

MOREHEAD CITY: Its Infancy and Prospects for Future Growth

From: Carteret County Telephone, Beaufort, N. C.
April 28, 1882.

If H. S. L. who wrote the interesting sketch about Morehead City for the Friday, April 28th, 1882, edition of the Carteret County Telephone edited and published by L. A. Potter and R. W. Chadwick, should return today after 55 years he would see the infant City he wrote about experiencing a very rapid growth. The article is reprinted for its historical values. Among other things it proves that the S. S. Sannanger which brought a cargo of salt to the port terminal last Fall was not the first foreign vessel to discharge a cargo at Morehead City. It also proves that H. L. S. was right in predicting future growth and hope for the City. The sketch follows:

"Fifty years ago there was nothing on or about the little peninsula or tongue of land on which Morehead City now stands to distinguish it from other insignificant points of land on Bogue Sound and Newport River, except that its terminus reached near Newport Channel one and a half miles within the Inlet which made it the most convenient shipping point about Beaufort Harbor. It was then an unbroken forest, diversified with the varieties of woodland and shrubbery peculiar to the Eastern Coast of North Carolina, with perhaps two or three small dwellings houses, the entire locality in those days being sparsely settled. But time rolled on, and finally the great importance and advantages of a line of Railroad from Beaufort Harbor to the Tennessee line became apparent in the minds of some distinguished geniuses of North Carolina and a point fitted by nature for the eastern terminus of such road was sought for and found.

"As far back as 1833 a bill was introduced in the Legislature of North Carolina for a charter to permit the construction of said road, but the bill was indefinitely postponed for some cause and the project at that time failed, though very strongly advocated by some of the master spirits of North Carolina; twenty or twenty five years later, the desired charter was obtained, and prior to 1860 the desired road from Beaufort Harbor to Goldsboro had been completed.

"Now we behold a town beautifully laid out, with about 700 inhabitants; and during the warm seasons of the year thousands repair to the place for pleasure, recreation and health. The incorporation is washed on the south by the waters of Bogue Sound, on the north by Calico Creek, and on the east by Newport Channel, with an area of about two square miles. The surrounding scenery is quite picturesque. East and two miles distance stands the old and historic town of Beaufort, the capital of Carteret county. South East two miles distance is Fort Mason; a strong fortress at the entrance of the harbor, constructed of brick, stone, cement, wood and earth. On the South and southeast, Bogue Banks, or small mountains of sand rise majestically before the admirer's eyes, stretching westward as far as the eye can behold. Between Morehead City and these Banks is a beautiful and placid sheet of water one and a half miles wide in which myriads of the finy tribe sport, and the shell fish bask.

"Westward we can look up the Midland Road with an unobstructed view. On the North and Northeast just beyond Calico Creek is a heavy woodland, quite rugged in appearance and serves somewhat as a protection to the City from the cold blasts from that direction. Morehead City can boast of three hotels: The Atlantic Hotel, Macon House and Seabreeze House. The Atlantic is one of the finest most capacious hotels in the United States. The Macon and the Seabreeze houses are second class in architectural beauty, but first class in the dining rooms. There are six first class boarding houses. On Bridges street you will find the Arendell House, the Dill House and the Failles House; on Arendell Street you will find the Franklin House, the Lee House and the Wade House.

"At any of these houses good lunch and pleasant rooms can be obtained at all times.

"Morehead City has two churches, one white and one colored. In the white church three congregations meet and worship; the Methodist and two sets of Baptists. Methodist and Baptist also worship in the colored church.

The people of Morehead have splendid facilities for educating the children, there being quite a number of experienced teachers located in City, and from two to three good schools in operation about 10 months each year. With such educational facilities and a reasonable amount of preaching neither the young nor the old need to languish for the want of literary attainments nor Divine instructions.

"The little City has a P. O., Express office, Telegraph Office, eight mercantile houses, two boot and shoe factories, one wind mill, and one place where suffering humanity may purchase a little wine for the 'stom-

ach ache and oft infirmities;" also one of the largest and best constructed ice houses in the State. Its capacity for holding and preserving ice is sufficient to keep the City cool. Then there are five firms and as many houses for receiving, packing and preserving and shipping fish, oysters, clams and wildfowl, here is perhaps more of such production shipped from Morehead City to various markets North and West, than from any other seaport on the coast of America.

