

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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VOLUME XIV

THE BEAUFORT NEWS THURSDAY APRIL 23 1925

NUMBER SEVENTEEN

FRICION EXISTS IN SCHOOL BOARD AT CULLOWHEE

Governor Ordered An Investigation. Edenhouse Bridge Site Chosen by State Highway Commission

STATE'S DEFICIT \$6,327,980

(By M. L. SHIPMAN)

Raleigh, N. C. April 20—The affairs of Cullowhee Normal Institute were thoroughly aired during the past week by Attorney General Brummitt who investigated the institution at the direction of the Governor. Mr. McLean also had a hard week with the Stewart case which culminated Friday with the electrocution of father and son to expiate a murder in Brunswick county last year. A statement on the State's deficit was issued by the Governor, and various other matters occupied the attention of the Capital City.

The Governor, who had considerable experience with the Washington system of going into matters without regard to "where the chips may fall," found out that there was trouble at Cullowhee. So, in direct and characteristic fashion, he directed Mr. Brummitt, the attorney general, to find out what it was and why. This the Attorney General did in a report which, was clear and unmistakable. The Governor should experience little difficulty in ascertaining whom he should not appoint to the Cullowhee board when that matter engaged his attention in the next few days. The appointments probably would have been made before now but for reported trouble at the institution.

Mr. Brummitt discovers that Walter E. Moore, chairman of the Board, is "at outs" with W. W. Watt, member of the Board from Charlotte, and adds that whatever one does the other will oppose and so on. The affairs of the institution are said to be suffering. The Attorney General makes the further discovery that Mr. Moore has been acting as attorney for the institution and does not think well of the acceptance of such employment which requires service in a dual capacity with him acting as Chairman of the Board. The trouble between the two men seems chiefly to be over certain contracts and building arrangements for Cullowhee and a part of the difficulty, at least, is disposed of when the Attorney General declares the \$85,000 supplementary contract for a heating plant to be void. The Governor is studying the report but has had nothing to say of the subject.

Proponents of the Edenhouse site for the bridge over the lower Chowan River won out over those favoring Colerain, twelve miles further up the river. The bridge, which will cost \$600,000, is of great importance to Eastern Carolina for it will bring the far northern counties in close connection with the rest of the State and complete the Atlantic Coastal Highway through the entire State. The State Highway Commission decided last week that the Edenhouse site would be best.

The State's deficit as of March 31st was \$6,327,980.25, according to a statement which the Governor had the proper officers to prepare for him. The State had a surplus of \$1,924,680.32 of collections over expenditures during the month, but it was explained that the peak of the income tax collections accounted for this. The total State debt, including bonds and short term notes, is given as \$113,868,000.

Charles W. Stewart and his son, Elmer, went to their deaths in the electric chair on Friday, after an appeal for executive clemency had failed. The men confessed to committing the murders of Deputy Sheriff Leon George and Deputy U. S. Marshal Sam Lilly in Brunswick county last year. The case was hard fought through the Supreme Court and the Governor sought for a way to save the boy, at least, from death but found that his conscientious duty would not allow him to exercise clemency.

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STRAWBERRIES AND POTATOES ARE NOW ON SALE

Spring is ten days or two weeks earlier this year than usual and as a result vegetation of all kinds is well advanced. Home grown strawberries made their appearance on the local market last week and Tuesday new Irish potatoes were also on sale. Cabbage shipments have been going forward for several weeks and some other truck is also moving. Shipments of early potatoes usually begin in this section about the 25th of May but indications are that some cars will move earlier than that this year. The weather has been favorable for truck growing and as a rule crops are looking fine.

CHAUTAQUA HEAD HERE.

Dr. Paul M. Pearson, who is the head of the Swarthmore Chautauqua, was in Beaufort a few hours Monday. Dr. Pearson held a meeting at the Bank of Beaufort with some of the Chautauqua guarantors and discussed matters pertaining to the organization. The Chautauqua will begin in Beaufort on the 16th of June and it seems that an excellent program will be given. Two plays will be produced this year instead of one and other good features have been provided.

FISH PRODUCTION SHOWS DECREASE

From 1918 To 1923 North Carolina's Fish Harvest Made Big Slump

Washington, D. C.—The North Carolina fisheries harvest dropped from 210,000,000 pounds, valued at nearly \$3,000,000 in 1918, to 95,000,000 pounds worth \$2,400,000 in 1923 according to a statistical bulletin of the fisheries of the South Atlantic States just issued by the Commerce Department's Bureau of Fisheries.

