

Building Boom A Possibility Says Bill Sharpe

Head of State Division Of Advertising And News Makes Survey Of N. C. Beach Areas

FORESEES BUILDING IN COSTAL AREAS

All That Is Needed To Start Construction Boom Is Release Of Material And Labor

Concluding a week's survey of North Carolina beaches, Bill Sharpe, head of the State News Bureau, has distributed a story to the newspapers stating that in his opinion the release of high priority material and labor is all that is needed to start what will be a major boom.

Mr. Sharpe, according to his newspaper story, found little or no evidence of correlated planning among beach owners in this New Hanover county. There are two beaches in New Hanover, Wrightsville and Carolina, and one in Brunswick, Caswell and Long Beach. He also saw failure to build up good will among potential customers through the present tendency to sell space on the spot. This means that when people write for reservations and information many hotels and boarding houses do not even have the trouble to reply to the inquiries.

Caswell Beach—This recently transferred property is selling at \$10.00 per front foot, some of it going to persons in distant states. Many owners say they plan immediate building after the war.

Long Beach—A new beach near Southport and adjoining Caswell Beach, all ocean front property is reported already sold and only resale property available. Prices have climbed in three years around 300 per cent.

Mr. Sharpe stated that what he had seen here in Brunswick and New Hanover bore no resemblance to the 'booms' usually associated with resort realty developments. The beach owners seem to be merely making an effort to keep up with existing demands.

Substitute Clerk Will Be Engaged

Applications are being accepted for the position of Substitute Clerk in the Southport post office. Applicants are asked to inquire at the local postoffice for information leading to an application being filed. Both women and men are eligible if they are between the ages of 17 and 50. The pay is \$4 cents per hour.

Brief News Flashes

BUILDING NEW HOME
Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Frink have started construction work on a new home near the Rappleyea residence.

RETURNS TO DUTY
William R. Varnum has returned to his shop after being at home with his sister, Mrs. Fairbank Howell, at Boone's Neck for 15 days. He is in the Merchant Marine.

STARTING NEW SHOP
The W. B. & S. Bus Lines, Inc., has started work on its new garage and repair shops for buses on the rear part of the Moore Street lot recently purchased. The front of the lot will be used for the construction of a new bus station as soon as material becomes obtainable.

POST GRADUATE COURSE
Dr. A. W. Hayes, Shallotte physician and surgeon, has been away from his office for two weeks, taking a post-graduate course. During his absence Major M. M. Rosenbaum, who has been serving overseas and is now at home on a 30 days leave, has answered emergency calls.

RESIGNS POSITION
Mrs. George Stevens, the former Miss Josephine Smith, has resigned the position as stenographer in the office of the Board of Education. She left last week to join her husband, who is stationed in California. Miss Gertrude Laughlin, who has taught in the Southport city schools for the past several years, succeeds Mrs. Stevens in the Board of Education office.

Secrecy Veil Removed; Now We Can Admit It Happened

Press Mention Can Be Made Of Sinkings Which Occurred Off Cape Fear During Battle Of Atlantic

LOCAL CITIZENS WITNESSED EVENTS

First - Hand Knowledge Is Supplemented By Official Account Of Rescues

Here, at last, is the story which the Pilot wanted to bring you long ago. At the beginning of the war, when Nazi U-boats were on the prowl just off our shores, survivors from torpedoed ships were brought to Southport, and though everybody in town knew about them, sometimes even knowing the names of the ships, the local press was not permitted to mention the disasters for security reasons.

The editor at that time bemoaned the fact that not a word could be printed although for the first time a real "scoop" was washed in by the waves.

Now, several years later, we bring you an account, released by the Sixth Naval District public information office, of the sinkings you witnessed back in the time when Frying Pan Shoals won its title, "Graveyard of the Atlantic," or "Coffin Corner," as some seaman designated it.

The following is the official release concerning this section:

The Nazi U-boats operating off Frying Pan Shoals, seaward from Southport, N. C., torpedoed two tankers in March and April, 1942, only to find them "rise from the grave" to sail again. It was nine minutes past midnight on a pitch black March 21, 1942, when the tanker ESSO NASHVILLE passed the Frying Pan Shoals buoy to port. Then there was a noise—"very much like the slamming of a door"—that sent a tremor through the ship. A few minutes after the shell hit, an explosion raked the stern, flames leaped high and both stern and bow rose in the air as the ship buckled in center.

The stern of the vessel was salvaged and was towed to Baltimore where a new bow was fitted for her. On arrival, some shipyard people "went fishing" in her tanks, which had been carrying oil but were now loaded with deep sea fish. She returned to the Battle of the Atlantic.

