

Legislature Now Ready To Tackle Business Load

Brunswick County Representative Makes Report Of First Week Of 1957 Session Of General Assembly

EXPECTS COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS SOON

Principal Activities During The First Week Centered Around Inauguration And Attending Social Functions

(Editor's Note: Representative James C. Bowman says that it is his purpose to make a weekly report to the citizens of Brunswick county on the progress of the 1957 Legislature, with particular emphasis upon that phase of the program that directly affects residents of this area. This is the first of his weekly reports.)

By JAS. C. BOWMAN

It is my intention to prepare a report to the people of Brunswick County each week during the entire session of this legislature. These reports will, of course, cover matters of general interest, but will deal principally with those items of legislation and other of my activities that particularly affect our county, either directly or indirectly. The purpose of these reports will be to keep our people as fully informed as possible of matters before the Legislature that are of interest to our county. In this way, it is my hope that you will be in a position to give me the benefit of your suggestions, ideas, and reactions to matters before the Legislature on which I will be required to vote. The occasion will, of course, arise when the people of our county will not agree among themselves as to which course of action I should take on individual items of legislation. In such instances, I shall have to determine, from all information available to me, which course of action will benefit the greatest number of our citizens. Accordingly, I hope that you too, in advising me, will consider first the best interests of the county as a whole and last, your individual and personal likes and dislikes.

Very little was accomplished during this last week's session, the entire time being devoted primarily to social functions and festivities relating to the inauguration of Governor Hodges. I wish that all of you could have heard his inaugural address. It was most inspiring and left little doubt of the Governor's sincere determination to dedicate himself to the

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Brief Bits Of NEWS

BACK ON DUTY
William Houghton, safety officer at Sunny Point, returns to duty Thursday, following a two weeks sick leave.

IN AIRBORNE
James H. Ward, son of Mr. and Mrs. James D. Ward of Southport, entered the service on January 21, in the Airborne. He is at Fort Jackson, S. C., for his basic training.

CHURCH CENSUS
Persons from the various churches in Southport who have agreed to help with the religious census on Sunday, February 24, are asked to meet this Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Trinity Methodist Church for instructions.

DEAN'S LIST
Miss Frances Ann Stanley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Vernon Stanley of Shallotte, is on the dean's list at Mars Hill College for the first semester. Miss Stanley is a sophomore at the Baptist Junior College.

RECEIVES DISCHARGE
Agnew Fischer, telephone man 2nd class, in the Navy, has completed his four year enlistment and is at home here with his mother, Mrs. Maxine Fulcher. He will work this summer and states that he plans to go to Colorado in the fall and enter school there.

OLD TAGS GOING OUT
Old North Carolina automobile tags, go out of style Friday of this week, according to patrol officers. In fact, they are already out of style but owners of cars have been allowed a bit of grace—until Friday, February 15. After that date cars with 1956 tags will be halted by the officers.

Winter Harvest



PULPWOOD—During the winter months many Brunswick county landowners supplement their income by cutting and selling pulpwood from their farms. Thinning and culling processes result in a good supply of wood being sent to the paper mills.

Camellia Blooming Reaches Its Peak

Trip To Orton Plantation This Week Reveals Wealth Of Beauty From These Exotic Flowers

NO SERIOUS COLD DAMAGE THUS FAR

Flower Lovers Who Appreciate Camellias Urged To Visit Plantation Gardens Within Next Few Days

By W. B. KEZIAH
Orton Plantation Gardens have never before had so many perfect camellia blossoms as they have in bloom this week.

With a fair idea of what the flowers look like after the past few weeks of mild weather this reporter decided to visit Orton Monday to get an on-the-scene report.

The new highway from the junction of the Sunny Point road on highway 87 around to highway 130 at Orton was a treat to ride over, and approaching Orton the hundreds of wild ducks in the lakes stood out as something removed from flowers, but decidedly interesting.

