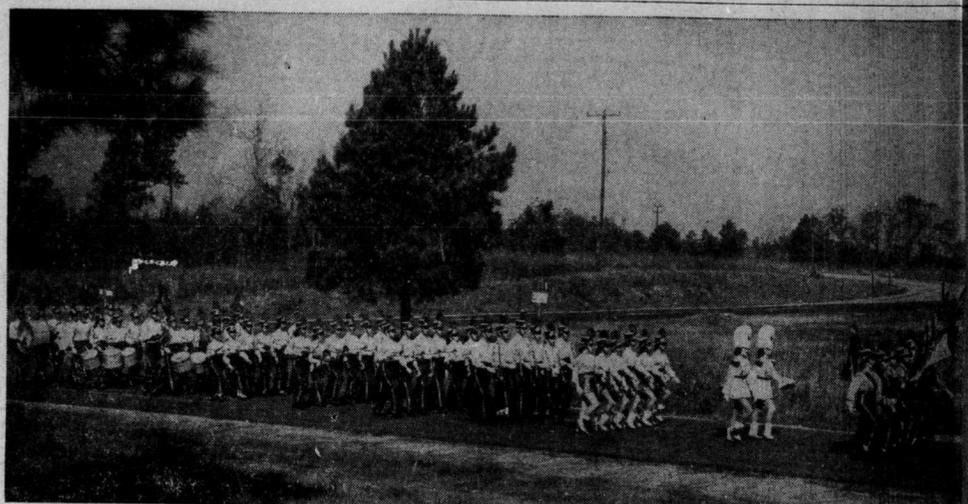


Shallotte High School Band



MARCHING—The colorful Shallotte High School Band will march in the Azalea Festival Parade in Wilmington Saturday. Band members and their parents are looking forward to their trip to Chicago and the Convention of Lions International in July. Several other programs are scheduled to take place before that trip.

Shallotte Band Goes To Chicago For Convention

Brunswick County Group Invited To Represent Eastern North Carolina At International Convention For Lions

WAYNESVILLE IS ALSO INVITED

Trip Will Be Long, Hard And Expensive, But Home Folks Have Shown Willingness To Back Organization

The Shallotte High School Band is now definitely Chicago-bound, where they will attend the great Lions International Convention, July 8-11, representing the eastern part of North Carolina. The Waynesville High School Band will represent the western part of the State.

The final decision to accept the invitation and make the trip as the guests of the Lions International was made at a meeting of the parents of the children at the Shallotte school last night. Arrangements were set in motion at that time for all details of the trip.

Six Greyhound buses will leave on July 6th, carrying 60 members of the band and the additional officials. The other four buses will carry Lions Club members from all over this section of North Carolina.

The first day out from Shallotte the buses are scheduled to make 600 miles, stopping in Kentucky that night and making the final lap to Chicago on the night of July 7th.

Only the two bands from North Carolina will go, Shallotte representing eastern N. C. and Waynesville western North Carolina. Director W. W. Jacobus of the band was in Southport this week and he advised that the 60 members who are to make the trip are already preparing special music for the Chicago trip and that this training will extend straight through until the time of departure in July.

The band won high praise in the St. Patrick's Day parade at Savannah, Ga., Tuesday of last week. Twenty-five bands participated.

Great Demand For Lock Boxes

Southport Post Office Has No Boxes Available And Will Install 27 Additional Units At Early Date

Early this year the Post Office Department supplied new equipment, including 488 new lock boxes and drawers, to the Southport office. This nearly doubled the number of boxes previously available.

Mrs. Marjorie Livingston, acting post master, says that all of the 488 boxes are rented and that she is constantly receiving requests from patrons for boxes that are not available. She estimates that one hundred more boxes are needed now.

Partly relieving the situation the Department is now sending out 27 additional new boxes. This is all that can be installed in the present post office building without material changes being made in the present arrangement.

Dredging Material Disturbing Snakes

Workmen In Sunny Point Area Are Keeping Their Eyes Open For Reptiles Crawling To Safety

Some 20 or more snakes were found and killed inside of one of the dikes at Sunny Point this week, according to the workmen. The reptiles were mostly large ones and of all sorts, ranging from rattlers and copperheads on down.