Less than a month later, April 12, 1942, the Panamanian registered tanker Stanvac Melbourne was torpedoed 15 miles south of Frying Pan Inner Buoy. Crew members reported three submarines were observed, blinking communications. One of the subs overturned a lifeboat.

The STANVAC MELBOURNE was new, built in 1941, and of 10,013 tons. Her captain and two crew members remained aboard the vessel throughout, though he ordered the ship abandoned. The torpedo had blown a hole 25 to 15 feet in her side.

Eighteen hours after that torpedoing, a salvage crew arrived and the ship was towed to Charleston. She was repaired at the Charleston Navy Yard and returned to service.

A 3,700 ton Latvian cargo ship, CILVAIRA, was torpedoed without warning off the Carolina coast near Frying Pan Shoals and two of her crew of 32 killed in a before dawn attack January 19, 1942. Twenty-one survivors were picked up by the SS SOCONY VACCUM American oil tanker, and brought to Charleston. She was bound for Savannah.

Last ship torpedoed in Sixth District waters was the GEORGE ADE, which was hit to the southeast of Southport and Cape Fear September 12, 1944. She took one torpedo almost directly astern and immediately after that explosion, a second torpedo approached from abaft the starboard quarter and passed very close to the ship.

Ten minutes late a submarine was sighted off the starboard quarter at a 300 yard distance, so close many on the GEORGE ADE could hear the diesel motors, they reported. Two rounds were fired by the Armed Guard crew from their five inch gun, but were not believed to have been effective. The sub crash dived.

The GEORGE ADE was taken into tow and, despite heavy seas, reached Norfolk, to become still another "ghost ship"—torpedoed but saved to sail again. The John D. Gill, carrying 143,000 barrels of crude oil, was sunk by a torpedo off Wilmington on March 12, 1942. Impact of the hit turned the tanker completely around. Flames from the burning ship visible to the residents on Wrightsville Beach.

Churches To Hold Union Services

During the month of August the four Protestant churches in Southport will hold Union Services on Sunday night. A schedule has been arranged by the pastors of the various churches and is as follows:

August 5, at Trinity Methodist Church with the Rev. Jerry Newbold conducting the service.

August 12, at St. Phillips Episcopal Church with the Rev. A. L. Brown conducting the service.

August 19, at the Baptist Church with the Rev. O. I. Hinson conducting the service.

August 26, at the Presbyterian Church with E. M. McEachern conducting the service.

A most cordial invitation is extended to everyone in the community to attend these services.

4-H Club Camp Great Success

4-H Girls From This County Spent Last Week At White Lake Along With Girls From Other Counties

The Brunswick County 4-H Club girls who could get away from work last week attended the annual encampment at White Lake. With them were girls from various other counties in the State. The New Hanover girls and those from Brunswick went as a group.

Those attending from Brunswick county were: Ann, Rebecca and Catherine McCrackan and Betty Corlette, Southport; Hilda Mae Hewitt, and Nelva Holden, Supply; Mary Gwynn Chadwick and Winneford Register, Shallotte. The Home Agent, Miss Alene McLamb, and Mrs. Odell Evans of Leland attended as adult advisors. Mrs. Evans little son, Gene, also attended.

The camp was a most successful one. Mr. R. W. Galphin, Farm Agent from New Hanover County, said it was the best camp he had ever attended and he has held many camps. During the week there were three special instructors other than the agents and adult leaders from each county. These instructors were: Miss Virginia Ward, Family Life Coordinator, Wilmington; Mrs. L. B. Brummitt, Handicraft Instructor, Wilmington; and Lt. R. Wilson from the Health Department in Wilmington.

There were seventy-five people in camp the entire week. Not any of the girls from this county had ever been to camp before but they were all perfect campers. Catherine and Rebecca McCrackan were recognized as being among the best campers.

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Game Protector Gets Four Men

Four Wilmington White Men Arrested For Hunting Deer Out Of Season By Protector Bowmer

Led by visions of fresh meat of the venison variety, a quartet of deer hunters from Wilmington, all said to be employees of the shipyard, found themselves involved in a foot race with County Game Protector H. T. Bowmer on Saturday. The game protector came off victorious in the race and all four men are scheduled to be tried before Magistrate E. H. Ganey at Leland this week.

The men are J. W. Lewis, H. S. Lewis, Bill Lewis, and U. M. Reynolds, all giving Wilmington addresses. They were allegedly hunting in Town Creek town-ship when surprised by the game protector. In the resulting foot race one of the men, said to have been H. S. Lewis, discarded a late model Remington automatic shot gun. This Bowmer retrieved after arresting them. Another man is also said to have thrown away his gun, the remaining two holding on to their weapons. According to available information (Continued on Page 4)

Japanese Fleet Battleships Are Liquidated

Local Warehouses Ready For Year's Crop Of Tobacco

Sales Will Begin At 9 a. m. Wednesday Morning; All Arrangements Are Complete

At 9 o'clock Wednesday morning August 1, the familiar chant of the tobacco auctioneer will usher in another tobacco season for Whiteville. All arrangements for a banner season in 1945 are complete. Warehousemen, auctioneers, book men, clip men, ticket markers, buyers and all the other persons who go to make up the Whiteville market are in town and ready to start the flow of tobacco through the warehouses.

