

## Fishing Ground No Secret Says Fisheries Head

Off-Shore Explorations Have Revealed Some Good Prospects For North Carolina Fishermen

### OTHER RESULTS HAVE VARIED

Two Vessels Were Operating Off North Carolina Coast For U. S. Fish And Wildlife Service

There is a rich, "unfished" fishing ground off the North Carolina coast, but the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is not keeping it a secret, as it has been accused recently, Garland Fulcher, president of the North Carolina Fisheries Association said this week.

The Federal Service was accused of withholding information following exploratory trawls by the Service boats Bowers and Combat off the coast in November. These vessels put in at Southport several times during this period. At the same time test trawls were done at mid-depth and down to 250 fathoms by the Sarah J., owned by Earl H. Holton, vice-president of the North Carolina Fisheries Association.

The exploratory trawls between Cape Hatteras and Cape Fear were costly in the loss of nets and gear, according to Holton and G. B. Talbot chief of the Fish and Wildlife Service laboratory at Morehead City. Several types of deep-water shrimp were taken in the nets—the largest counting 60 shrimp to the pound, and the largest catch of them three pounds in one drag of the trawl nets. The next was found to be soft and difficult to process, Holton reported.

The fishing grounds known to the commercial fishermen, but not adequately fished, however, is the Raleigh Bay area, Fulcher said. Known as the "Fish Basket of the Carolinas," it extends from Cape Lookout to Cape Hatteras, about 45 miles in length and up to 10 miles in width. The direct approach to it is through Ocracoke Inlet, which has silted until it is dangerous to all but the smallest fishing craft. The alternate route in 90 miles around through Beaufort or Oregon Inlets.

The NCFA received a most favorable reception from the U. S. Corps of Army Engineers when it presented the case for the deepening and stabilization of Ocracoke Inlet recently, Fulcher said, and favorable action for its improvement is expected in the next session of the Congress, where an enabling act and an appropriation must be approved for the work.

Thereafter, Fulcher said, greater income will come to North Carolina from the rich, "open secret" fishing grounds of Raleigh Bay.

## Brief Bits Of NEWS

**STUDENT PROGRAM**  
Student Recognition Night will be observed at Trinity Methodist Church Sunday evening with college students who are at home for the Christmas holidays in charge of the program.

**TO PLAY AT PARTY**  
The Brunswick County Training Schools' Swing Ensemble, composed of part of the regular school band, is scheduled to play at the New Year Party at SPAT. This is a special 12-piece band formed into an orchestra for dance music. Prof. S. S. Riggs, director of the regular band, will be in charge of the group at the party.

**ON DEANS LIST**  
The names of Lester A. Denton, Freeland; Betty Jo Fulcher, Leland; Francis W. Owen, Shallotte; are on the dean's list at Wilmington College, Dean William M. Randall announced last week. The Dean's List, issued at the end of the Fall quarter, contains the names of forty-two students who distinguished themselves for the excellence of their academic work in the college.

**HOLIDAYS HERE**  
Mr. and Mrs. John Hevener of Buxton, where Mr. Hevener is with the Coast Guard, are spending the holidays here at home. Their son, George M. Hevener, who has been serving in the Pacific came in Monday to spend Christmas and a few days with them. Mr. Hevener, Sr., served here in the Coast Guard for a year and a half and since then they have called Southport their home. They own a home here.

## Dies Suddenly



**DECEASED**—Friends in Brunswick county and throughout the state were shocked this week by news of the sudden death on Wednesday of Sam T. Bennett.

## Sam T. Bennett Dies Suddenly On Wednesday

Popular Public Official And Real Estate Man Died In Shallotte While On Afternoon Visit With Family.

**FUNERAL BEING HELD HERE TODAY**

Deceased Was Clerk Of Court For 6 Years Before Voluntary Retirement In 1952

Sam T. Bennett, public official and prominent business man of Southport, died suddenly Wednesday afternoon and news of his death brought a pall of gloom over holiday festivities throughout Brunswick county.