Discussing these statistics, Commissioner O'Malley points out that the greater part of this decline was in the menhaden fishery, a non-food fish, which is used in the manufacture of fish meal, scrap, and oil. The catch of this species fell off over 115,000,000 pounds, whereas there was a slight increase in the total catch of other products. Other species for which there was a considerable decline included the river herring with a decrease of nearly eight million pounds; also black bass and butterfish. There were noteworthy increases in the catch of oysters, shrimp, sturgeon and bluefish.

More than 8,900 persons are engaged in the fisheries of the State and the investment exceeds \$4,100,000.

Included in the group of South Atlantic States are North and South Carolina, Georgia and the east coast of Florida. In this geographical section there were more than 15,000 persons engaged in the fisheries, the investment was \$7,424,000, and the catch exceeded 332,600,000 pounds valued at \$5,348,000. Compared with 1918, there was an increase of 8,000,000 pounds in the catch of shrimp, and 757,000 bushels of oysters. The catch of bluefish, catfish, croaker and flounders more than doubled. On the other hand, there was a considerable decrease in the catch of such important foodfishes as river herring, mullet, and Spanish mackerel.

CITY POLITICS QUIET.

Whether due to their popularity or some other reason the mayor and commissioners of Beaufort have no opposition at all this year and the election promises to be a very quiet one. Chief of Police W. R. Longest is not quite so fortunate however as police officer John Pake has decided to run for chief. His announcement is in this issue of the News. The contest between Messrs Longest and Pake may inject some life into what would otherwise be a very quiet campaign.

Motorist of the United States paid \$80,000,000 in 1924 in a gasoline

BOND OPPONENTS HOLD A MEETING

Resolutions Adopted and Committee Appointed To Go Before Commissioners

The anti-bond meeting scheduled for last Saturday afternoon came off as expected and was attended by a considerable crowd which assembled in the county court room at 2:30 o'clock. Mr. L. H. Hardy was elected chairman of the meeting and Mr. L. W. Hassell was requested to act as secretary. A committee on resolutions composed of Seth Gibbs, S. P. Hancock, W. W. Lewis and W. P. Smith was appointed.

While the resolutions committee was out short speeches were made by Reverend J. M. Carraway of Merrimon and J. H. Whitehurst of Beaufort. Mr. Carraway urged that the Beaufort-Harlowe road be finished as originally planned and that no bonds be issued without a vote of the people. Mr. Whitehurst spoke strongly against the proposed bond issue and demanded that Commissioner Huntley be asked to resign. The report of the resolutions committee was then read by Mr. Gibbs after which there was some discussion. Dr. C. N. Mason said the resolutions were not strong enough to suit him but he was willing to abide by the judgment of the committee. Messrs S. P. Hancock, James Hancock and Seth Gibbs spoke briefly after the report of the committee was adopted. Mr. S. P. Hancock offered a motion thanking Commissioners Hall and Whitehurst for their action on the bond matter. This was carried unanimously. A committee was appointed to go before the board of county commissioners at their next meeting and present the resolutions which resolutions were as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED, That this meeting do urge, and petition the State highway commission to execute their original contract with Carteret County by completion of that part of route 10 from Craven County line to Beaufort, N. C.

That we urge and request the board of County Commissioners of Carteret County, and especially insist upon the member of that body, representing Beaufort Township, (Mr. G. W. Huntley) to exercise his effort toward the fulfillment of this contract by the highway commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we do oppose the issue of bonds by the board of commissioners, without the voice of the people, and especially do we oppose the issue of bonds without the specific purpose for which issued being first designated.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that we do oppose, condemn the transaction of public business behind closed doors, and in executive session, and insist that such business be conducted at all times in the open and above board.

We do further oppose, and condemn the issuance of \$150,000 funding bonds at a private sale, at a loss to the County of \$9,000 or more. Such a sale we believe to be illegal, and unjustifiable.

We do further oppose and condemn the action of the board of commissioners in raising the salary of the County attorney as reported, by reason of the fact that such services as fully competent, have been secured for lesser salary without complaint, and especially at a time when there are such urgent needs for economy.

PELICANS VISIT BEAUFORT

A pair of pelicans paid Beaufort harbor a visit last week and stayed around for a while. They probably would have stayed longer if they had not been molested and would have been something of an attraction to visitors and others. Pelicans are numerous in Florida waters but not very common in these parts although fishermen report seeing them occasionally.

New Jersey school teachers must read six verses daily aloud from the Old Testament.