The Whiteville market will use the same sales system that last year enabled them to move more than 28 million pounds of tobacco in the face of acute labor shortages. In addition to using that same tested system, the speed of the sales has been stepped up to 400 piles an hour sold to the buying companies. This is an increase of 40 piles per hour over all speed but really amounts to a much larger increase than that because any tobacco bought by the warehousemen themselves or the independent buyers will not be counted against the overall speed. Last season the speed of sales was limited to 360 piles per hour and every pile was counted regardless of who bought it. Weight of each pile has been reduced to 250 pounds from the 300 pounds effective at last year's opening. The weight was reduced from 300 to 250 pounds per pile at mid-season last year so the 1945 market open with the same weight limit used at the closing of the 1944 season.

Whiteville is known where ever tobacco is sold as one of the best markets in the border belt. All of the Whiteville warehousemen are experienced tobacco men. In fact if their experience could be combined it would total more than 300 years in the tobacco business. The oldest and the dean of the Whiteville market is M. O. Nelson, Sr. He has been in the tobacco business for 52 years and in the tobacco business in Whiteville for 32 years. These

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Is Reassigned After Three Years Service

SHOEMAKER, Calif.—James A. Tolar, Gunner's Mate, Second Class, USNR, son of Mr. Tillman Tolar, of Southport, has arrived at the world's largest naval receiving station, a unit of the U. S. Naval Training and Distribution Center, for reclassification and further assignment.

Tolar has been in the Navy for three years and three months and has seen service aboard a tanker in the American and Asiatic-Pacific Areas.

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Pilots Junior Woman's Club 'Hellcat'

Some months ago the Junior Woman's Club of Whiteville was very active in one of the War Bond drives. A result of their efforts was the sale of enough bonds to buy and equip a fighter plane. The plane was a Hellcat Nightfighter, for use on plane carriers. These planes, while designed for the especially dangerous night fighting, are versatile and good around the clock.

By a stroke of luck the plane purchased by the Whiteville women is in the hands of Ensign Bragaw of Southport. His wife, the former Miss Louise Niernsee and their baby daughter, also live in Southport.

For his nightfighter work Ensign Bragaw was given nearly two years of rigorous training. These planes carry no one but the pilot and he must be his own



navigator, gunner and everything that goes with the day's work.

Stationed on the famed carrier Saratoga, in the spring when the ship was nearly lost, Ensign Bragaw lost his plane and returned home to spend a month with his mother and family while waiting assignment to a carrier and for a new fighter.

In the attack on the Saratoga during which the young Ensign lost his plane, the vessel was almost destroyed and upwards of 350 lives are said to have been lost. Only two of the ships planes were in the air when the sudden attack was made. One of the planes in the air, that of the flight leader, shot down the Jap plane immediately after the carrier was damaged. Taking off from the damaged carrier in an effort to save his own plane, which was damaged, Ensign Bragaw fell into the ocean and (Continued on Page Four)

Third Fleets Carrier Plane Attacks Left Nips Without A Single Major Warship In Operational Condition

JAPANESE PROMISED TOTAL DESTRUCTION

Suzuki Scorns Allied Surrender Ultimatum; Chinese Troops Advance Rapidly

Aboard Adm. McCain's Flagship off Japan.—The Third Fleet's devastating carrier plane smash at the enemy naval base of Kure today—the third in five days—left Japan without a single major warship in operational condition.

All now have been sunk or damaged.

GUAM, Monday—Adm. William F. Halsey's mighty Allied Third Fleet sent more than 1,000 carrier planes against the Tokyo area at dawn today, and bombarded Hamamatsu, 135 miles southwest of the rubbled capital, with more than 1,000 tons of shells on the 21st day of a gigantic air-sea offensive that already has cost the enemy 914 ships and 1,211 planes destroyed or damaged.

WASHINGTON.—Top Army air force generals in the Pacific warned Japan today that she faces total destruction by remaining in a war she already has lost.

The warning was voiced by Gen. George C. Kenney, commanding general of the far east air forces; Lt. Gen. James H. Doolittle, commander of the Eighth Air Force, and Maj. Gen. Curtis E. Lemay, 20th Air Force commander.

