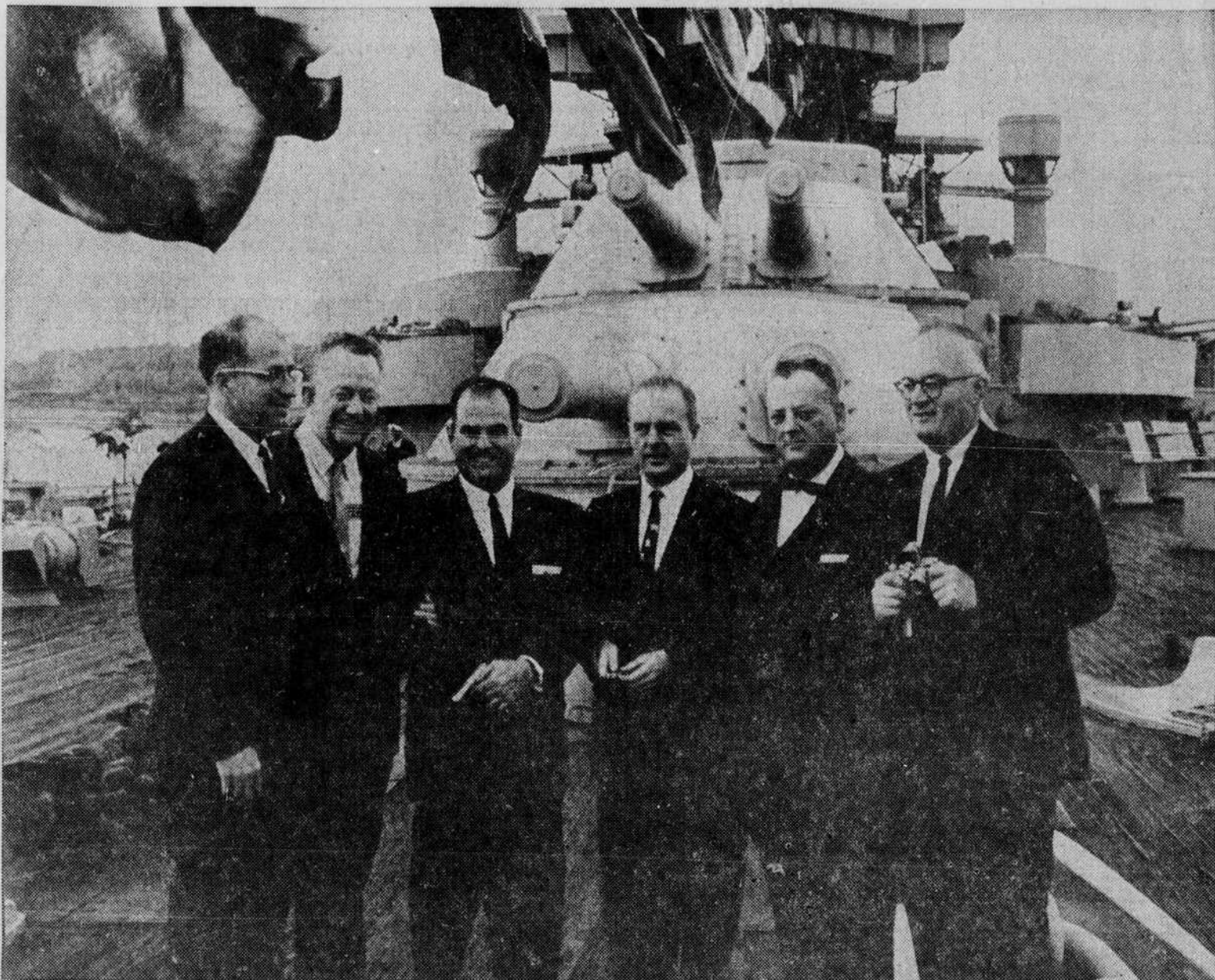


Aboard The Battleship Texas



INSPECTION—Members of the North Carolina Battleship Commission who visited Houston, Texas, last week are shown here with some of the men who showed them the Battleship Texas, which is now in use as an historic shrine. Left to right, these men are Orville Campbell of Chapel Hill; Lloyd

Gregory and Cyril Adams, Houston; Al Sharpe, Lumberton; James C. Bowman, Southport; and Hugh Morton, Wilmington. Gregory is chairman of the Battleship Texas Commission and Adams is the engineer who handled the location and restoration of the ship.—(Photo Courtesy Hugh Morton.)

