

# The State Port Pilot

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Southport, N. C.

JAMES M. HARPER, JR. Editor

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Wednesday, November 3, 1954

## Red Cross Comes Thru

It always has been a mystery to us why so many people take delight in criticizing the Red Cross. We have had an opportunity to observe the activities of this organization under many conditions, and it is our conviction that this is a great humanitarian agency through which great good is accomplished and by whose efforts a great deal of hard-

ship and suffering is alleviated. We have been greatly impressed with the fine job the Red Cross has been doing in our county since the hurricane.

There were some who were critical that disaster workers were not on the scene by the time the wind stopped blowing; but local volunteers had pitched in to do a top-notch job of taking care of the emergency pending the arrival of trained personnel. Once the disaster team was on the scene, it has set about the business of doing what it can to restore order out of chaos, and right now the brightest hope many of our citizens have for rehabilitation rests in the Red Cross.

We would not be naive enough to say that when their job here is through and the last Red Cross worker leaves the county that everybody who made application for assistance will be happy. There may be some applicants who do not deserve too much and there may be some who do not expect too much. But each application will be given a thorough study by a trained case worker, and we have every confidence that these affairs will be handled in a just and humane manner.

We are thankful for the Red Cross, and we are grateful for the services of this fine organization in our time of need.

## Volunteer Firemen

We are continually amazed at the resourcefulness and the effectiveness of the Southport Volunteer Fire Department.

Sunday night an alarm summoned the local fire-fighters to the home of Robert Warnett. When they arrived they discovered that the nearest water hydrant was several hundred feet away. Instead of wasting time trying to unpack new hose that might have made

the connection, the firemen set up a bucket brigade and kept a supply of water in the booster tank while the small hose was brought to bear upon the frame building next door. With only a few feet separating the two houses, it seemed impossible to save the second structure; yet this was done.

A company of paid firemen could not have done a better job.

## SLOW DOWN AND LIVE----

Greater automobile speed means greater chance of death.

That warning to Tar Heel motorists was given recently by Major C. A. Speed, director of the State Highway Patrol's Traffic Safety Division. Speed control is a year 'round project of Major Speed's safety program.

He pointed out that persons injured in a traffic accident at 60 miles per hour or more are eight times more likely to die of their injuries than persons injured at 20 miles per hour or less.

"The human body can be literally smashed to death in accidents at high speeds," he emphasized.

The round-the-clock spokesman for safety also called the attention to two other dangerous results of too-fast driving.

"Stopping distances increase rapidly as speed increases," he said. The major explained that where a driver can stop within about 45 feet at 20 miles per hour, it takes about 186 feet with good brakes to bring a car to a stop at 50 mph.

A condition similar to "tunnel vision"

is another dangerous result of too-fast driving, according to Major Speed.

"Tunnel vision" he explained, "results in drivers being less able to see objects on either side of them and may be the cause of many sideswiping and passing accidents."

"One study has shown that this condition affects all drivers at speeds of 60 miles per hour or more," the major emphasized.

In reminding motorists of the dangers of driving too fast Major Speed said that excessive speed was a factor in 417 of last year's fatal auto accidents.

"The State Highway Patrol is not anxious to hand out tickets to speeders," he said. "But we will if that's the only way we can keep North Carolina free of the behind-the-wheel maniac who never has time to remember that speed kills."

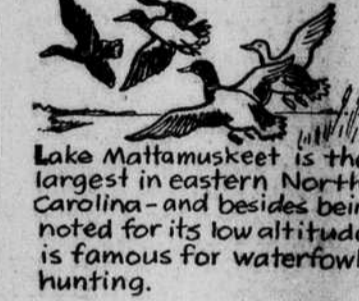
Just last week Corporal O. H. Lynch warned traffic violators that in Brunswick County he and his men were going to "write heavy" on all drivers who speed and otherwise disobey traffic regulations. "Slow Down—and Live."

## IN NORTH CAROLINA



### LAKES IN THE SKY

FONTANA,  
IN THE GREAT SMOKIES, IS THE HIGHEST DAM IN EASTERN AMERICA. IT IS A POPULAR NORTH CAROLINA VACATION RESORT.



### WATER Sports

There are over a hundred lakes in North Carolina with attractions for tourists. They are valuable assets in the State's \$350,000,000 tourist industry.

