

Housing Deal Blows Up?

Where do things stand now in the Eastern Carolina Regional Housing Authority situation?

Governor Hodges has fired his representative on the authority. This followed the firing of Wayne County's representative. The Carteret County board of commissioners, at present apparently, has no intention of asking its representative, I. E. Pittman, to resign. Mr. Pittman is chairman of the authority.

Mr. Pittman, Morehead City, told the board Monday that he would like to stay on the housing authority until the present trouble is "straightened out".

He was referring to the fact that the housing authority approved payment of \$1,165,000 for housing near Seymour Johnson field, Goldsboro, which, the federal government says, the housing authority already owns.

The deal was recently investigated by representatives from 10 counties which have housing units administered by the ECRHA. The investigating committee recommended that the county boards take proper action to see that the ECRHA stands up and asserts that it owns the Seymour Johnson homes.

Proper action was interpreted by the governor and Wayne County as firing their representatives on the authority. Pamlico, Sampson, Duplin and Onslow Counties didn't fire their representatives, but told them to do as the investigating committee recommended. Mainly, that was fire Emmett Powell and N. E. Mohn, executive director and assistant, respectively, who stood to profit by the deal.

The opinion seems to be now that if the ECRHA cancels out on the homes purchase, as it certainly must in the face of what has transpired, that Powell will have to go to court if he wants to prove that the property in question is his and not the government's.

T. J. Collier, Pamlico County member on the ECRHA, said he believed that the lawyers advising the authority, D. L. Ward, New Bern, and John Larkins, Trenton, were as much to blame as members of the authority themselves, since the lawyers let the deal proceed.

Johnston County, as well as Carteret, has reaffirmed faith in its representative. Now the public waits.

Net Industry Suffers Too

The textile and garment industries are not the only ones affected by the influx of cheaply made Japanese goods.

Standard Net Manufacturing Co., Beaufort, has been hard hit ever since 1956.

Standard Net uses cotton twine and rope for the manufacture of sports nets. It is faced with the same depressing set of economic factors as the manufacturers of cotton cloth and cotton garments.

Japan buys the cotton in this country at prices lower than United States firms can buy it. Japan manufactures it and sells it back to this country at prices lower than it costs us to manufacture it.

Walter Lasker of Standard Net reports that Japanese net makers are paid 10 cents an hour. How can America's dollar-an-hour pay, required by law, compete with that?

Standard Net's volume of business has fallen 50 per cent since 1956. At one time the firm employed close to 300 workers in Beaufort and down east. Now the labor force has dropped to 65, many of those working only part time.

Japanese firms have offered to sell Mr. Lasker the finished net product, at 50 cents a dozen. Mr. Lasker declined, saying that he would keep Carteret

County people at work as long as possible.

Today in 5 and 10's and other stores which aim for volume, Japanese-made products are available at ridiculously low prices. The American shopper buys a Japanese-made blouse for a dollar and thinks she is getting a bargain. Behind that "Made in Japan" tag are hundreds of American textile workers who today do not have a job because of the flooding of American markets with cheap Japanese products.

Behind every net marked "Made in Japan" there are net makers, just like those in this county, who are now without net-making jobs because of the Japanese competition — which the United States government fosters and United States taxpayers finance.

During the first world war, Americans boycotted German-made goods. During the second world war anything marked "Made in Japan" was shunned. An American merchant couldn't move it off his shelf.

Perhaps the only way the South can save its cotton manufacturing industry is to promote another campaign to boycott Japanese made goods.

A drastic measure to be resorted to only in wartime? Perhaps not. This is economic war and the result, if Japan keeps on winning, means an increase in the South's unemployed.

Down With the Sack!

Garment workers went on strike last week. We're not sure why but we hope it was in disgust over having to make bags.

Bags are the new mode of apparel for females. Oh, they go by other "glamorous" names, such as "sack" or "chemise" (which usually ends up being pronounced "shimmy"), but in the final analysis they're all bags.

The radical change to a shapeless covering for a woman is believed by the dress industry to be "just what the doctor ordered" to make the women junk their present wardrobes and rush out to buy the new styles.

From what we've heard round and about, the campaign is meeting with opposition. Even the women who, we're told, used to cower under Paris dictates, are passing up the racks of sacks. The sales clerks are trying every-

thing. "Oh, just try them on. You'd be surprised how comfortable they are." Yep, just as comfortable as the old shapeless housecoat you put on in the morning while you eat breakfast. But you wouldn't be caught dead in that housecoat on Front Street.