Dedication For New Agriculture Building Friday

Formal Dedication Of Agricultural Office Building At Supply Held Friday Evening

The new County Building in Supply was dedicated Friday evening with a fish fry and short dedication program. About 100 people enjoyed fish served in the new auditorium, but cooked in out-door fry pans. Everyone was given a welcome by E. J. Prevatte who presided. J. J. Hawes of Supply extend the formal welcome and Mrs. Frank Mintz of Bolivia responded. Congressman Alton Lennon made a timely talk on his interest in seeing Brunswick have a new office building to serve the people. C. S. Mintz, District Agricultural Agent, introduced the principal speaker, R. W. Shoffner, Assistant Director of N. C. Extension Service. Shoffner reviewed the progress made in agriculture during the past few years. He stated that farmers have become much more efficient because of results of research and teaching. His information was most interesting as he showed how the consumer receives more goods for an hour of labor because farmers are more efficient. F. Herbert Swain, Chairman of Board Commissioners, presented

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Holiday House



GUARDIAN—The Lions Club Building was a scene of beauty Sunday as it became the setting of a Christmas Holiday House, sponsored by members of Southport Garden Club, Woodbine Garden Club, with the Live Oak Garden Club members cooperating. The scene over the fireplace was an angel, which appeared to be presiding with benign dignity over the gay and beautiful decorations. The angel scene was arranged by Mrs. Ormond Leggett and Mrs. J. B. Warth.

Highway Patrol Holds Operation Close-Out Sixty

Sgt. A. H. Clark Urges All Motorists To Be Particularly Minded This Christmas

"The Christmas season is upon us and its a dangerous time of the year for highway accidents," Sgt. A. H. Clark, officer-in-charge of District VI, Troop B, N. C. Highway Patrol announced.

The Patrol official reported that a special program will be instituted in an effort to reduce the toll of accidents, injuries and death.

"Operation Close-Out Sixty" is already in force and will be continued through December. This program will entail a wholesale attack on traffic mishaps and fatalities.

"We shall use every means at our command to bring this operation to a successful conclusion. It is hoped that everyone who drives a motor vehicle in Brunswick County will cooperate," Clark said.

"This state-wide project will call into use such features as the unmarked radar car, electric speed clocking devices, wolfpack and saturation patrols," he announced.

A total of 13 persons died on Tar Heel highways on Christmas Day last year. Brunswick County has had 10 traffic deaths so far in 1960. More than 130 have been injured, according to Patrol records.

Unless the trend is broken, according to safety experts, this year's toll will equal or exceed that of 1959.

"The horrible part of the picture is the fact that most of these accidents and deaths could have been prevented. In almost every case, someone was not obeying the law—or did not use common sense," Clark reported.

"Many of our accidents are directly caused by speeding, careless and reckless driving, failure to use proper caution."

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Service Officer Group Visitors Here Thursday

Representatives From Several Southeastern North Carolina Counties Attend Local Meeting

Veterans Service Officers in Southeastern North Carolina held a conference in Southport Thursday to discuss the various veterans benefits and methods to improve their service to veterans, their dependents, or survivors.

A. M. Bonner, Assistant State Service Officer for the North Carolina Veterans, Commission appeared on the program and lead the discussion of the latest changes in Veterans Administration benefits. Various individual problems were discussed and suggestions made by the conference for their solution.

The meeting, arranged by the Fourth District office of the North Carolina Veterans Commission, was attended by John O. West, Bladen County Veterans Service Officer, Crawford L. Rourke, Brunswick County Veterans Service Officer, H. Hugh

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Saturday Blast Kills Three Men

Hamme Marine Railway* Near Wilmington Is The Scene Of Violent Explosion Saturday Noon

Three men were killed in a blast at Hamme Marine Railway, located just across the river from Wilmington in Brunswick County, Saturday about noon when an explosion occurred on a gasoline barge.