## Letter To Editor

(Crowded Out Last Week)  
October 25, 1954

The Editor  
State Port Pilot  
Southport, N. C.  
Dear Editor:

During the course of my two years' work as physician to the Welfare Department, Brunswick County, I have had many dealings with the Sheriff's Department. It has long been my intention to draw the public's attention to the outstanding work of Sheriff Ed Leonard and Deputy H. G. Ratcliffe.

Now that Mr. Leonard's term of office is expiring and in the wake of the publicity about the looting following the hurricane, I feel that it is time for the people to know what a wonderful job these two men have been doing. I do not speak about the other members of the Sheriff's Department because I feel that the average citizen knows about as much about their fine work as I do. However, I am speaking of knowledge gained from official relationships.

As a Yankee born and bred, my opinion of police work in the South before coming to Brunswick County was gained from books (largely by Southern authors such as Thomas Wolfe) was very poor and also highly derogatory. When I started treating patients in the jail, I was prepared to meet a jailer who was a combination of Frankenstein and Hitler. I was astonished at the humane and progressive attitude of Deputy Sheriff Ratcliffe. Their prisoners were treated as human beings and no partiality was displayed for riches or color. The county jail is indeed a model which would be well for jailers throughout the United States to follow.

Immediately after the hurricane I spoke to all the Red Cross officials who came to Southport. These officials travel from place to place to help in any disaster. I questioned them about the looting. At that time I was deeply distressed by the human scum in my own home town who swooped down on their already ruined neighbors to steal the few belongings still left them. The Red Cross officials told me that the looting in Brunswick County was far less than the looting that followed the hurricane Carol earlier this year on Long Island. It was no worse than the looting following the other disasters in Pennsylvania and other cities this year. As the looting was so bad on Long Island with its million dollar a year police force, we should not blame our poorly paid and meagerly equipped county police force. They did all that they could. Much of their work immediately following the hurricane was searching for survivors amidst the ruins on the beaches. They did all in their power, those few men available. To prevent looting on our large coastline completely, a fully equipped armored regiment would have been necessary.

One more remark, we should all bow our heads in thanks for the scrupulous honesty in our county police department. Here there is no graft that is the curse of our land.

I sincerely hope that whoever is elected sheriff on election day is a worthy successor to Ed Leonard and will continue to keep his policies in force.

Yours truly,  
Norman M. Hornstein, M. D.

Southport, N. C.  
October 14, 1954  
Mr. James M. Harper, Jr., Editor,  
The State Port Pilot,  
Southport, N. C.

Dear Mr. Harper:

I would like to express my thanks to you for the editorial

Bill Fitts of Sanford was in the office one day last week when he suddenly spied a table we have in the room. "I'll bet that table was made in my father's factory," he said, going over for a closer examination. Sure enough, it was an early model turned out by the Fitts-Crabtree plant many years ago. . . . With no street lights, Southport's amateur ghosts and goblins found conditions almost too spooky for hallowe'en pranks during the past week-end. Almost, that is—but not quite.

Mrs. Margie Stevens started a flock of turkeys several months ago with Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners in mind, but recently she had several visitors who think her birds are so pretty that they are buying them for breeding stock. . . . Speaking of birds, we saw the first flight of wild geese of the season Sunday morning as they flew directly over the business district of Southport.

Local party boats are back at work, but not without difficulties. Since there is no oil dock yet in operation, some of the boats are refueling from 50-gallon drums. For those that use diesel oil, service is being provided by Southport Ice & Fuel Co. from their tank truck. . . . Rarely has a fire attracted a larger crowd than the one that turned out for the blaze near Brunswick County Training School Sunday night. . . . An illustrated booklet on Hurricane Hazel has been prepared by a Wilmington printing firm, and Art Newton not only took most of the pictures, but edited this production, a grim but graphic reminder of the big storm.

"So This Is Love", starring North Carolina's own Kathryn Grayson, is the big attraction at the Amuzu Thursday and Friday. . . . Southport high school juniors have started practice on their play, "Little Miss Somebody" . . . "Ice Capades" is on at the coliseum in Raleigh all this week, and we hear it is a tip-top show. A trip to the U. N. C. South Carolina football game Saturday, with an ice show stop in Raleigh on the way home, would make an attractive double-header for folks who want to go somewhere and do something. . . . Several of the high school basketball teams in this county will begin their pre-conference schedule this week.