Their appearance early in the year is accounted for by the fact that the dirt used in building the dikes was taken from inside the dikes. The first pumping from the dredges formed a sort of moat all around inside the dikes. As the pumping progressed the water and mud covered more and more of the land and finally got all of the snakes out of their holes and on the highest spots of land inside the 60 to 100 acre enclosure.

Murdick Stimmons, Southport man, who is working with one of the dredging crews, says that they now find snakes everywhere on the remaining patch of ground. They are also up trees. The night shift of workers patrolling the pipeline and dumps feel comforted by the fact that all have flashlights and that a crowbar

is a standard part of their equipment.

Of the snakes killed only a couple have been reported as being rattlesnakes and a like number copperheads. The rest are harmless except to the nerves of folks who are allergic to snakes. Their seemingly large number is accounted for by the fact that the rising water and mud is rounding them up. At no point can they escape from the dike without swimming, or coming out directly where the pipeline runs in and where the men work.

One of the dikes that is still under construction will surround more than 200 acres, it is said. It will probably surround a considerable number of deer, quail, squirrel and other animals. Some wild turkey are also in the area. They will all be able to escape by swimming or flying. But it can be put down that when the land area decreases in size from the water that comes with the mud, there will be a whole lot of snakes in that area. This filling up will not be for some months yet.

Rail Contractor Given Permission To Start Work

Word Goes Out To Construction Crew To Begin Operation Road To Sunny Point Station

SUB-CONTRACTORS TO WORK

Indications Phase Of Work Will Be Speeded Make Way For Contract

By W. B. KEZIAH
Serious construction operations on the Leland to Sunny Point railroad will be underway within a very short time, and some of the sub-contractors for the 25-mile line will probably be moving their equipment this week especially those who hold right-of-way clearing and grading contracts. The work is expected to be going good by the end of next week.

The W. A. Smith Construction Company of Houston, Texas, holders of the more than two million dollar railroad building contract, was sent its orders Friday to proceed with the work at once. The company has been ready to proceed since last fall, and the delay in starting has been due to failure to get final orders.

The company has let several sub-contracts for clearing, the right of way, building bridges, grading, etc. These sub-contractors, all of whom are said to have their equipment nearby, will be moving in at once to begin their operations. The bridge builders are already at work on Town Creek.

The Smith Company will probably have to move its equipment from Texas or some other far western state. This will not entail any delay. Their job will be to lay the ties and rails and the sub-contractors will need a little bit of head start at clearing and grading before Smith throws the big outfit into operation. It is understood that the contractor for the heavy duty lines of the Carolina Light and Power Company will follow right behind the clearing and grading contractors and without waiting for the ties and railroad to be laid.

Two railroads will provide service to the receiving yards near Leland. From there a single track with two long sidings to facilitate the passing of trains will run to Sunny Point. This is the extent of the present contract but plans are now being drawn by the Army Engineers for the letting of the contract for approximately 50 miles of state railroad or sidings inside the reservation.

The construction of the main line, access railroad by the Texas Company, a work that will be vigorously pushed, will open the way for the letting of contracts for various other installations.

The way is now open for the speedy beginning of all angles of the Sunny Point construction operations and reliable sources in Washington say that there is no possibility of any future slackening up in construction. The planning of details has been an enormous task for the engineers and much work still lies ahead. Permanency and adequate facilities for handling ammunition has been the watchword for the past two years of planning.

Two Patrolmen Catch Dangerous Man On U. S. 17

Patrolman R. H. Constante Assisted By Patrolman Wilkins In Bringing In Man Wanted By F.B.I.

State Highway Patrolman R. H. Constante stopped a car on Route 17 west of Bolivia two weeks ago, and following a check up by the FBI he has just learned that he made a rather important capture. State Highway Patrolman Wilkins happened along right after Constante had stopped the car and assisted in bringing the prisoner and two companions to jail at Southport.

The wanted man was Allen Clayton West, 24-year-old white man with a lot of addresses. His two companions proved to be just hitchhikers, to whom he had given a lift. Their rejoicing when they were given their liberty demonstrated the fact that they considered it just as dangerous to hitch a ride as it is to pick up a hitch hiker.

West had stolen the car in Florida, had picked up the other two men in Charleston and had asked one of them who had a driver's license to take over the wheel. This driver was sort of sleepy and below Bolivia he let the car weave slightly. The patrolman pulled along side and halted the vehicle.

