

OPEN FORUM

A column dedicated to opinions of the public. A mouthpiece for the views and observations of our friends and readers, for which we accept no responsibility. Contributions to this column must not exceed three hundred words.

RE: NATIONAL PARK

Editor State Port Pilot, Southport, N. C. Dear Sir: Since his first acquisition of Bald Head Island property I have been in fairly close touch with Mr. Frank O. Sherrill of Charlotte, head of the S. & W. Chain Cafeterias. Mr. Sherrill is one of several powerful members of the Southport Civic Club and has contributed more to its efforts, in a financial way, than any other member. He not only happens to be one of us, but I feel that I can say that I am personally retained to look after certain of his interests here. Hence this letter to your Open Forum: For years there has been a great deal of sentiment in our neighboring county of New Hanover for a National Park with Brunswick providing the land, or most of it. The original idea was for Bald Head Island to be made into a non-tax-paying museum. The plan did not meet with much local enthusiasm nor did the idea of a New Hanover man who personally wrote us to ask if Brunswick county would deed the island to New Hanover if the said New Hanover would build a

road to it. New Hanover, he said, would pay the back taxes on the island if Brunswick would deed the island to New Hanover. He did not say so but we assume that the fundamental idea was that New Hanover had the political pull to secure state and federal funds to build a two or three million dollar road around the island and bridge across Corncake Inlet and the three or four miles of sound, if the island belonged to New Hanover.

When Frank O. Sherrill bought 5000 acres of the 17,000-acre island tract last year there was a prompt and instantaneous revival of interest and hope for a road from New Hanover to Bald Head. On the day that the purchase was announced the Wilmington papers front-paged a map showing the route of the proposed road.

Mr. Sherrill had other ideas. He wanted Bald Head to remain an island. He planned to make a little Bermuda out of the place. First he had to get the rest of the 17,000 acres. Until the additional purchase was made he could do nothing towards developing.

He got the deed to the rest of the property hardly three weeks ago and is now busily engaged in getting his Cafeteria affairs in such order that he will be able to devote a lot of his time to the island.

New Hanover has meanwhile tacked about and is steering another course to get the coveted road. It has become suddenly vital that Fort Fisher in New Hanover be made into a National Park. Large areas of land are

required for this, and our understanding is that fully 60 acres of New Hanover territory, the site of the fort and adjacent property, will be bought or donated and that the rest of the needed land, to wit: some 17,000 acres, will be acquired from Brunswick through the virtue of a New Hanover National Park Commission that will be embodied by the North Carolina legislature with the power of eminent domain.

Publicity at first described the needed Brunswick lands as, "All lands south of Fort Fisher." More recent reference has been less specific and we are now advised that the desired area includes large tracts in New Hanover and Brunswick. We are further advised that the power of eminent domain may not have to be exercised as "Most of the owners of the land in question, who have been approached, seem willing to donate or sell."

Mr. Sherrill is not willing to either donate or sell. He made his original purchase a year ago with a definite object of development in view. The concluding deal, three weeks ago, permitted him to begin preparations. He purchased the property in good faith; we have reason to believe that if his plans are carried out the island will be a valuable tax asset to Brunswick county and of value to both Southport and the county at large.

Senator Bellamy, according to the papers, is preparing to shortly introduce a bill that will give a commission composed of New Hanover citizens the right of eminent domain over Bald Head

Island and other lands in Brunswick. Such power, exercised, will amount to virtual confiscation of the Sherrill property and will forever eliminate Bald Head from paying any taxes to this county. Inevitably it will also abolish the island as an attraction, so far as Southport and Brunswick county are concerned. Once the property is turned into a National Park the matter of connecting it with a road from New Hanover will be a settled undertaking. Bald Head will cease to be an island and all traffic to and from it will be diverted through New Hanover county.

Signed, W. B. KEZIAH Southport, Feb. 6, 1939.

BOLIVIA NEWS

Mrs. Henry Nunley of Fayetteville visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Ward, during the week-end.