"At the terminus of the Railroad there is a pier and a large and substantial warehouse, where ships of almost any capacity may deliver and receive their cargoes. While we write, the Guldringa, a barque from Wales is discharging her cargo, consisting of one thousand tons of steel rails. Said barque is over 200 feet in length and draws 20 feet of water when loaded.

The inhabitants of Morehead City are very industrious and ingenious. Nearly every man and boy understands the art of capturing fish and other luxuries of the water; and a large proportion of the men are sufficiently skilled in architecture and in the use of tools to enable them to plan and build their own houses. The ladies are well skilled in domestic matters, especially in preparing the luxuries of the water and land for the table, and with few exceptions, they are surely handsome.

"With the best harbor on the coast between Norfolk and the Gulf of Mexico—with a line of railway from it to the far West—with one of the most convenient and healthful and pleasant watering places in the world for the invalid and the pleasure seeker, and with the enumerated natural and artificial advantages, what can or what will hinder Morehead City in the near future from becoming a city in magnitude as well as in name, and one of the most desirable spots on earth for Adam's race to dwell.

Pulpwood Industry Is Boon To Farmer

RALEIGH, Mar. 24.—The sale of pulpwood can be a boon to North Carolina farmers, or it can ruin their forests, said R. W. Graeber, extension forester at State College.

Growth of the pulpwood industry in North Carolina and nearby territory in adjoining States is providing a market for 1,000 to 1,500 cords of pulpwood every day, he said.

This is a good source of cash income, Graeber added, and it can induce farmers to thin their overcrowded timber stands so that better quality trees will be produced for lumber.

But if farmers make indiscriminate cuttings of young trees that would make good lumber, and sell these as pulpwood they will devastate their forests and lose the opportunity to produce higher priced timber.

Pulpwood should be considered a by-product rather than the main product of forestry. As a by-product, it helps round out a well balanced forestry program, he continued.

In cutting pulpwood, he added, select only small, runted, misshapen, overcrowded trees. They will provide a source of income while the better trees are growing into saw logs, post-pilings, poles, ties, stave bolts, and other higher priced material.

There is no reason why the paper industry and the lumber industry cannot draw their wood supplies from the same forests, Graeber said, if the land owners will treat their timber as a crop that yields periodic harvests as long as it is given proper care and management.

Says Hard Soil Should Be Retired To Pasture

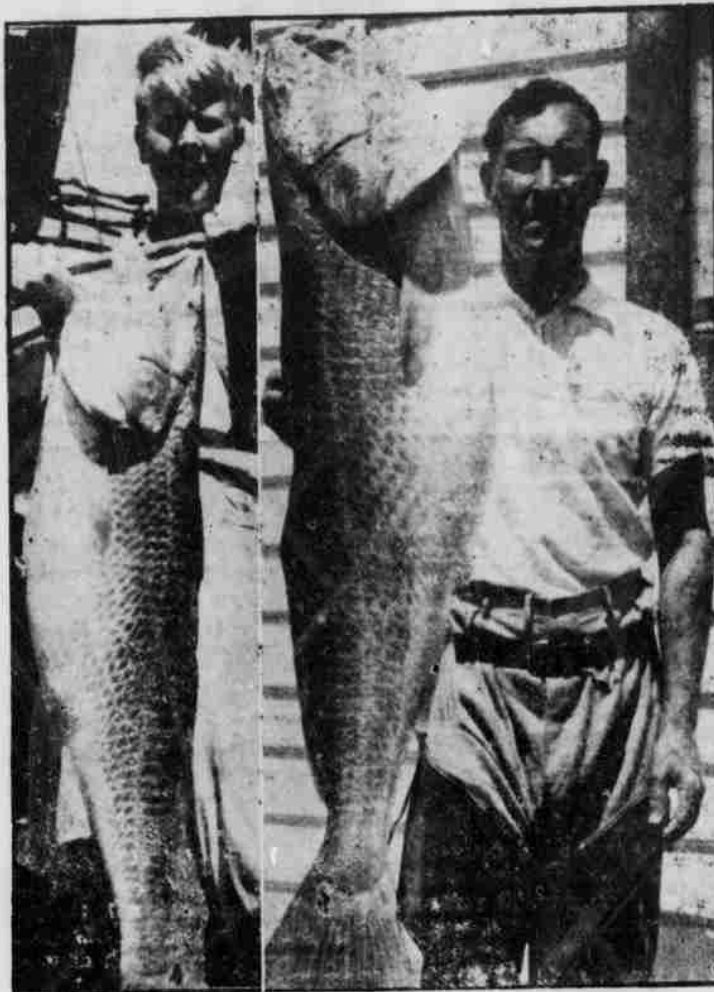
RALEIGH, Mar. 24.—Because of the difficulty of cultivation and high erodibility of the types of soil known to North Carolina farmers as "iron rock" land, the Soil Conservation Service and State College Extension Service are recommending that these types of soil—the Iredell series—be retired to pasture, according to R. C. Pleasants of the Charlotte project.