Will you tell me why they sell certain "appliances" to poke a woman out here and hold her in there, and then after all this remodeling, cover it up with something that looks like the cover thrown over a nude dummy in a dress shop window?

It doesn't make sense. But when it comes to clothes, women don't make much sense anyhow.

Some who are actively rebelling against the shapeless sacks are taking to their sewing machines and making the clothes that look best on them. More power to 'em.

EASIER GOING IF THEY'D CUT OFF THE CABOOSE



Ruth Peeling

Dan Walker Delivers Water

A couple weeks ago Dan Walker delivered, in person, some Beaufort water to Stanley Winborne, chairman of the State Utilities Commission.

Dan stopped at Raleigh en route to the town administrators' school he attends at Chapel Hill week-ends.

The jars of Beaufort water looked too much like bootleg whiskey to carry them in his arms to Mr. Winborne's office. So he put them in a shopping bag.

After he got in Winborne's office, he set the bag down by the chairman's desk, went through the usual howdy-do's, then reached in the bag, pulled out a jar and set it in front of Mr. Winborne.

The chairman's eyes popped. "Well, I do declare," Mr. Winborne grinned. "I haven't seen any of that for a long time."

His interest soon was turned to the business at hand, however, when Mr. Walker informed him it was just water—smelly, sandy water at that.

Mr. Winborne turned the water over to W. S. McKimmon, chief engineer of the State Health Department.

Congratulations to Llewellyn Phillips, Morehead City senior who is the most recent Carteret student to be awarded a scholarship to one of the state's top educational institutions.

Mayor George Dill of Morehead City calls Llewellyn's award "the biggest news that has happened here in a long time".

"If a child has the proper incentive and encouragement, he can absorb learning," the mayor continued. "Education is a lot more than just reading and writing. After the second world war there was a let-down on the part of the family to see that children apply themselves."

"Children rebel against the harder courses in school. When I went to school here, I got four years of Latin. But pupils don't get it any more. Our schools are exactly what we have made them."

The mayor continued, "We have other students who are outstanding. But they need an incentive for learning." That, the mayor said, must come from the parents, as well as the school.

John Motley Morehead, grandson of the founder of Morehead City and donor of the Morehead City Scholarships, was recently honored in New York for his contributions to North Carolina.

The North Carolina Society of New York, at its 60th annual meeting, presented him a Citation of Honor. It lauded Mr. Morehead's achievements in business and science.

William C. Friday, president of UNC, presented Mr. Morehead a certificate of appreciation for his gifts to the university.

The Central Carolina Convalescent Hospital, Greensboro, where many a polio patient has been treated, will close its doors Sept. 30.

Free Wheeling

By BILL CROWELL
Department of Motor Vehicles

THE FIXERS . . . Of necessity, state troopers can't baby their cars. So when road weariness begins to show through they turn them in to one of six spic-and-span garages, operated by the State Highway Patrol, for mechanical therapy.

Stroll into any one of the patrol's modern gear-and-grease establishments and you'll see anywhere from one to a half-dozen highway cruisers undergoing repairs. Experienced mechanics can handle anything from a punctured tire to a major engine overhaul. In a pinch they can even rebuild a wrecked car from the ground up, but ordinarily such heavily damaged cars are junked in safety's favor.

Specialists in electric wiring, glass and sheet metal are on duty at each of the garages to mend parts and equipment damaged in action. They get a steady diet of broken window glass, mashed fenders and doors, body dents and scratches and the like. Highway patrol cars, bear in mind, are driven six miles for every one mile you drive.

Patrol cars, during the two years they are in use, are operated at about an average of three cents per mile. Half of the 600-vehicle fleet is replaced each year with new models, a complete change-over occurring every two years, of course. At present, the entire fleet is made up of Ford and Chevrolet sedans, specially-powered and beefed-up mechanically for heavy duty.

New cars, fresh from the manufacturer, arrive at the patrol's headquarters garage in Raleigh and are completely serviced before being assigned. Mechanics install three-way radios, a combination roof-mounted red light and siren, and a state seal on either door.

Each new car is further equipped with a fire extinguisher, first-aid kit, flares and shovel.

Safety seat belts are installed before the car goes the first mile on a regular patrol.