Jack Cox, who is a student of the Edwards Military Institute, Salemburg, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Cox.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurston Clements now of Myrtle Beach visited relatives and friends around Bolivia this week-end. We learn that their nice twelve-room house at the Beach is well on the way to completion.

At Ward's Farm is a good place to see how a home and grounds can be beautified by shrubbery from the woods. Mrs. John Cox is also improving her place with flowers and shrubbery.

Rev. Tom Johnson filled his regular appointment at the Baptist church Sunday, his subject being, "Using our Million Dollar Eyes, Ears, Limbs and other Faculties For God's Glory".

Mrs. John Cox visited Mrs. E. R. Page Monday after having taken her husband to his work after he had spent the week-end with his family.

Mrs. Nancy Swain, son and daughter, Webster and Ira visited the Pages Sunday.

Friends will regret to learn that Mrs. J. D. Johnson happened to the misfortune of stepping on a nail which pierced her foot for an inch and one half deep. She is doing nicely after having had the tetanus treatment given her.

Mr. I. S. Willets, accompanied by Messrs. Martin B. Robbins, Jack Sellers and E. R. Page, attended the Sunday School convention which was held for all associational workers at Winston-Salem last week.

Shalotte Point

Mr. and Mrs. John V. Chadwick have returned from an extended trip through Florida.

ENTERTAIN

Mr. and Mrs. Magners Williams were host and hostess at a lovely birthday party Saturday night given in honor of Miss June Schuler Watts, of Bay Shore, Long Island. Numerous games and contests were played. High score prize in the "Pop-eye" game for the men went to Walter Pigott, and for the ladies, Mrs. John V. Chadwick. Among those attending were, Mesdames Lena Chadwick, Irene Robinson, Alberta Leonard, Lucille Milliken, A. A. Milliken, Sr., John V. Chadwick, Larrie Hewett, Capt. and Mrs. Ed Watts, the honoree's parents, John Zandy, Carl Ludlum, Harry Chadwick, Walter Pigott, Hubert Leonard, Rozell Hewett, Mardock Hewett, Larrie Hewett, and John V. Cradwick.

Delicious refreshments consisted of chocolate and pineapple cake, with lemonade and hot coffee. A very delightful time was had by all. The honoree was the recipient of many lovely and useful gifts.

Miss Mary Leonard has returned to her home after a visit with her sister, Mrs. James Hewett, of Southport.

Capt. and Mrs. A. A. Milliken, Sr., and daughter spent the week-end at Tabor City.

Miss Norma Milliken, of Wilmington, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mangus Williams Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Hall Lewis, and daughters, Inez, Lina Belle and Peggy, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Chadwick Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Mangus Williams, Mrs. J. M. Williams, Mrs. Ed Watts and daughter, June, made a business trip to Wilmington Saturday.

Dr. E. E. Mayer and Dr. J. E. Ford, of Princeton, N. J., are visitors of Mr. and Mrs. John V. Chadwick.

Mr. and Mrs. James Hewett spent Sunday with Mrs. Hewett's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Leonard.

Winnabow News

A. E. McKeithan of Wilmington was a visitor here Wednesday.

Mesdames V. T. Sullivan and Eldridge Ferguson spent part of the week with their father, G. C. Earp, who was ill and their brother, Earl Earp and his family. Mr. Earp is much better now.

Mrs. Dillon Ganey of Leland visited Mrs. Preston Savage

Thursday afternoon.

A. P. Henry, Sr., and Jr., and G. K. Lewis carried a nice load of hogs to Rocky Mount Wednesday.

Mrs. J. D. Withrow was a visitor here Friday. Friends will be glad to learn Rev. J. D. Withrow is doing nicely after an appendix operation Wednesday evening at James Walker Hospital, Wilmington.

Mrs. W. A. Kopp and little son are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Johnson while Mr. Kopp is visiting relatives in Baltimore, Md. and other places.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Watkins and little daughter of Fort Caswell spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Watkins.

J. D. Hutchens of Ft. Caswell was a caller here Saturday afternoon.

Tom Brown and two daughters and like Solomon of Wilmington were visitors here Saturday afternoon enroute to Southport for a fishing trip.