At the ticket office Mrs. Joe Ramsaur, the secretary, stated that the ducks would be around until late March. She pointed out that in addition to the ducks we had seen coming in there were thousands of them in the marsh in front of Orton and that some of them would even be seen on the grounds as we looked around at the flowers.

This was no understatement. A dozen or more black ducks or mallards were seen in the flowers, 200 feet from the Orton House. They did not bother to take wing, just waddled off in front of the visitors to the nearby water, where they began swimming around without showing a trace of fear.

Naturally, there were no azaleas
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Prominent Man Dies In Raleigh

Benjamin Clyde Williams, Former Superintendent Of County Home And Member Of Board Of Commissioners, Passes

Benjamin Clyde Williams, "Mr. Bennie" to hundreds of Brunswick county citizens who knew and respected him, died Monday in a Raleigh hospital where he had been a patient for some time. He was 65-years old.

At one time Mr. Williams was a member of the Brunswick county board of commissioners. Prior to that he had served for several years as keeper of the county home. He was born and reared in Shallotte township, midway between Shallotte and Shallotte Village Point, spending his entire life there with the exception of a few years at Southport.

Funeral services are being held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Village Point Methodist Church, where he held membership throughout his life. The services are being conducted by the pastor, Rev. Travis Owens. Burial will be in the Gurganum Cemetery.

The deceased is survived by his widow, Mrs. Annie F. Ludlum Williams, and by one brother, Alexander Williams, of Village Point.

Farm Economy Brought Before Area Committee

Leaders From Seven Counties Comprising SENC Development Council In Wilmington On Friday

NEW DEVELOPMENTS ARE IN PROSPECT

Columbus County Leads Stresses Importance Of Industrial Expansion To Help Boost Income

Nearly a score of leaders in the seven county SENC development association's agriculture division tackled the farm problems of the area at a meeting Friday in Wilmington. Henry B. Wyche, Whiteville, leader, and William T. Chaffin, Irigaw, assistant county agents co-chairmen.

Pinpointed were the problems of swine marketing and of marketing—the problem, to get uniform payment on a grade and weight basis; eggs—development of more production through an association marketing under an area brand name.

Out of the meeting came the information that things can be better for the farmers in southeastern North Carolina if they work for it.

Wyche noted, "At least one of the big frozen food companies wants to locate in this area. It is ideal for them from a transportation and marketing standpoint. But they need a guarantee of 5,000 acres of truck."

R. M. Lefler, Willard area farmer, reported: "Sealtest in Wilmington wants to see, in the next five years, 50
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Fire Protection Is Emphasized

Controlled Burning Over Portions Of Sunny Point Reservation Will Help Prevent Forest Fires

Carrying out the now well-established system of complete efficiency in fire protection, forces at SPAT have cleared out and burned over 100-acres of brush and undergrowth during the past month.

The system that they are following is known as controlled burning, and with ample workers it is carried on to a degree that the average landowner could hardly hope to use on his lands.

In brief, all trash and worthless undergrowth is cut down, piled up and burned at points where the fire will do no damage to the good growing trees. Things are now getting around to where a visitor sees a nice, thriving patch of woods with the tract of land on which the trees are growing clean and having nothing on which a fire can feed and spread to dangerous points.

Lt. Col. W. J. Besser announced this past week that to facilitate getting about on the fire trails and lanes, four new jeeps have just been received and are proving very useful.



W. B. KEZIAH

The writer of this column is always pleased to hear from former residents of Southport and Brunswick county, people whose vocations have called them to live elsewhere. A great many such folks are regular subscribers to the paper and they are still interested in the town and county. Hearing from them provides the opportunity to say a few words in the paper and as we go by the belief that everybody has friends, we take it for granted that there are plenty of people back here at home who will be interested in seeing something about their absent friend or friends. Address your communications to either The Roving Reporter or Bill Keziah.

For weeks various sources have built up gloomy pictures among farm folks as a result of the big surplus of tobacco now existing and the evident necessity of curtailing the crop in 1957. It is

All-Star Coach



COACH T. M. LEE of Southport, whose record of being one of the most successful athletic instructors in Brunswick county has earned for him a place on the three-man coaching staff for the East team in the annual Star-News all-star basketball tournament, which is to be held in Wilmington next month. Meanwhile, Coach Lee is preparing his charges for the Brunswick County Tournament.