Constante noted that there was no key in the lock of the car, indicating it was straight wired. This aroused his suspicions, which were strengthened when he noted that the driver had a New York license and that the car had a Georgia State tag. Patrolman Wilkins, who had just come up, joined in the investigation, and it developed that the car apparently belonged to another fellow than the driver. The fellow who was supposed to own the car had neither driver's license or car keys.

(Continued On Page Five)

River Road Route Attracts Visitors

Thousands Of Tourists Will Find This One Of Most Interesting Localities In North Carolina At This Season

HISTORY ABOUNDS ALONG CAPE FEAR

Ship Lay-Up Basin And Installation At Sunny Point Add Modern Interest To Area

The Brunswick County River Road, more officially known as Route 130 in State Highway Commission language, will be much traveled for the remainder of this week.

Last Sunday, with a continuous drizzle and an unofficial traffic count showed six cars per minute as using this road. The check extended over a half hour period. This week the traffic should run to several times that, despite the fact that Route 130 is not a main highway for tourists.

Visitors on Route 130 in Brunswick are attracted by the several spots of scenic and historic interest. In this part of Brunswick County they find more of real interest than is met with than any other stretch of comparable length in North Carolina.

At the upper end of the road where it joins 74-76 and 17 is the Brunswick River, one of the few North Carolina rivers that begins and runs its full length all in one county. On this Brunswick County stream is the ship lay-up basin with its approximately 400 huge freighters. Brunswick County can well lay claim to having 30 or 40 times more huge ships than are to be found in any other county in North Carolina.

On southward on Route 130 is the beautiful Clarendon Plantation, with its grounds and stately old 17-room red brick home that was built two years after the Civil War, replacing the original one destroyed during the war.

Box Supper Will End Fund Drive

Old Fashioned Box Supper Will Be Held Saturday Night At Lester Babson Store At Freeland

Plans are underway to put the finishing touch on the Brunswick County Red Cross drive by having an honest-to-goodness, old fashioned box supper at the Lester Babson store at Freeland on Saturday night at 7:30 o'clock. This will be the climax to the county-wide drive for funds, and everyone is invited to attend and take part with all of the proceeds going to the Red Cross. Ladies from far and near are invited to prepare a lunch or supper for two, put it in a pretty box, wrapped up neatly, with a bow on it, after first putting her name inside.

The boxes—and it is hoped there will be a pile of them—will be stacked up and Ed Redwine, rural mail carrier from Shallotte, will auction them off. The men folks will bid on the (Continued On Page Four)

Azalea Festival Begins Thursday For Full Program

Week-End Will Be Packed Full Of Activities To Make This The Outstanding Festival Attraction In History Of State

What appears to be the largest and most colorful parade ever held in North Carolina is taking shape for the sixth annual Azalea Festival Saturday. The gala parade has been assured of 51 floats, 25 bands, five drum and bugle corps, and seven marching units, fast as they are announced today. The list is growing daily as the mammoth event nears.

High school bands which have accepted invitations are Elizabeth City, Morehead City, Farmville, Jacksonville, Rockingham, Beaufort, Lenoir, Pitt and Duplin Counties, Mineral Springs, Cary, Tarboro, Shallotte, Dunn, Goldsboro, Southport, Elizabethtown, New Bern and Lake View, S. C.

Three Wilmington school bands will participate, along with the Sudan Temple, and American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps, and the Sudan Oriental Band from Fayetteville.

Edwards Military Institute at Salemburg will be represented by its band and crack drill platoons. A group of horsemen and downs, participating in the four-day Azalea Championship Rodio will perform in the parade. The local high school ROTC units will march.

Military units will include the 32nd Airborne Division Band from Fort Bragg and the Camp Lejeune Drum and Bugle Corps, color guard, and a battalion of Marines. Cherry Point will be represented by the 2nd Marine Air Wing Band, color guard, and a detachment of Women Marines.

Coast Guardsmen from the Mendota, cutter based here, will take part in the parade along with the huge 70-piece U. S. Air Force Drum and Bugle Corps which will be flown to Wilmington direct.

The BSU is an organization coordinating student activities at Immanuel and Memorial Baptist Churches at Greenville. It sponsors various activities and programs at the Baptist Student Center on East Eighth Street near the campus.