B. M. Hornesby of Bolivia was a caller here Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Early Gill of Henderson are visiting the Taylors and Johnsons this week.

C. H. Zibelin, Woodrow Sullivan, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Skipper and Miss Bertha Gore spent Sunday in Rocky Mount visiting George Zibelin, D. L. Henry and Lindsay Skipper.

Mrs. R. F. Plaxco and children of Southport spent Sunday afternoon with the Reids.

Mrs. A. P. Henry and daughter, Miss Elizabeth, visited Mrs. R. F. Plaxco and Miss Margaret Parkhill in Southport Monday evening while Mrs. J. L. Henry attended the Eastern Star regular meeting.

Quite a number from here attended the basketball game at Bolivia Tuesday evening. The Leland boys won over the Bolivia boys and the Bolivia girls won over the Leland girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Mercer Taylor and daughter, Miss Sarah Margaret, visited Mrs. E. W. Taylor and family Sunday afternoon.

Woodburn News

Friends of Mrs. Thomas Lossen of Wilmington will regret to learn she is ill at Bullocks hospital. Mrs. Lossen is the mother of Mrs. Mamie McFarland, a former resident of Woodburn.

The following from the Leland Club attended the kitchen arrangement demonstration at the home of Mrs. Nellie Walker at Town Creek last Tuesday: Mrs. N. J. Hines, Sr., Mrs. K. B. Dresser, Mrs. J. L. Blake, Mrs. J. P. Verzaal, Mrs. Fletcher Simmons, Mrs. Arthur Thomas, Misses Mildred and Betty Thomas and Mrs. J. C. Chadwick. Mrs. W. C. Biggs, of the Northwest Club also attended.

Oris Touchston of Moultrie, Ga., has arrived to make his home with his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Touchston.

Friends of Mrs. Albert Lossen will be glad to learn she is recovering nicely following an appendectomy at Bullocks hospital.

Miss Alverta Lewis of Flora Macdonald College, Red Springs, spent last week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Lewis.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Blake and daughter, Martha Ann, formerly of Acme are living with Mrs. Blake's parents, Mr. and Mrs. K. B. Dresser.

Friends of Rev. J. D. Withrow will regret to learn he is a patient at James Walker Hospital following an appendectomy.

Mrs. Mathews Is Club Hostess

Mrs. W. M. Mathews was hostess to the training school for home management leaders at her home at Ash last Tuesday afternoon.

Mrs. J. E. Dodson called the meeting to order and had the roll call by clubs, each member giving a household hint. Mrs. Marion Dasher introduced Miss Elizabeth Williams, state specialist, who gave the lesson, "Built-In Kitchen Equipment."

Miss Williamson pointed out that before the actual work started careful planning should be done. First, the amount of storage space needed and second, grouping and arranging working centers for convenience. In making cabinets, narrow and removable shelves are preferred. Working surfaces should be the correct height with "toe space" at bottom. Miss Williams had several pieces of home-made kitchen equipment on display, which illustrated her discussion.

A kitchen contest for the entire county was suggested. Some of the ladies were interested. Mrs. Dasher announced the county council meeting which will be at Bolivia, February 15, and a poultry school in Wilmington, February 14.

The hostess served delicious refreshments to the following: Mrs. Jesse Purvis, Mrs. Zelma Hewett, Mrs. James Purvis, Mrs. W. M. Mathews from Ash club, Mrs. J. E. Dodson, Mrs. Burris Russ from Exum club, and Mrs. J. A. Simmons and Miss Vemon Duncan from Freeland club.

Angry Guide: "Why didn't you shoot that tiger?"

Timid Hunter: "He—he didn't have the right kind of expression for a rug."

Gives Hints On Electric Fence

Says Caution Should Be Exercised In Use of Electric Fence; Stock Often Killed By Wiring

Caution should be exercised in the use of the electric fence, which is becoming so popular with farmers in pasturing livestock, says David S. Weaver, agricultural engineer of the State College Extension Service.