Those radios, contrary to a widely held opinion of the public, give relatively little trouble. The curious motorist, seeing a trooper speak into his radio, feels certain it must be a heavy juice user. However, the maintenance and repair force has found that standard equipment batteries, when properly used, operate quite satisfactorily. The radio receiver, which is constantly on, pulls about four or five amps. The transmitter, used intermittently, about 30 amps.

Tires, though, catch it like all get-out. Subject to abuses that would horrify the average car owner, patrol tires nonetheless last a respectable eight to ten thousand miles or more before they are replaced. Hardly anybody gets more than about 15,000 miles on a set of new tires.

What brands are favored by patrol repairmen? They're not saying, but they do use nearly every standard make of tire. The same goes for batteries.

While major and minor repairs are handled by mechanics, ordinary maintenance is left up to individual patrolmen. Weekly washing, and periodic lubrication and oil changes, are looked after by each officer. Off duty, many troopers wax and hand rub their cars to a gleaming finish in order to present the best appearance on the highway.

Garages and the mechanics who man them are under the jurisdiction of the patrol's communications and transportation division, headed by veteran lawman Major W. B. Lentz, a charter member of the 29-year-old highway patrol.

Major Lentz employs 38 trained technicians to keep the patrol's vast fleet of vehicles rolling through all kinds of weather, night and day, the year around.

And troopers who, in a year's time average up something like 20 million miles of protective patrolling, can look to competent help from this little heard-about patrol operation when their ailing steeds need attention.

By the end of this week, hospital trustees say there will be only 21 patients in the hospital, as compared with 129 when the hospital opened its doors to polio patients in 1948.

The reduction of the number of polio patients "is a fine tribute to polio control and we can be proud of the effectiveness of the Salk vaccine," comments Floyd Craft, president.

Mr. Craft says the hospital is in excellent physical condition and will probably make a valuable plant for "some non-commercial organization".

Scheduled to occupy the two new brick buildings going up west of Downum's on Arendell Street, Morehead City, are Dora Dinettes, Western Auto, the Employment Security office and Sherwin-Williams paint store.

B. B. Baker Jr., an oceanographer with the USN Hydrographic office, Washington, D. C., wrote recently and asked us for information on the shark attack on Rupert Wade last summer.

We sent him what information we had, stating that it has never definitely been proved that Mr. Wade was mangled by a shark.

Mr. Baker wrote back, "Very likely the attack on Mr. Wade was by a shark, as most attacks by barracuda take place closer to shore. Considering the presence of numbers of species of sharks along United States coasts known to be dangerous, it is a wonder that more attacks do not occur."

Author of the Week



William Maier, ex-businessman and ex-Marine Corps major, has turned definitely to fiction, he says, with his first novel, "The Wonderful Sibleys".

A native of Schenectady, N. Y., he was educated at Phillips Exeter and Princeton. He lives in Plainfield, N. J.

Smile a While

There is a waiter in a New York restaurant who is reported to be an expert on the waiter "there's a fly in my soup" jokes.

(You know most of the answers: "That's all right, he can swim"; "Not so loud, everybody'll want one"; "What do you want for a nickel, a humming-bird?"; "It's not hot enough to burn him," and so on.)

His latest answer to a customer who complained about fly in his ice cream was: "That's all right—he likes winter sports."

—J.G.F. in Saturday Review

Just in Passing . . .

Luck has a peculiar habit of favoring those who don't depend on it.

Louise Spivey

Words of Inspiration

SINGING

Until about three weeks ago, our church was blessed by having a very fine music director, Mrs. Ellen Piner. Some of you knew her as Ellen Sprinkle, for she had lived in Carteret County when her father was a minister here.

During the time she served in our church she organized several choirs and had the unusual gift of being able to bring out the best in music.

She left us to join her husband, Robert Bruce Piner, in the western part of the state. Our congregation will miss her for a long, long time.

Most of us enjoy the privilege of joining the choir in singing. There is a sermon for me in most of the old songs in our hymnal. Many are associated with perhaps the happiest years of my life, when my children sat beside me on Sunday morning.

During the time Ellen served our church as music director, she placed thoughts such as the following in our order of service:

The singing of "hymns, psalms, and spiritual songs" should be a thrilling experience for every Christian. Through congregational singing we can in reality pray, give testimony, express adoration and praise, and issue an invitation to the unsaved.

As Christians sing they should meditate on the meaning of the words being sung. A spirit of worship and dedication should prevail as Christians join hearts and voices in joyful song. Too often we fail to heed their admonitions.