Death was attributed to a heart attack, and came while he was in Shallotte on his way home from an afternoon of visiting various people and places in Brunswick with his wife, his brother, L. B. Bennett and his wife. A short time before his death the deceased had complained of pains in his chest, and as a result they had stopped by Shallotte to consult a physician. Dr. Graves had made a hasty examination, then advised that Mr. Bennett be taken to the hospital immediately. He died before they could leave for Southport.

The deceased was the proprietor of Franklin Park Motel here in Southport and was successfully engaged in the real estate and automobile business. He also was holding the office of coroner for Brunswick county.

Few men in the history of this county have had a wider circle of friends than he did. Many of these contacts came during the 16 years that he served as Clerk of Superior Court, an office to which he was elected in 1938 and from which he retired voluntarily in 1952.

He was a member of Pythagoras Lodge in Southport, a member

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## Health Center Is Still Undecided

Commissioners Follow Trip To Raleigh Last Wednesday With Thursday Session That Ends In Deadlock

**POSTPONE ACTION UNTIL JANUARY 7**

Funds Available For Construction Of This Facility If Location Can Be Reconciled

The fourth day of deliberation for the purpose of settling a dispute over the site of a Health Center for Brunswick county ended Thursday with no decision, and the matter was postponed until the regular meeting of the board of county commissioners on January 7.

Last Wednesday Chairman Herbert Swain and Commissioner Durwood Clark were in Raleigh for a conference with officials of the State Board of Health. They were accompanied by representatives from Shallotte and Southport.

On Thursday a report was made of that meeting. Representatives were present from both communities, and both groups appeared determined to see the proposed building located within their own town.

The only attempt at official dissolution of the tie came when Commissioner R. E. Bellamy offered a motion to build the Health Center at Shallotte. There was no second.

On the trip to Raleigh continued On Page Two

## Tarpon Tourney Seen As Boon

Southport Man Now Serving As Director Of Convention Bureau In Orlando, Fla., Says Southport Missing Good Thing

After spending Christmas here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joel L. Moore, Sr., Joel Moore, Jr., executive director of the Orlando, Fla. Convention Bureau, is being accompanied home this week by his mother, who will spend her vacation in the Florida city.

As official host for Orlando, Moore travels about a great deal securing conventions for that city. In addition he makes hundreds of contacts with individuals attending the conventions and with sportsmen visiting the convention city.

With a lifetime of knowledge of what Southport has in the way of sport fishing, he loses no chance to speak up for his home

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## Receive Funds For Hungarians

Hungarian Relief Funds being collected by the American Red Cross continue to come in, and Mrs. Phil King, chairman of the Brunswick County Chapter, says that there appears to be no doubt but that the local quota will be met.

Thus far, the most generous contribution was a check for \$100 received from W. L. Bell, native of Southport, now a resident of Madera Beach, Fla.

Mrs. King urges that contributions be sent in at once in order that all funds collected may be forwarded to headquarters.

## Air Force Man Back In States

Capt. Teddy Lewis And Family Returned From Duty In Alaska In Time To Spend Christmas With Mother

Captain and Mrs. Teddy Lewis and their three children arrived home from Alaska just in time to celebrate Christmas with his mother, Mrs. Brady Lewis. The Captain, Mrs. Lewis and their two older children the return marked the end of a two and a half year stay in the more or less frozen North.

To Wanda Mae, the youngest daughter, the leaving marked the leaving of her place of birth, but it is doubtful that she realized that. She was born in Alaska only 4 months ago.

The oldest girl in the family is 5 and the second child, a boy, is 3. Both were born in the United States.

In his high school days at Southport Captain Lewis was a star on the Southport-high school basketball team. Just as soon as he graduated he enlisted in the Army Air Force. For about 3 years he served as an airplane mechanic and at the same time learned the rudiments of flying. World War II came along and he was promoted to Lieutenant and became a pilot.

