs it badly. Much credit goes to ex-YMCA aide, O'Kane for the move . . . and every boat owner who has had his craft jammed against the pilings by the wash of some speed-hungry crackpot, should run—not walk—to join the organization.

UPCOMING: Commander Bill Ingram will report on the Cleveland district Auxiliary conference at tonight's Coast Guard Auxiliary flotilla meeting (plus chow) at the Coast Guard base in Summer-ville.

Interest is high in the coming visit to Rochester Yacht Club Saturday evening of Rod Stephens, author and salt-water sailing ace, who will show pictures of the 1946 Bermuda Race and the 1947 Marblehead-Halifax jaunt . . . the occasion was arranged by Commodore Tim Croucher of Rochester Power Squadron and Commodore Bill Calkins of RYC . . . details are in the hands of Herb Wahl and Larry Casey.

Nov. 21 is date of RYC's annual Movie Night when members bring down and project choice stripe of film taken at the club during the season.