STATE NEWS

Items Of Interest From Various Parts of North Carolina

The sand hills peach section is expected to break all records this year. Hundreds of thousands of trees are loaded with little peaches and the chances now seem favorable for a tremendous crop. Frost has not damaged the fruit crop to any extent so far this year.

Evangelist Billy Sunday has started a revival in Winston-Salem and tremendous crowds have been going to hear him. On Sunday fourteen thousand heard him and many were turned away for lack of room. The meeting will last six weeks.

A call has been issued for the 23rd annual convention of the N. C. Federation of Women's Clubs by Mrs. Palmer T. Jerman the president. The convention will be held at the Carolina hotel at Pinehurst May 4th, 5th and 6th.

Zeb Davis of Winston-Salem was made to pay Miss Floy Smith of that city \$1000 for injuries sustained when his car struck her. She was struck while crossing the road and is paralyzed from her waist down.

George Markham a farmer in Wake county, found two of his cows dead near a whiskey still a few days ago. They had been drinking some of the mash. Mr. Markham laid in wait near the still and arrested a man and took him to jail.

Much excitement was caused in Moore county by reason of an attempt at rape by a young negro about 20 years old on a 16 year old white girl. The girl was returning home from school when the negro assaulted her screams attracted the attention of some colored women and the man fled when they approached.

Charles W. Stewart and his son Elmer of Brunswick county were electrocuted at the State penitentiary last Friday morning. The men murdered police officer Leon George and U. S. Marshal Sam Lilly last year. Their bodies were taken to Wilmington for burial. A petition is being circulated in Wilmington asking the Legislature to repeal the law requiring capital punishment for certain offenses.

PLEA MADE FOR DEEPER WATER FOR INLET

The waterways hearing scheduled for today began this morning at 11:30 o'clock in the county court room. Major Oscar O. Kuentz of Wilmington and District Engineer H. T. Patterson of New Bern are in charge of the hearings. Congressman Charles L. Abernethy assisted in developing the facts so as to get all information possible for the record.

Mr. Abernethy who was the first speaker and brought out the good points of Beaufort inlet and harbor, used to be a part of entry and there was considerable ocean commerce here at one time. He said the N. C. Congressional delegation favored extensive improvements to North Carolina waterways and wanted a 30 foot channel for Beaufort inlet and the channel to pier one which he said could be constructed at comparatively small cost.

Others who spoke at the morning session were W. B. Elnes, J. F. Duncan, E. H. Gorham, R. B. Wheatly, J. H. Potter Sr., Captain Leonard Nelson, Captain H. M. Parkin, E. Walter Hill. The speakers showed the danger of vessels of the shallow waterways, how increasing commerce necessitates the improvements asked for and spoke of the possibilities of building up a port here that would be an advantage to practically the whole State of North Carolina. A \$50 for appearance at the June term of Superior Court.

The first cargo of hard molasses recently arrived in the United States in baskets from Java.

SUPERINTENDENT SECURED FOR BEAUFORT SCHOOLS

A new superintendent for the Beaufort Public Schools was elected at a meeting of the board of trustees held last Friday evening. Mr. R. L. Fritz at present principal in the Washington, N. C. public schools is the man selected. He was here last Friday and Saturday and seems to have favorably impressed those who met him.

Mr. Fritz is a native of Catawba county, is a young man, married and a member of the Lutheran church. He is a graduate of Lenoir College, has attended six Summer schools and will get his M. A. degree this year from the University of North Carolina. He has taught schools six years. He was a member of the faculty of the Wilmington high school for some time, taught two years in Hertford and is at present employed in Washington. He comes highly recommended by school men, ministers and business men. The board of trustees does not yet know what teachers will compose the faculty for next year. The News will publish this information as soon as it is able to obtain it.

WILL CELEBRATE FOURTH OF JULY

Chamber of Commerce Appoints Committee to Get Up Big Celebration

For the first time in several years Beaufort will have a fourth of July celebration this year. At a meeting of the directors of the Chamber of Commerce held Tuesday evening this decision was reached and an executive committee was appointed to take charge of the affair. This committee was authorized to select its chairman and to appoint such subcommittees as might be needed to carry the project through.

Those who attended the director's meeting Tuesday evening were President U. E. Swann, secretary J. P. Sound and Messrs. D. M. Jones, Claude Felton, R. W. Jernigan, W. H. Taylor, F. R. Stealy, W. P. Smith, R. B. Wheatly, Hugh Overstreet, Dr. C. S. Maxwell, W. G. Mebane. The fourth of July committee is composed of D. M. Jones, Claude Felton, Hugh Overstreet, W. H. Taylor and R. B. Wheatly.