He has now been serving 15 years as a pilot and has thousands of flying hours to his credit. Here with his mother for the

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## Christmas Party Enjoyed By All

County Officials And Guests Gathered Friday To Hold Party And Exchange Gifts

A group of folks in and around the court house staged a Christmas party Friday before Christmas and it was such a success that they decided to repeat it next Christmas. Thirty-nine people participated in the event.

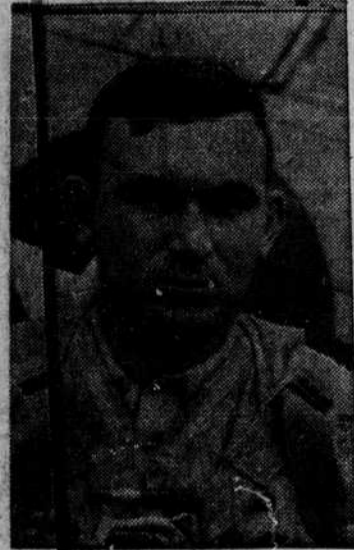
The arrangements were to put the 39 names in a box with each participant drawing a name and to provide a present for the person whose name was drawn.

A brief program was given at the event, the "Greetings" being in charge of Kirby Sullivan; "Spirit of Christmas" by Ray Walton; "Entertainment" by H. G. Ratcliffe; Santa Claus by Bill Keziah; "Refreshments" by Davis Herring and "Goodbye" by Dwight McEwen.

Participating in the event were: Henry C. Stone, H. G. Ratcliffe, Jack Brown, Ernest Parker, Dwight McEwen, Thomas St. George, Henry Hickman, James C. Bowman, W. B. Keziah, Kenneth T. Bellamy, Ray Walton, Davis Herring, Neil Lewis, E. J. Prewatte, Kirby Sullivan, James

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## Qualified



**MAINE 2ND LT. HENRY E. GILBERT, JR.**, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Gilbert of Bolivia, qualified recently as a carrier pilot. Gilbert is a graduate of East Carolina College. To qualify he completed six landings aboard the Mt. aircraft carrier USS Saipan in the Gulf of Mexico. He is now undergoing instruction in instrument flying at the Corry Field Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

## Brunswick Man Has Prominent Role In Rescue

Curtis Evans Led Volunteer Boat Crew On Dangerous Christmas Eve Rescue Mission

Curtis Evans, native of Brunswick county and stationed at Oak Island prior to being demoted in rank and assigned to the Coast Guard Cutter Absecon, volunteered and took a lifeboat out in rough seas to rescue two badly burned seamen and transfer them to a hospital early Christmas morning.

A Panama freighter called the Coast Guard vessel and asked for aid in transferring the badly injured seamen. Evans and a crew volunteered to man the lifeboat and get the men off. They accomplished their task successfully, getting both men to a hospital

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## Mail Delivery All Completed

Post Office Employees Managed To Keep Ahead Of Their Unusually Big Holiday Assignment

Everything entrusted to the mails was in the boxes before Christmas Day, except a little belated mail that people held off from sending until the last moment and which did not arrive until Christmas Day.

In other words, the decks were all cleared of incoming mail before the holiday, according to Postmaster J. B. Russ of the Southport office. He thought the same state of affairs existed at other offices in the county. There was no decrease in quantity. In fact, the holiday mail was much above normal.

It just seems that this Christmas the mail patrons finally heeded the urging to send their

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## Promising Plans For Grid Loop

Planning Meeting Held Last Week At Waccamaw With Follow-Up Session Planned

**BY JIGGS POWERS**  
ASH, Dec. 26—Concrete moves were made to give Southeastern North Carolina a new football conference at a meeting held at Waccamaw High School auditorium last Wednesday night.