The three men killed by the blast were Floyd D. Harrell, Edward Brown and Joseph Washington, all of Wilmington. Injured were Linwood Cochran of Burgaw and James A. Bullard, Leland.

More than 30 windows in buildings located in down town Wilmington were blown out by the blast.

On Monday the body of Brown was recovered from the river, and Brunswick County Coroner Lowell Bennett said it appeared the victim was killed instantly.

Not since the National Airlines crash at Bolivia almost a year ago has the Civic Air Patrol been called out in such a force as they were Sunday morning when it became apparent that outside, expert help would be needed to help with the search for three men missing after the explosion of an oil barge at the Hamme Marine Railway yards just across the river from Wilmington.

Late Saturday night, Lt. Col. Sidney W. Wilson, CAP Group 8 Commander, received a request for the assistance of the Civil Air Patrol units under his command. Col. Wilson immediately appointed Captain M.E. Britton, commanding officer of the Cape Fear CAP Squadron, as the mission commander, and word went out to the Brunswick County, Cape Fear, Wilmington, and Columbus County Squadrons, and the Southport Flight. All members reported at the disaster scene at 7:30 Sunday morning. Members of the Federal Point Squadron were not ordered to report to this area since they were already engaged in a search and rescue mission at Snow's Cut where it was believed that a man had driven his automobile into the Intracoastal Waterway between Wilmington and Carolina Beach.

By 8 o'clock Sunday morning forty CAP members were formed into five CAP search teams and fanned out in all directions to search every square foot of the ground near the blast area. Five CAP planes were assigned search

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Holiday Begins Next Wednesday

Brunswick County schools will close at noon on Wednesday of next week for a holiday period which will extend past the New Year.

No announcement has been made regarding the holiday schedule to be followed by the city and county employees.

The two branches of the Waccamaw Bank & Trust Co. have asked permission of Governor Luther H. Hodges to remain open on Saturday before Christmas for the convenience of their customers.

Commission To Decide Fate Of North Carolina

Famous Battleship May Be Brought To This State And Preserved As Permanent Historic Attraction

James C. Bowman will be in Raleigh tomorrow (Thursday) to attend a meeting of the N. C. Battleship Commission to which he was named last month by Governor Luther H. Hodges.

The primary purpose of the meeting will be to hear reports of two delegations, one of which went to New Jersey to see the Battleship North Carolina and the other which went to Houston, Texas, where the Battleship Texas has been made into an historic attraction.

Bowman was a member of this latter group.

It is believed that members of the commission will recommend that the Battleship North Carolina be acquired by the State, to be preserved as an historic shrine. The ship has been offered to the State for that purpose, and unless

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Hearing Is Held About Shrimping

Sports Fishermen And The Shrimpers Air Conflict Of Interest In Operations

In one of the most widely attended public hearings ever held by the Department of Conservation and Development, shrimpers and sports fishermen from all up and down the coast of North Carolina aired their differences Saturday.

Both sides appeared to agree that some change is in order, but what it is to be was not decided. One thing was made clear by the shrimpers—they do not think the answer lies in the closing down of trawling operations inside a three-mile limit.

The problem as presented by representatives of the sports fishing industry is one of doing something to reduce destruction of game fish and to increase catches. The commercial interests contend blanket limitations of fishing areas do not get at the basic problems. They also counted scientific information is lacking to guide such measures.

Many individuals of both groups favor conservation steps, but there agreement ends. The commercial fishermen fear action that would curtail their livelihood.

Eric Rodgers, Chairman of the Commercial Fisheries Division, at the hearing's conclusion, said the commercial fisheries committee plans to choose three to five persons representing the North Carolina

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TIME and TIDE

The shrimping fleet that had numbered 125 up to the first of December 1935 had dwindled to a mere 25 working boats by the tenth of the month. Most of them had headed South, with good catches being reported from St. Augustine, Fla. A special service was being planned to welcome the Rev. E. M. Hall as the new pastor of Trinity Methodist Church in Southport.

It had been a good week for the hunters, with at least one good story showing up. That one dealt with a deer hound, turned retriever. He—according to the story—had swam out into a pond and seized a wounded buck by the tail and towed him ashore. (Seems like hunters these days and times just don't have the imagination folks used to have!)