While electric fences have met with general acceptance because the cost of the fence is materially less than the standard type of stock fencing, all electric fencing does not have a clear slate of safety, Weaver stated.

Reports by investigators have shown several instances where stock has been killed by wiring that was improperly charged. In some instances it was homemade contraptions which were rigged up by persons who did not know what degree of shock the apparatus was delivering and did not understand how much shock was necessary or safe for livestock.

"A word of caution to those who might be contemplating installing an electric fence would be to secure the equipment from those sources which have had extensive experience and have the equipment on a safe basis," Weaver said. "The buyer also should follow throughout the directions by the manufacturer for safety installing the controller."

"No person should attempt to install a homemade apparatus without first consulting some person competent of giving information as to safety precautions to be followed. The proper grounding of the wiring system and electrical equipment around farm buildings is also important, as a slight shock from improperly grounded systems has been known to kill cattle."

PROUD ROOSTER

BOSTON, Mass. — Fifteen-year old Donald Matthews' black Jersey giant rooster had "something to crow about", but it may cost Donald a college education, his mother says.

His rooster crowed so loudly after winning a poultry show first prize that neighbors complained to health authorities. They decreed Donald must get rid of it.

"You see", said his mother, "Donald wants to go to college and study farming. He hoped to do it with his eggs and chicken money, and I don't see how he's going to if he has to get rid of 'Beauty'."

"Beauty", the prize winner is the leader of a flock of seven hens.

Hearing On Nautical School Bill Tomorrow (Continued from page 1) for a favorable report from the

committee. Several local persons plan to attend the committee hearing tomorrow in Raleigh.

ELECTRIC PROJECT WILL START SOON IN COUNTY

(Continued from page 1) ed in the two counties tomorrow morning.

Karns said that the survey should be completed in about two weeks. The report will then be forwarded to REA headquarters in Washington for final approval.

The work should be started on erecting the lines within a few weeks, he said.

Karns said that he spent most of the day with Thomas surveying the proposed project and that he found the possibilities for development very good.

Rev. A. H. Marshall Plays Role, Modern Circuit Rider

(Continued from page 1) munities along the coast. In order to be able to devote more time to this work he was forced to give up another charge which he served from Southport, and with it went a good part of his monthly income. Then he set about the business of making a schedule of regular appointments which could be served only by boat.

Fishermen along the coast of North Carolina are poor, but they are shy and proud. Gradually he gained their confidence and each returning trip found larger and larger crowds gathered along the waterfront at his landing places.

And that is the story up to date. The Rev. Marshall has visions of seeing the coastal area of his state divided into three divisions, each to be worked and studied separately. Where there is need of a church, he desires to see one established. With it he hopes to station a settlement

worker in order that the people may be given the opportunity of improving their standard of living. But all of this time and it takes money, elaborate plans that require expenditures.

His constant companion is journeying in his wife, and the appearance of the couple at stop for the church boat, welcomed sight for the entire Hampered by some extent the winter weather, Rev. Marshall now is busy getting his in readiness for a program of new purpose this spring.

RESIDENTS NOW KEEP RECORDS

(Continued from page 1) an idea that the book will be valuable for publicity and other purposes in a little while. Adrian and Davis at the guard station, Captain and Munn and Captain and Mrs. er at the Capt. Fear heights are all filled with hospital friendliness and helpfulness visitors.

COUNTY TEACHERS MEETING SATURDAY

(Continued from page 1) Colvin; "Health Teaching in Elementary Schools," J. T. Linton; "The Teachers' Part in Health Program," Mrs. L. Smith, County Nurse.

SEA GULLS NOW BEING BAND

(Continued from page 1) and managed to get a large ed sweet potato to the specimen. The bird gulped down greedily, seemingly grateful for the proximity human beings who appear kept the other birds from proaching near enough to away its supper. The meal ed, it flew away.

FINAL WARNING -TO- Car and Dog Owners Purchase your automobile license tag and pay your dog tax before February 10, 1939. After that date all persons who have failed to comply with these laws will be prosecuted. E. R. WEEKS Tax Collector

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