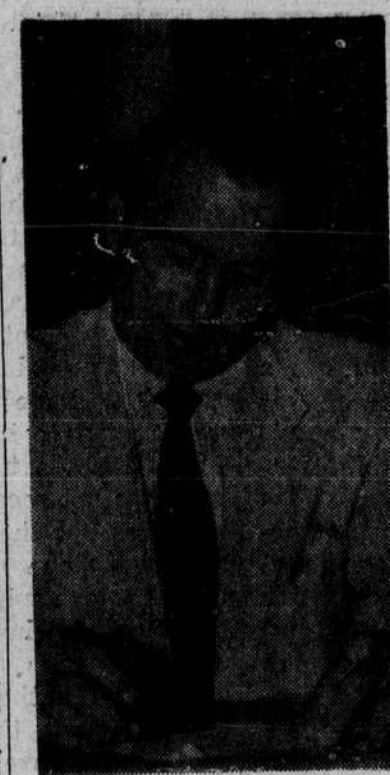
And, a January date was set at which the loop is expected to be formally organized. Seven schools from Columbus, Brunswick and Bladen Counties were represented at the meet at which Tom Webb, Southport principal and football coach, presided.

**Seven Represented**  
Southport, Bolivia and Waccamaw in Brunswick; Acme-Delco, Hallsboro and Williams Township in Columbus; and Bladenboro from Bladen County had representatives on hand. Only Clarkton of Bladen of the eight schools invited failed to send an official.

It was said at the gathering that Clarkton was not interested in moving up to 11-man football—the type play planned for the proposed loop—from six-man action, in which that school has been engaged for the past several years.

Coaches on hand included Webb and T. M. Lee of Southport; Ernest Atkinson, Bladenboro; Danny Peacock, Williams; Paul Brummett, Waccamaw; Gene Nel-

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TOM WEBB

son, Acme-Delco; Landrum Wilson, Bolivia; and Harrel Stephens, Hallsboro, Principals R. C. Elkins, Hallsboro and John G. Long of Waccamaw were also present.

Long acted as host to the group. Webb led a discussion on plans

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## General Glore Visits Spring With Newsmen

Former Commanding Officer At New York Port Of Embarkation Greatly Impressed With Great Natural Resource

**MAY ATTEMPT TO ATTRACT DEVELOPER**

General And Mrs. Glore And Daughter Spent The Christmas Holidays With Friends Here In Southport

This week at the request of Brigadier General James Glore a newsmen accompanied the general and his daughter, Clare Margaret, to Bouncing Log Spring. He saw the semi-petrified log rolling around, the pure clear water gushing up and he was not lacking in enthusiasm at the possibilities for either domestic consumption or industry.

Both he and his daughter got a good drink of the water and the general stated that he knew of several industries in the North for which he believed the water was made to order. He expressed his intention of talking to some of the contacts that he is frequently making.

Speaking literally and with permission to quote, General Glore, former Commanding officer at the Port of Embarkation in New York until he retired a year ago to engage in some private work said:

"There is a growing shortage of pure water for industrial purposes in the Northern part of the United States. In fact this shortage is growing everywhere and it applies to water for both industrial and domestic uses.

"I believe that the potential value of the Bouncing Log Spring for large scale, dependable industrial use is undeniable. Therefore, continued effort to develop the spring must be carried on until such industry is attracted. Although some time may be required to develop the desired results, I believe that Brunswick county and Southport have a wonderful natural resource that will inevitably be recognized and put to great use."

Coming here frequently during the Sunny Point construction period, General Glore became possessed of a deep personal conviction that there was much in natural resources in Brunswick that the general public has always failed to notice. This visit has only deepened this conviction.

## Demonstration Of Driving Hazards

Safety Officials From Sunny Point Army Terminal Illustrate Difficulty Of Stopping

**SCHOOL STUDENTS AT DEMONSTRATION**

Measurements Show Exact Distance Traveled Under Varying Conditions And Different Speeds

Making a plea for safe driving on the highways during the holidays so that none of the young people to whom they were speaking would be injured, Lt. Col. William F. Murphy and W. W. Haughton of SPAT spoke to the high school students here Thursday morning, preceding a safe driving demonstration that was staged with State Highway Patrolmen and the Southport Police cooperating with safety experts from Sunny Point.