The waterways and harbor question was discussed at length by the directors and it was agreed as necessary that a good attendance should attend the hearings set for Thursday (today) at 10 o'clock A. M. and 3 o'clock in the afternoon. The matter of erecting a sign at the highway junction near Havelock was taken up after discussion the secretary was instructed to get the cost on such a sign and report. The sign will be 9 by 15 or 12 by 24 feet and will point the way to Beaufort. Matters pertaining to agriculture and some other subjects were discussed at the meeting.

HELD FOR COURT ON NON DIPPING CHARGE

Prosecution of persons who are alleged to have failed to comply with the cattle dipping regulations continues. On last Saturday afternoon a considerable number of such cases were tried by Justice of the Peace M. R. Springle. The cases against John Brooks and D. W. Sabiston were dismissed as the evidence did not justify binding them over. A case against I. S. Wade was continued on account of the illness of Mr. Wade. Others who were tried and bound over to Superior court were G. W. Huntley, Dan Yoemans, Leslie Moore, J. W. Hancock, Charles Hancock, Ray Dickinson, W. W. Hardesty. All were required to give a bond of \$50 for appearance at the June term of Superior Court.

MARRIAGE LICENSE

Only one license to wed was issued by Register of Deeds Jno. W. Hamilton during the past week, it was to David Ray Morris and Sadie Bell Eubanks, Bogue, N. C.

BOGUE ISLAND IDEALLY LOCATED FOR RESORT CITY

Scientific Publication Regards Fort's Project As Practical. Dunes Must Be Controlled

FORT MACON'S POSSIBILITIES

Natural Resources, a bi-weekly publication of the N. C. Geological and Economic Survey, in a recent issue has an interesting article about Mr. H. K. Fort's tract of land where he proposes to found a city. Natural Resources thinks that the advantage for a resort city on Bogue Island are superior in some respects to those of Florida. In order to make these advantages available however it will be necessary to guard against the ever shifting sand dunes. The article referred to is reproduced herewith.

The acquisition of a large area on Bogue Island, near Beaufort, by Philadelphia capitalists who plan to make of this stretch of ocean front an all-the-year-round resort on a large scale, is of more than commercial significance. For while Bogue Island is ideally situated and remarkably well endowed for the successful carrying out of such a plan, its utilization as a resort will involve methods of scientific improvement of typical "banks" conditions that should prove of infinite future value to several hundred miles of coast that constitute a peculiar State problem.

As to the advantages of Bogue Island itself for the creation of a modern resort, they are the equal and in many respects the superior of any of the developments of Florida. Lying between Beaufort and Bogue Inlets on the ocean side, the island has magnificent beaches which in summer are swept by practically unending breeze and through the influence of the nearby Gulf Stream in winter enjoys a climate never severe and frequently so mild as to suggest sub-tropical. On the north it is bounded by Bogue Sound, a shallow and narrow bit of water which separates it from the mainland in which there is abundance of game, including wild turkey, deer, and bear, and in whose streams and ponds there is famous still-water fishing. Bogue Sound may be easily bridged for access from the mainland, Beaufort, with its inland waterway, is in quick reach of motor boat, and there are available a variety of still and deep water fishing opportunities that have long been famous. These advantages of location include the historic interest of Beaufort and of old Fort Macon, now the property of the State, the Harbor of Refuge at Cape Lookout, and quick and easy communication with the famous Sound System of North Carolina.

Lesson of Development

It is an intelligent enterprise and capital will probably develop the land of the island, however, that the possibilities of a heretofore neglected region which is duplicated in scores of places along the North Carolina coast should be realized. Once Bogue Island, as the other now barren "banks" was covered with forest. The sea was held in check by a coast that, back of the beaches, was green and firm. These shifting sand dunes, picturesque but making for desolation, had not then come to be the means of turning fertile and productive lands into almost useless wastes. Although the site of the proposed new development has been more fortunate than the majority of these coast regions in that there remain some natural grasses, shrubs and some reminders of forest, one of the first concerns of development will be to make it over into its greenness.

The method of accomplishing what in a few years would work a miraculous change is well established. European countries have for over a century been following the practice of building the barriers to hold the shifting sands till the natural binding shrubs and grasses can get foothold. Once the sands are thus fixed, the desolate hillocks become green ramparts in whose lee is the shelter for new forests. In France this practice has been carried so far that in the case of the maritime pine, the

(Continued on page five)