Sign-Up For Soil Bank Continues In This County

Cotton Acreage All Gone, Although Applications Are Still Being Recorded

Brunswick county farmers continue to make their way to the ASC office at Supply to make application for Soil Bank payments, and all of the funds allocated for cotton have been exhausted. However, program officials invite farmers who wish to participate to list their names at the county office. They point out that there is a possibility that funds unused by other counties for the Cotton Acreage Reserve program may be reallocated. If this is done, farmers will be signed in the order that their names are listed at the ASC office.

Participation in the Tobacco Acreage Reserve program con-
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Caswell Manager Visits Southport

Fred J. Smith Says That Plans Are Being Discussed For Operation Of Baptist Assembly Here This Summer

Activities at Caswell Baptist Assembly will begin about the first of March. The new general manager, Fred J. Smith of Raleigh, was here this past week and he stated that he and Mrs. Smith and their two sons will be moved in by that time.

Asked regarding the plans for this year, he stated that he had thus far not completed all of the plans. However, he will write this paper in detail in a few days, outlining such matters as can be released at this time. Smith also
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Winter Fishing May Help Summer

Trips To Red Snapper Fishing Grounds May Result In Improvement In Summer Sports Fishing

The greatest sport fishing grounds off Southport may not have been discovered and developed yet and it may take faster boats than we now have to do the trick.

Out there in the warm waters of the gulf stream fishermen say they find everything in game fish and really big specimens. Crewmen with Capt. Walter Lewis on the John-Ellen say that last week they saw plenty of dolphin 5 and six feet in length. They were engaged in commercial work, tagging the big red snapper and had no time or tackle to fool with the game fish.

Sharks were also abundant. As one of the crewmen said, "Everything, including fish and warm water, was out there."

One boatman had a theory that with winter the game fish just move back deep in the gulf stream from its fringes, where most of the Southport sport fishing is done in the spring and summer. In the spring they come in again and are ready for the sportsmen from a closer distance. He was sure they could be caught in winter if parties cared to go far out

into the gulf stream. In any case, the red snapper fishing that has been carried on this winter has revealed what the boatmen think is wonderful winter sport fishing grounds, in addition to vast areas of red snapper grounds for commercial fishing. The snapper grounds will not provide just seasonal fishing. They are good for the year round when the weather will permit these fish being taken and when there is a market for them.

The market is pretty good right now. The crew of one boat that was out for three days and nights last week say that they were paid off at the rate of \$150 for their time.

The snapper fishing is not so expensive as it is made out to be. The boats must have fathometers and some other equipment, including rigs. For bait they only need a fish to start with. A grouper, cut into sizable hunks, will provide enough bait for hundreds of pounds of red snappers. Any sort of fish, including snapper cut into hunks, provides a very acceptable bait.

Volume Increase In Red Snapper Fishing Occurs

Two Boats From Southport And One From Carolina Beach Came In Friday With Large Catches

LOCAL BOAT GETS NEW EQUIPMENT

Belief Expressed That Snapper Fishing May Develop Into Big Business During The Off-Season

By W. B. KEZIAH
Nine thousand pounds of red snappers were brought in to Southport Friday for packing and the wholesale price to the boats is expected to be \$30 per hundred.

Only two of the boats were unloaded here, however, as a shortage of boxes forced the James Howard boat of Wrightsville to leave her mooring at the Dallas Pigott packing house and take her catch of 3,000 pounds on home.

Another boat out from Southport, advised of the boxing shortage here, went direct to Morehead City with a catch of 2,000 pounds.

Captain Charles W. Blades of Ocean City, Md., pioneer of the snapper fishing at Southport and working out from here since November, took advantage of there being enough boxes here to unload his 3,000 pounds. Captain Walter Lewis, who is now using his sport fishing boat for snapper fishing, came in very early in the morning. He had a catch of only 1,000 pounds. His boat was not equipped with a fathometer and his early trip in was for the purpose of having the boat hauled out and a fathometer installed that afternoon.