Star of the Whiteville high school football team this fall is Virgil Roberts, grandson of Peter Robinson of Supply. He is considered a good college prospect. . . . Several folks in Whiteville have asked when we are going to build back their fishing dock, referring to the Standard Oil wharf, which was a popular place each week end for a large number of folks from that town. . . . We continue to hear the recent hurricane compared with the storm of 1899. The biggest difference appears to be in the amount of property available for destruction by the most recent blow. . . . Seemed funny to see some people calmly fishing from the strand at Long Beach during the week end.

There are two definitions for picking up personal belongings following the hurricane: Those who get them call it salvage; those who lose it call it ooting.

"Sunday School Training" which appeared in the October 13 issue of The State Port Pilot.

You are not the only one who is started to learn that the average child receives only 26 hours of Sunday School training a year. Church leaders all over the country are waking up to this fact and are doing something about it. What they are doing about it amounts to an addition to one of your sentences. You say, "Going to Sunday School should be a family affair" and the new programs being developed add this: ". . . and the family should take Sunday School home with them." That is, the job of Christian education is a seven-day-a-week affair and the parents are given the job of helping the church and the Sunday School teacher. With only 26 hours a year in the actual Sunday School class, no child can be expected to retain much of what he hears. What must happen, if religion is to mean anything at all in his life, is for the child to see lived in his home what he hears about in Sunday School.

These remarks apply, of course, to the whole church program, but they apply especially to children. A child gets his idea of the Fatherhood of God, for instance, from his own father. This does not mean that the father is expected to be like God. That would be impossible. This does mean that the child understands better what a loving God is if his earthly father is loving. The same principle applies to all of what the child hears in Sunday School. In short, Christianity is a seven-day-a-week affair and the major burden of teaching this fundamental fact of Christian education falls on the family.

Sincerely yours,  
William L. Hicks  
Minister-in-charge  
St. Philip's Church.

Southport, N. C.  
October 14, 1954

Dear Mr. Harper:

I would like to express my thanks to you for the editorial

## Emergency Loans Are Available To Farmers Having Storm Damage

Columbus and Brunswick counties have been designated by Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson as an area where eligible farmers can obtain emergency loans from the Farmers Home Administration to repair damage caused by the recent hurricane. Details of the emergency loan program were explained by Ivey C. Brown, FHA County Supervisor today.

Any established farm owner or farm operator in Columbus or Brunswick counties whose crops, buildings, or other farm property were damaged by the hurricane, and who is unable to obtain from other lenders the credit needed to continue normal operations may be eligible for a loan.

Applications are made at the county office of the Farmers Home Administration. The office for Columbus and Brunswick counties is located in Courthouse annex building, West Smith Street, Whiteville. The sub-office, located in the old REA building, Brunswick County, Shallotte, will be open from 10 to 1 o'clock Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

Eligibility of applicants is determined by the county committees of the Farmers Home Administration, composed of men familiar with local conditions. The committees for Columbus County are: M. Kenzie Long, Rt. 1, Nakina; Evander C. Arnette, Jr., Rt. 2, Chadbourne; Robert G. Gleson, Rt. 1, Bolton.

Committees for Brunswick County are: Roy G. Sellers, Rt. 1, Winnabow; Ivan B. Bennett, Rt. 1, Ash; and David B. Frink, Rt. 1, Shallotte.

Loans may be obtained for the purchase of feed, seed, fertilizer, replacement livestock and equipment, replacement or repair of buildings, and for other essential farm and home operating expenses. Loans may not be made to pay existing debts, to compensate applicants for their losses, or to expand operations.

The loans bear 3 percent interest on the unpaid principal, and are scheduled for repayment over the minimum period of time consistent with the borrower's ability to repay. Ordinarily loans are scheduled for repayment within one to five years and loans for repair or improvement of real estate are scheduled for repayment within one to ten years. However, amounts advanced for crop production purposes are repayable when the income from the sale of the crops produced with the loans is received.

Real estate security is always required when advances are made primarily for improvements to real estate.

## Gregory Takes Job On Tugboat

George Gregory, owner and skipper of the sport fishing boat Jo-Ann, now has a job as skipper on one of the small tugs of the Diamond Construction Company.

The Jo-Ann was not damaged in the storm but was swept up high and dry. The Diamond's big floating crane put her back in the water.

## COMPLETING SERVICE

Corporal Bobby Jones of Ft. Bliss, Texas, is at home with his family on a 25-day leave. He will complete his enlistment in two weeks following his return to Fort Bliss. He expects to return to Southport and Long Beach by the end of November.