The time was December 11, 1940, and hunting still was going strong in Brunswick—only this time it was foxes in the limelight. Five had been captured during a single morning's hunt over at Fort Caswell. There also was a front page piece about a single shotgun blast that Clyde Newton said he made into a bunch of ducks over at Long Beach. The story had it that Clyde came up with 4 mallards, 2 black ducks, 2 teal and 2 blue pates. (Makes a fellow wonder what the bag limit was back in those days.)

Oh yes, and there on the same front page was the story of Rossie Flowers of Winnabow, who shot and killed two deer with one shot on the previous Saturday.

Now you tell one.

Kids these days and times really don't have it so tough. Take

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Christmas Holiday House Successful

State Champion Will Demonstrate

The first meeting of the Southport Chess Club for this year will take place at 7:30 p. m., December 15, in the Parish House of St. Phillips Episcopal Church. All those interested in playing or learning chess are invited.

Dr. Norman Hornstien, North Carolina Chess Champion, will give a simultaneous exhibition against all comers at the first meeting. Plans for a Southport Junior and Senior chess tournament will be discussed and officers elected. Players are asked to bring their chess sets.

Local Students To Be On WECT

Students Of Mrs. W. R. Lingle Will Repeat PTA Performance On Katie's Kabin Monday

One of the most enjoyable programs presented before the Southport Parent-Teachers Association in recent months was "The Singing Christmas Tree" staged by the students of Mrs. W. R. Lingle Thursday night in the high school auditorium.

Those who missed seeing the program will be interested to know that it will be repeated over WECT Monday afternoon during the "Katie's Kabin" time.

Songs included on the program were "Christmas Time Is Merry", "The Twelve Days Of Christmas", "Angel On Top of the Christmas Tree", "Angel Came To Mary", "No Room in the Inn", "Sleep, Jesus Dear" (Clare Margaret Glore), "At the Manger", "Star of Christmas" (Jerry Dilsaver), "Follow The Star".

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UDC Offering Writing Prizes

Cash Awards Being Offered For Best Essays On Selected Historic Subjects

The United Daughters of the Confederacy, North Carolina Division, will present several prizes to the high school students who submit the best short essay on a specified subject concerning that period, according to Mrs. Gertrude McNeil, of Southport, historian for the local Thomas Mann Chapter.

The contest will open to Juniors and Seniors in high school and the prize will consist of \$25, \$20, \$10 and \$5 and a handpainted Confederate flag, according to the subject chosen.

It is recommended that essays be from 1000 to 2000 words in length and each will be judged by extend of research, originality, accuracy of statements and excellence of style. A students may compete for one prize only, and should attach bibliography and other source of material to insure authenticity of information.

Among the titles which may be chosen are "The South's Contribution to American Folklore," "The

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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 15,	
4:52 A. M.	11:18 A. M.
5:02 P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Friday, December 16,	
5:47 A. M.	
5:59 P. M.	12:12 P. M.
Saturday, December 17,	
6:41 A. M.	0:19 A. M.
6:54 P. M.	1:04 P. M.
Sunday, December 18,	
7:55 A. M.	1:11 A. M.
7:48 P. M.	1:56 P. M.
Monday, December 19,	
8:28 A. M.	2:03 A. M.
8:43 P. M.	2:46 P. M.
Tuesday, December 20,	
9:21 A. M.	2:54 A. M.
9:37 P. M.	3:38 P. M.
Wednesday, December 21,	
10:15 A. M.	3:46 A. M.
10:35 P. M.	4:30 P. M.

Brief Bits Of NEWS

CONDITION IMPROVES
H. T. Sanders, member of the Southport High School faculty, is still a patient at Doshier Memorial Hospital, but his condition is showing improvement.

LIONS TO MEET
The regular meeting of the Southport Lions Club will be held tomorrow (Thursday) evening at 6:30 o'clock in the Lions Club Building.

RETURNS HOME
Capt. Fred Willing has returned to his home in Southport following an operation 10-days ago at James Walker Memorial Hospital in Wilmington. Although he still is confined to his home, his condition is improving.

BANK CASE
There have been no further developments in the investigation of the robbery of several pieces of business machinery from the Southport branch of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co. ten days ago. The stolen items have been recovered, but thus far no arrests have been made.