We sing "Sun of My Soul, Thou Saviour Dear," but stay away from the house of God when the weather is too hot.

We sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer," but content ourselves with little or no daily prayer time.

We sing "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing," but do not use the one we have to tell people of the love of Christ.

We sing "There Shall be Showers of Blessings," but let a shower of rain keep us from attending church.

We sing "I Love Thy Church, O God," but are hesitant in responding to the needs of the church.

We sing "Hiding in Thee," but our actions endeavor to hide from God.

We sing "Blest Be the Tie," but let the slightest offense sever Christian fellowship.

We sing "A Charge to Keep I Have," but fail to give a good account of our stewardship.

We sing "We're Marching to Zion," but fail to keep in step with the program and progress of the church.

We sing "I Love to Tell the Story," but seldom tell that story to those about us.

We sing "It is Well With My Soul," but proceed to worry ourselves into mental breakdowns.

We sing "Welcome, Delightful Morn," but fail to find our places in God's house on God's day.

We sing "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go," but fail to go when the opportunity is afforded.

We sing "Onward Christian Soldiers," but wait to be drafted into Christian service.

We must face the question realistically: how sincere are we in our singing?

Captain Henry

Sou'easter

Claud Wheatly was invited to speak recently to one of the PTA's in the county.

The business meeting was conducted. Time marched on. Then the grade children gave their program. Hands of the clock kept staggering on.

Finally, the presiding officer announced that the group would now have the pleasure of hearing from Mr. Wheatly.

Mr. Wheatly stood up and said they would not hear from him either. He said it was time for the young'uns there to be home in bed. And he sat down. The meeting was over.

Odell Merrill's picture was in the News and Disturber so much last week that some folks are thinking

he's getting ready to run for governor.

Tom Hughes, the Marine flyer lost last week, was at the Blue Ribbon Restaurant Sunday night. Tom, who was recently moved to Beaufort, S. C., has quite a few acquaintances around here.

Tom and a fellow pilot, Bill Elard, were last heard from at 3:58 p.m. last Monday while on a training flight.

I wonder how many recall the days when one of Beaufort's now-prominent citizens equipped his jalousy with screens so that the windows could be rolled down and he and his girlfriend could woo, undisturbed by mosquitoes, at the Black Cat.

IN THE GOOD OLD DAYS

THIRTY YEARS AGO

W. A. Mace of Beaufort, W. B. Blades and A. R. Marks of New Bern and David Thornton of Atlantic City, N. J., were going to Fernandina, Fla., to operate a men-haden plant.

A rum runner with 800 cases of liquor was seized near Southport by the Coast Guard.

Charles S. Wallace of Morehead City had not yet announced his candidacy for lieutenant-governor, although his friends were expecting it momentarily.

TEN YEARS AGO

Beaufort School was to add a commercial teacher to its faculty next year.

The county board recommended \$35,000 for inclusion in the coming year's budget for building a gym and two classrooms at thearkers Island school.

Beaufort Chief of Police L. B. Willis announced that stray and unlicensed dogs would be shot.

FIVE YEARS AGO

Superior Court Judge Henry Stevens ordered the grand jurors to investigate 500 county residents who had failed to list their taxes.

Morehead City town commissioners voted to call a public hearing April 6 to discuss annexing residential areas west of the present town limits.

The Ocracoke civic club voted to support the proposed coastal highway.

Stamps in the News

By SYD KRONISH

To honor the World's Ski Championships held in Finland this year, that nation has issued two special stamps. The 20 markka depicts a ski jumper in action while the 30



markka shows a skier climbing to his starting position.

Also reported from Finland is a 20 markka adhesive commemorating the 400 anniversary of the City of Porv (Bjorneborg). The central design is from a painting, "The March of the Bjorneborgianses," by Albert Edelfelt.

The British Crown Agents' office reports a special issue of three values for Malta honoring "the intensification of technical education" in Malta.

Each value is of different design depicting various aspects of technical education. Every stamp also will include a portrait of Queen Elizabeth.

West Germany has issued a new stamp publicizing its anti-forest fire campaign. The 20 pennings green stamp shows the burned tops of trees. Over the trees in white lettering is "Verbotener Wald Brande." This means "Avoid Forest Fires."

Almost 3,200 stamps picturing various topical subjects were issued by the governments of the world during 1957. This list was compiled by the American Topical Assn. in its latest bulletin.

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