During the past year Miss Mills, a Junior at East Carolina, has served as Sunday School representative on the BSU Council, Sunday School president of the Church class of Memorial Baptist Church, and secretary to Gloria Blanton, BSU secretary in charge.

Our ROVING Reporter

Should fair weather prevail over the coming week-end, Southport area should probably see more visitors than it has ever before seen at any one time. The Azalea Festival at Wilmington will draw its thousands of visitors to this part of the State. Practically all of these visitors will, of course, come down into Brunswick to visit the Clarendon Plantation, Pleasant Oaks Plantation and Orton Gardens. Of those visitors many hundreds will make a point to come on down Route 130 below Orton Gardens to see the huge Sunny Point dredging operations that are now being carried on. The flowers in Franklin Park at Southport will also have their share of visitors.

A young Southport resident, rated as one of the prettiest girls in town, has been away at College and we haven't seen her in some time. A young newcomer to Southport bears a close resemblance to this girl at College (Continued on page four)

Brief News Flashes

HOLIDAY SATURDAY
The city offices will be closed Saturday in order to allow employees to attend the Azalea Festival in Wilmington.

CONDITION UNCHANGED
Dr. Roy Daniel, Southport dentist, remains in a critical condition as a patient at Dasher Memorial Hospital.

SQUARE DANCE
The Daughters of America are sponsoring a round and square dance on Saturday night of this week at the old gym. The music will be furnished by a string band.

SUCCESSFUL BENEFIT
The Dasher Memorial Hospital Auxiliary has more than \$100 toward another special project as a result of the donation by Mr. and Mrs. Hargrove Bellamy of all admission charges to Pleasant Oaks Plantation last Sunday. Despite the inclement weather, several cars made the trip through the beautiful winding roads of the plantation and visitors were agreed that this is one of the most beautiful spots in North Carolina.

Blueberries Bloom Early This Year

Here for the past several days fertilizing, cultivating and ditching at his blueberry farm near Southport, owner T. P. Key and Carroll Loving of Mooresville, N. J., said yesterday that the bushes are beginning to bloom. Mr. Key added that the bloom is two weeks earlier than last year, or the average date for flower.

Following the bloom the crop is a quick growing one. Picking this year should begin in May. The early blooming this year is indicative of good prices. With the North Carolina berries reaching the eastern markets well ahead of the New Jersey crop the early blooming this spring means a longer marketing season before the crop begins to flood in from other sections.

Winnabow Girl BSU President

Nora Mills Holds This Honor At East Carolina College At Greenville For Next Year

Nora Mills of Winnabow has been elected president of the East Carolina Baptist Student Union for the school year 1953-'54. The new president will not only serve as BSU president but also will represent the organization on the Inter-religious Council of the college, which is composed of student officers chosen from religious groups on the campus.

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Floating Nets Create Hazard

Warning Given To Fishermen To Properly Attend Their Fishing Rigs When Operating In Navigable Water

Col R. C. Brown of the Corps of Engineers says that it is being brought to his attention that fishermen engaged in drift net fishing on the Cape Fear River from Lock and Dam No. 1 to Southport are not properly attending their nets and are not properly marking the locations in which such nets are placed. He calls attention to the following rules which must be observed:

The rights of navigation are paramount and the Federal law requires that a clear channel shall (Continued on Page Five)

Tide Table

Following is the tide table for Southport during the next week. These hours are approximately correct and were furnished The State Port Pilot through the courtesy of the Cape Fear Pilot's Association.

High Tide	Low Tide
Thursday, March 26	
5:12 a. m.	11:29 a. m.
5:42 p. m.	11:46 p. m.
Friday, March 27	
5:57 a. m.	0:00 a. m.
6:42 p. m.	12:11 p. m.
Saturday, March 28	
6:37 a. m.	0:30 a. m.
7:02 p. m.	12:49 p. m.
Sunday, March 29	
7:14 a. m.	1:11 a. m.
7:39 p. m.	1:25 p. m.
Monday, March 30	
7:49 a. m.	1:51 a. m.
8:13 p. m.	1:59 p. m.
Tuesday, March 31	
8:21 a. m.	2:28 a. m.
8:45 p. m.	2:32 p. m.
Wednesday, April 1	
8:52 a. m.	3:06 a. m.
9:18 p. m.	3:05 p. m.