## MAKES RETURN CALL

Making his first trip soon after the storm with a truck load of clothes that he had gathered from associate workers and Charlotte people in general, Jerry Ball of the Esso Oil Company in Charlotte, showed up again Thursday. This time he brought a big car packed with the same commodities. They are being distributed through the Episcopal church here.

## AT ST. PHILLIPS

The Rev. William Hicks will conduct services Sunday morning at 11 o'clock at St. Phillips Episcopal Church.

## SAVINGS WON'T BUY HAPPINESS----



BUT THEY GO FAR TO BANISH 2TEARS!

Money will not buy happiness—but a ready cash reserve goes a long way to smooth out a crisis like a costly sickness. Here we will help you build that reserve easily by showing you how you can save REGULARLY without hardship. 3% paid on savings. Accounts insured to \$10,000 by an agency of the Federal Government.

CURRENT DIVIDEND RATE 3%

## Southport

BUILDING & LOAN ASS'N.

W. P. JORGENSEN, Sec.-Treas. Southport N. C.

## Health Notes

By Norman M. Hornstein, M. D.

The hurricane which devastated the coastline of Brunswick County on October 15th has brought, perhaps, fewer health problems to the surviving population than in New Hanover County where the strength of the storm was relatively less. Our wrecked beaches, Ocean Isle, Holden Beach, and Long Beach, have a comparatively small permanent population.

The only area where close attention to storm damage from the health point of view is necessary lies in the triangle from Shallotte, Shallotte Point, and Calabash. Areas suffering wind damage alone are not in the dangerous position of those inhabited places covered by flood water. It is flood that carries the most peril in the aftermath of a storm. The flood water carries the filth of privies, ground excrement, and septic tanks into systems of drinking water. Wells are polluted. Fishing grounds are polluted.

In only two communities in the county do community water supplies require examination: Shallotte and Southport.

**Contaminated Water**  
Fortunately the Southport city supply has not been contaminated. On the street running past the Garrison the sewer was broken some distance from the river. However, the city lines in this neighborhood have not been damaged. However, I would advise people living on this street to

play safe and obtain typhoid vaccination shots.

In Shallotte the Bellamy water supply was flooded with sea water with the danger of contamination. Thanks to the wholehearted cooperation of Mr. Bellamy and the energetic work of J. S. Canady, District Supervisor of Sanitation from the State Board of Health, the Bellamy water supply is now purified. However, people in this Shallotte-Calabash triangle, whose grounds have been covered by water, should take the following steps:

1. Secure typhoid vaccination immediately. The Health Department has already inoculated over 1500 children in this area. However, too few adults have taken their shots.

2. Boil all drinking water that comes from suspect wells, even if you have been vaccinated. Typhoid is only one of several deadly diseases which are spread by flooding.

3. Decontaminate your well. Already the Health Department has distributed free of charge chlorine powder to numerous people in this district. This powder is available at the Southport Health Department with instruction for use free of charge.

4. Do not eat any raw or undercooked seafood from ANY area on the Brunswick coast until the sanitary survey which is being conducted this week is complete. All seafood beds (and to a lesser extent this includes the Howell's Point area) have been subject to contamination. Steaming oysters is not sufficient protection. Of course, any seafood that has been thoroughly cooked is safe.

5. Have your water tested. Within a short while our sani-

tarian will begin tests on private water supplies only in storm damage areas at this time. Send your name and exact address to the Health Department if you want your water supply tested. The samples must be obtained by the sanitarian directly from the well.

**Rebuilding Your House**  
Storms come and go. A few people have lost their loved ones. However, a strong-minded people will not dwell on the miseries of the past but will build for the future. We should take as an example the people of London who suffered very great damage during the blitz. They did not sit down content to groan and spew out their misery. In fact, London looks a far finer city now than before the war.

This should be our example. Let people rebuild their houses, their restaurants, their piers, and their boats. And in rebuilding, let us hope that the newer constructions will be finer than the old.

Let us hope for example that the piers in Southport will no longer be an eyesore but that this harbour so beautiful by nature will be planned with an eye to perfection. Regarding houses, the Health Department advises home builders that our sanitarian, Mr. W. R. Vincent, will be happy to give advice on water supply, garbage disposal, and toilet facilities. As I have stated in previous articles to this paper, the Health Department of Brunswick County is on the verge of a campaign to clean up the filthy privies that exist in our county. Our seashore area is down but not out. The Health Department will do all in its power to aid those who are rebuilding their homes and places of business.