Their summary of the power now being thrown at Japan was made on the army hour broadcast (NEC) as the AAF completed plans for a world-wide celebration Wednesday of Air Force Day. Exhibitions of aircraft and demonstrations of airpower will be held throughout this country to commemorate the beginning of Army air power.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Japanese Premier Suzuki scorned today's unworthy official notice the Allied Potsdam surrender ultimatum. He asserted Nipponese aircraft production had been increased and tossed into the laps of the Miado's strategists complete responsibility for the defense of the empire.

CHUNGKING.—Victorious Chinese troops have advanced 20 miles beyond the liberated air base city of Kweilin and forged a death trap for an estimated 15,000 routed Japanese, front dispatches said today.

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Gutherie Burial Held Yesterday

Prominent Resident Of Bethel Church Community Died Following Short Illness

Mrs. Mary E. Gutherie, 56, wife of William Gutherie, of the Bethel church community, died in the James Walker Memorial hospital in Wilmington Saturday morning, her death following upon a short illness.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Gutherie is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Verday Glisson of St. Augustine, Fla., and Mrs. Helen L. Wright, of Jacksonville, Fla.; two sons, Windell Gutherie of Wilmington and William W. Gutherie of Patterson, La.; three sisters, Mrs. A. G. Peacock, Baltimore, Md., Miss Clara Drew, Southport, and Mrs. Alva Burris of Lakeland, Fla.; and two brothers, Bryon Drew and John B. Drew, of Southport.

Funeral services and burial were held yesterday afternoon at Bethel Baptist church. Rev. Tom Johnson and Rev. Roland Walton had charge of the services.

Schools To Open September Sixth

White And Colored Schools Will Begin Fall Session Early Next Month, Teacher Situation Mixed

The schedule calls for all schools in Brunswick county to open on September 6th, barely one month from now, according to Miss Anne Mae Woodside, Supt. of Schools. It is understood that all of the colored schools have heads for the term. Southport high school is still without a principal, while Leland, Bolivia, Shallotte and Waccamaw all have principals ready and most of the teaching forces lined up.

When interviewed regarding the (Continued on Page 4)

Sheriff Willetts Defendant In Big Civil Damage Suit

Mother Of Small Boy Injured By Sheriff's Car Early In Spring Asks Heavy Damages

PAPER SERVED MONDAY BY CORONER W. E. BELL

Suit Is Result Of Automobile Striking Danford Boy's Bicycle At Bolivia Last April

A civil suit, asking for \$10,000.00 personal damages and \$840.00 for property loss and hospital expenses, was instituted in Superior court here Monday against C. P. Willetts, automobile dealer of Bolivia. The suit was in behalf of Jerry L. Danford, 9 year old Bolivia boy, by his next friend, Ruby L. Danford, and is the result of an automobile-bicycle collision early in the year.

Inasmuch as the defendant is sheriff of Brunswick county the papers were served by Coroner W. E. Bell on Mr. Willette Monday morning. Under the law the coroner is the only official having authority to serve papers against the sheriff.

The complaint filed in the case alleges that on the afternoon of April 19, 1945, the plaintiff was riding his bicycle on the State Highway, known as the short cut road between the Bell Swamp Highway and Bolivia, at his home half a mile east of Bolivia. He was riding the complaint states, in a prudent and careful manner on the right hand side of the road when the defendant, C. P. Willetts, approached driving a 1944 model Ford at a speed of about 50 miles per hour. When just ahead of the boy, the complaint states, Mr. Willetts suddenly swerved the car from his right hand side of the road to the left, striking the boy, wrecking the wheel and inflicting permanent injuries on the plaintiff.

It is alleged that he received a concussion of the brain, his left knee joint was crushed and broken, as was his left foot and leg. Knocked unconscious, he was confined in the James Walker Memorial hospital in Wilmington for 30 days before he could be brought back to the home of his parents.

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Youngest Skipper Picture Material

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County Soil Man Reviews Damages

Tobacco Growers Worst Hit By Excessive July Rains; Corn And Other Crop Not Badly Damaged

County Soil Conservationist, LeRoy Mintz, sees where recent rains cut the Brunswick county tobacco crop, he thinks, about eighty per cent. He stated this week that he had covered much of the county in the past several days and the damage exceeds what he first thought it would be.

In addition to the tobacco, late corn is damaged right much. Much of this year's crops was planted early and this does not appear to have been hurt. Barring such storms as occurred on the first of August, last year, the Brunswick corn crop should turn out well this year.

Some farmers and their tobacco and corn escaped with no appreciable damage. In other cases farmers sustained heavy loss with both of these and other crops. Few of them, however, seem downcast. They are taking it all as being in the year's work realizing that they cannot expect perfect crop years each year.

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Our ROVING Reporter