These soils, also sometimes referred to as "black jack," "bull tallow," and "beeswax" land, vary in the surface from light brown in the sandy types to brown and occasionally black in the clay types.

The reason why sheet erosion is so severe in these soils, Mr. Pleasants points out, is easily seen from the waxy, heavy clay subsoil, which is so plastic and tight that it is impossible for water to penetrate through it except at a very slow rate.

This means that when rains come the surface soil is soon saturated and the water begins running off, carrying the topsoil with it, Pleasants said.

Prize Winning N. C. Channel Bass



Second Largest Caught In United States Last Year

The 64 1-2 pound channel bass landed by F. A. Mitchell-Hedges, noted English explorer, in the surf near his home at Frisco on Hatteras Island last May 11 was the largest of this species taken in North Carolina during the year and second largest taken in the United States. First prize channel bass was landed in the Chesapeake Bay by J. D. Steele on May 29. His fish weighed 64 lbs. and 14 ounces. Awarded second prize in the national Field and Stream contest, Explorer Mitchell-Hedges was given his choice of \$50 worth of any fishing merchandised in the magazine. To land his big

fish Mitchell-Hedges was using an Ocean City reel, Union Hardware Company rod, an Ashway line and a small bluefish for bait. Fourth prize channel bass in the Field and Stream contest was landed by David W. Scott at Oregon Inlet on July 19. His fish weighed 61 pounds and 12 ounces. In the above photo Mitchell-Hedges is shown with his prize winner. At left in photo is his son James with a bass which weighed over 50 pounds. At the present time Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell-Hedges are in the West Indies on an exploration expedition. (Photo courtesy Dare County Times)

other than soil-binding crops. By placing Iredell soils in pasture, erosion can easily be controlled by the various pasture grasses, he said.

AN EASTER CANTATA

The Cantata "From Death Unto Life" will be presented at St. Stephen Congregational church, Easter Sunday at 7:30 P. M.

The best choir of Negro voices in eastern North Carolina will render this cantata both white and colored friends usually enjoy the rendition of music by this well trained and disciplined band of singers, who make the resurrection a reality. Singing lifts the soul and makes the heart leap for joy. Do not miss the date

and the hour.

At two o'clock the Sunday Church School will meet with Mr. Fred Johnson, Supt. At 4:45 A. M. we shall have our usual sunrise and early resurrection services. At eleven o'clock the pastor will preach. Come and get your soul stirred and your spirit renewed by and with a gospel message, prepared and delivered by a spirit-filled servant of God.

N. C. Gaihou, Pastor.

In Lincoln County, many growers took advantage of the recent snow-fall to sow lespedeza seed. They said they could see exactly where the seed fell and there was no overlapping.

Daniel Clark was elected president of the recently organized Cumberland County Agricultural and Homemakers Club composed of older rural boys and girls not now in school.

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