



Miss Dorothy Dickey, left, is moving from Long Beach to California and thus will discontinue her services to the Southport-Brunswick County Library. For the past few years she has served as acting librarian and as assistant to the librarian. Mrs. Susie Carson, right is shown presenting Miss Dickey a gift from members of the Board of Trustees for the library. Looking on are C. D. Pickerrell and Duwood T. Clark, members of the board. (Photo by Spencer)

Postal Rates Show Increase On Newspapers

Postal rates for newspapers and magazines and other material mailed at the second-class rate will be increased January 1. Postmaster Norris Long reminded second-class mailers this week. The increase results from the postage rate law enacted in December 1967, which raised most second-class rates in three annual steps. Postmaster Long pointed out. The January 1, 1969, hike is the second phase of the increase. The first phase took effect January 7, 1968, and the third step will go into effect January 1, 1970.

The second-class rate increase affects general interest, nonprofit and classroom publications.

Rates also will go up January 1 for controlled circulation publications. These are primarily trade, technical and industrial journals which generally do not charge a subscription fee and are not eligible for second-class rates. The 1967 postal rate law called for a three-step raise for controlled circulation publications, to be effective the same dates as the second-class increases.

Except for home-county mailings, postal rates for newspapers and magazines mailed second-class are based on the weight of the publication, the amount of advertising it contains, and the distance it is mailed.

Effective January 1, rates for editorial or non-advertising matter in commercial publications will be increased from 3 to 3.2 cents per pound. Rates for advertising content depend on the distance the publication is mailed. These zone rates now range from 4.6 to 15 cents per pound of advertising content. The new advertising zone rate range will

(Continued On Page Four)

Bottles Float Up On Island

Reese Swan, caretaker at Bald Head Island, called this morning to report the sighting of a large number of small plastic bottles on the western beach Sunday afternoon.

"The label said they contained hydrogen flouride," he said. "I do not know whether or not this is poison, but I opened one of the bottles and the stuff in it started smoking."

Swan said there were "at least 100 plastic bottles with strange spout caps on them." He says they were of one-pint size.

"I don't know if what is in them is poison or not," Swan said, "but I just wanted to let people know that there might be some danger from them."

(Continued On Page Four)



Christmas Wreck Scene

Harold Aldridge, assistant chief of the Southport Volunteer Fire Department, is shown here investigating the smoking remains of an Opel Kadett which overturned and caught fire early Wednesday night at the intersection of Highways 87-211. The fire department quickly extinguished the blaze and William D. Newton, driver of the car, was uninjured in the accident. (Photo by Spencer)

W. P. Jorgensen Dies Suddenly Here Thursday

William P. Jorgensen, prominent Southport citizen, died at his home here Thursday morning following a heart attack.

He had not been well for two days prior to his death, but the difficulty he was experiencing had been attributed to the possibility that he was suffering from a mild case of influenza. His wife was preparing breakfast for him when he was stricken, and by the time the family doctor had arrived he was dead.

The deceased was best known for his affiliation with the Security Savings and Loan Association, a business for which he had been a member of the board of directors for many years and which he had served as secretary-treasurer since 1953.

Prior to that he had served as office manager for Brunswick Navigation Co., as Brunswick County Auditor and as Brunswick County Tax Collector. His first job was as clerk in the Southport Post office from which he went to work for the county as an assistant auditor.

He was a member of Pythagoras Lodge and was a past master; he was a member of Southport Lions Club and was a past president; he was a member of the board of trustees at Doshier Memorial Hospital and for several years served as chairman. He also had served for

(Continued On Page Four)

Electricity Is Priced Lower Than Before

Nearly everything was up at Carolina Power and Light Company in 1968 except the price of electricity to the customer, reports President Shearon Harris in a year-end review.

Peak loads were higher, expenses including taxes were greater, customer usage was up, revenues were up, and the construction budget adopted in early December was bigger than ever.

One thing lower was the average price of electricity to the customer, Harris observed. At the end of 1968 the average price per residential kilowatt-hour was 1.67 cents, which is 21% below the national average. The 1967 average CP&L price was 1.72 cents.

Residential customer consumption in the CP&L area was 37% above the national average in 1968. The CP&L average was 8,260 kilowatt-hours, up 806 kilowatt-hours over 1967.

"These figures simply mean," said Harris, "that the CP&L residential customer is using 37 percent more electricity than the average, and paying 21 percent less per unit for it."

Revenues for 1968 will reach an estimated \$169 million, as compared with \$146,657,000 for 1967.