There was still another boat out from Morehead City fishing on the grounds off Southport and scheduled to return to Morehead City with its load Saturday afternoon. Except for being caught with a shortage of boxes when the unexpected number of boats were bent on unloading their catches, the Dallas Pigott packing house here is said to be admirably equipped for handling snappers and being the boats for return trips. A big ice crusher can grind and pour many tons of crushed ice into the holds of the boats within a few minutes.

The fishing grounds are credited as being 30 to 45 miles nearer Southport than they are to Morehead City.

The snapper grounds are 45 to 55 miles of Southport. The boatmen say that the grounds are unlimited in its area and that the fishing can be a year-round industry. When he first came to Southport and had his run over the grounds two months ago, Captain Blades stated, "The prospect for snappers here is something terrific."

He was attracted to Morehead City early in the fall, did some fishing there and conceived his own idea that there is better and closer fishing off Southport. He followed up this idea and found even more than he expected. He has a well-established sport and party boat fishing business at Ocean City, Maryland and needs to be back there in the spring.

Next fall, however, he plans to be back here and hopes to see a regular fleet of local and Ocean City boats fishing for snappers. More boats than are available now would permit direct shipping from here by trucks to the eastern markets.
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Town Of Shallotte Takes On New Look

Buildings Being Moved Back Off Right-Of-Way On U. S. 17 And Some Landmarks Being Demolished

CONSTRUCTION CREWS ADDING TO ACTIVITY

Telephone Construction Outfit Moving In To Begin Operations Throughout Area

Important changes continue to be made in the appearance of the town of Shallotte, particularly in the business district, as right of way clearance for widening U. S. No. 17 progresses.

This week the Coast Road Service Station, long one of the landmarks in Shallotte, is being demolished. Other smaller buildings have been picked up and moved from their former location to another part of town.

In several instances it was possible to clear the right of way by removing the front section of some of the buildings and adding new fronts. This has been done at the D. C. Andrews store, the Shallotte Hardware Co., at Shallotte theatre and at the buildings owned by Eli Kravitz. A similar operation will be carried out at the Red and White grocery and at the Russ and Holden building.

The Woodrow Russ Service Station east of town has been torn down.

Workmen have started clearing the right of way for a portion of the re-routed highway, which will take off from a point on the causeway over Shallotte river and
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Busy Schedule At Sunny Point

Present Outlook Is For Considerable Activity At Army Terminal During Latter Part Of This Month And In March

Activity in shipping circles is picking up, according to a report this week from Lt. Col. William Murphy. Three ships are due to arrive for loads during the remainder of this month and three more are scheduled for the month of March.

It is pointed out that ships occasionally arrive on shorter notice than is the case of most of them. It is always possible that others may come in during the time.

Ships definitely scheduled for February are the USNS Petersen, due on February 15; the John Sargent on February 18; and the AKL-17 on February 20. The March arrivals, not yet identified by names or scheduled dates, are three ships that will take on full loads.

The indications point to much more frequent shipping in 1957 than was the case in 1956.

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, February 14,	
7:33 A. M.	1:18 A. M.
8:00 P. M.	1:50 P. M.
Friday, February 15,	
8:25 A. M.	2:11 A. M.
8:53 P. M.	2:39 P. M.
Saturday, February 16,	
9:15 A. M.	3:01 A. M.
9:45 P. M.	3:26 P. M.
Sunday, February 17,	
10:05 A. M.	3:53 A. M.
10:37 P. M.	4:14 P. M.
Monday, February 18,	
10:55 A. M.	4:44 A. M.
11:30 P. M.	5:02 P. M.
Tuesday, February 19,	
11:45 A. M.	5:36 A. M.
0:00 P. M.	5:53 P. M.
Wednesday, February 20,	
0:26 A. M.	6:32 A. M.
12:38 P. M.	6:46 P. M.