Commenting on the fact that there was a very slight up grade and that a gravel surface on that particular stretch of highway made stopping much easier than would be the case on a smooth stretch of road, William W. Haughton, Safety Director at SPAT and his assistant, Gene Burke, directed a very revealing road demonstration.

The demonstration was intended to impress on how far a car travels between the time a driver receives a signal and when he can bring it to a dead stop without danger to either the car or its occupants.

The driver is, of course, aware that in the test he will get a signal to be acted on. The tests showed how far he let the car go after the signal came and before he or she could react by applying the brakes. It also showed the distance the car continued its forward movement after the brakes were applied and before the machine came to a full stop.

At a 20-miles per hour speed the driver, a high school girl, traveled 12-feet before she reacted to the signal and her breaking distance in bringing the car to a halt was 27 feet.

At 30-mph a male student driver did not react to the expected signal until his car had gone 27 feet from the signal and it took him 63 1/2 feet to brake the car to a halt.

At 40-mph the reaction time was 30-feet and the car traveled 91-feet before it could be safely halted. Even then the machine

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## Hurt Painfully In Auto Wreck

Florida-Bound Man In Hospital As Result Of Collision With Pick-Up Truck Friday

A new car bound for Florida was damaged to the extent of \$1,500 and a pickup truck, owned and operated by Henry Elton Hewett of Ash became a total loss on the highway near Shallotte Friday afternoon. The driver of the New York car, James Frazer is in the Doshier Memorial hospital with bad cuts about the head.

The driver of the pickup is under arrest, charged with drunken driving and possession. Somehow, a jug of liquor in the body

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## 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, December 27,	
4:16 A. M.	10:28 A. M.
4:26 P. M.	10:38 P. M.
Friday, December 28,	
5:10 A. M.	11:22 A. M.
5:20 P. M.	11:29 P. M.
Saturday, December 29,	
6:01 A. M.	0:00 A. M.
6:10 P. M.	12:12 P. M.
Sunday, December 30,	
6:47 A. M.	0:16 A. M.
6:56 P. M.	12:57 P. M.
Monday, December 31,	
7:30 A. M.	1:01 A. M.
7:37 P. M.	1:39 P. M.

## Our ROVING Reporter

W. B. KEZIAH

With the New Year to make its bow next Tuesday, just a week after Christmas, a great many people are going to be hard put to adjust themselves from Christmas Greetings to Happy New Year. This paper, coming out with this week's issue, just the day after Christmas, is able to adjust itself fairly quickly. It is able to say "Happy New Year" to a great many readers and to say it the first of the week before New Year. We wish everybody who reads the State Port Pilot a very Happy New Year.

Monday of last week was the birthday of Mrs. Lou Holiday Smith, former health nurse and resident of Southport. She now lives at Alcolu, S. C. She celebrated her birthday by sending 4 subscriptions to the State Port Pilot, for friends and relatives.

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## Support Rates On Weed Crop

Price Support For Certain Varieties Will Be Reduced For 1957 Tobacco Crop

Major change in the 1957 flue-cured price support program, made to discourage production of varieties viewed as undesirable under present demand conditions and to encourage an increase in the proportion of the crop having characteristics currently in demand, were announced last week by the United States Department of Agriculture.

These changes, which are in accordance with recommendations of grower organizations and industry leaders in the flue-cured tobacco area, are as follows: (1) 1957 crop flue-cured tobacco of varieties "139", "140", and "244", irrespective of grade, will be supported

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## Menhaden Boats Have Good Luck

Local Boats Return Home In Time To Determine That Prospects Are Good In Local Waters

Returning from Beaufort last week and putting in one day in home waters, the Southport boats were expecting to resume work here today or tomorrow after being up for 4 days, owing partly to foggy weather and partly to allow the men to rest up a bit during Christmas.

The six weeks at Beaufort were very profitable, with each boat getting from 3 to 4 million fish. These were mostly roe menhaden, valuable for their great oil content and also providing the fishermen stores of fish roe for their own use or for gifts to friends.

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