CP&L's tax bill for 1968 was an estimated \$38,813,000, an increase of \$5,873,000 over 1967.

Also among the 1968 highs was the 6.85 percent interest rate on the sale of \$40 million in bonds for construction purposes. This rate was the highest ever paid by CP&L in its 60-year history, Harris said.

The fuel bill for 1968 totalled an estimated \$41 million, an increase of \$8.8 million over 1967.

(Continued On Page Four)

Blast Wrecks Leland Station Last Tuesday

An explosion, apparently caused by dynamite, ruined Louis Brown's Esso Station near Leland early Tuesday.

A spokesman for the Leland volunteer fire department said 2 traces of dynamite were found around the building, which was unoccupied at the time of the blast.

"It blew the office section down... it was definitely dynamite or something. It caught the place on fire," said John Geedy, captain of the fire department. Geedy said some of the cinder blocks had been hurled onto the road by the blast.

Geedy also said the front door of the office part of the station—used for grocery and other merchandising—had been ripped open.

The fire which followed the blast was fed by gasoline and oil, but firemen kept it from spreading to the larger gasoline storage tanks.

Brown said a neighbor who lived close to the store told him she and her husband had heard tapping sounds coming from the store before the explosion.

Brown said the woman told him her husband had peeped from the window in the store's direction several times, but each time he looked the tapping stopped.

McKee said neighbors told him they heard hammering at 1:30 a.m. and then saw a white station wagon leave five minutes before the explosion.

Brown said the store had been in operation for about five months. He is one of the striking longshoremen and described the store's destruction as making rough even rougher.

McKee quoted the owner of the service station as saying he had no enemies and was puzzled by the blast.

Authorities said the State Bureau of Investigation was called to assist in the case.

Ferry Goes To Drydock

The Southport-Fort Fisher Ferry now is in drydock at New Bern where it will be undergoing its annual overhaul from now until about March 1. All traffic from Southport to Fort Fisher via the ferry route has been discontinued during this period.

One operation is taking place during this period and that is maintenance dredging at the ferry slips on both sides of the Cape Fear River. The contractor says he will perform this work during the early part of January and estimates that he will have it completed before the first of February.



MISS KAREN SKIPPER

Selected Queen For Homecoming

The first annual Homecoming Parade of Bolivia High School was held December 13, at Bolivia.

The parade featured marshalls Mark Owens and Robert Candler, Bolivia Twirlettes, Betty Cress Dancers, Bolivia Volunteer Fire Department, 1966-1967 Homecoming Queen and escort, and Homecoming Queen Contestants for 1968-1969.

Following the parade there was a huge bonfire on the baseball field of the school. Hanging in the middle of the bonfire was a Shallotte Pirate which was burned. During the burning of the fire the cheerleaders lead the crowd in cheers.

The junior varsity basketball game began at 7 p.m. with the home team opposing the Shallotte Pirates. The final score was Shallotte 41, Bolivia 26.

At 8:15 the Bolivia Bears varsity, coached by Robert Candler, met Shallotte and were defeated 56 to 50.

At half time of this exciting game the homecoming court was introduced along with the reigning queen. They were Diane King, escorted by L. C. Carroll; Janice Lanier, escorted by David Hawes; Karen Skipper, escorted by George Irving; Betty Bogie, escorted by Ken Mills; Wanda Hickman, escorted by Roger Roberts; and Barbara Bogie

escorted by Don Watkins. The second runner-up was Janice Lanier and first runner-up was Lavada Carroll.

Then the queen, Miss Karen Skipper, a senior at Bolivia High School and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Skipper, was presented with 14 beautiful red and white carnations and crowned by Miss Pearl Sullivan, the former queen.

After the game the Bolivia High School students and the visiting team were entertained with a dance in the gymnasium. The music was provided by the Penetrations with the newly crowned Homecoming Queen leading the first dance.

Driver Held In Accident

A Supply man has been charged with manslaughter and reckless driving following a head-on collision which caused the death of a six-months-old infant on U.S. 17, four miles north of Shallotte last Tuesday night.

Thomas Gause, who has been released on bond, has been charged in the death of Kimberly Michelle Smith, six-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jessie Colbert Smith Jr.

(Continued On Page Four)

Time And Tide

It was December 28, 1938, the interim period between Christmas and New Year's. The new Cape Fear light had been equipped with electric power, having for some weeks been lighted with a kerosene lamp. The death of one of Southport's most interesting personalities had darkened the holidays season for local citizens. A. E. Peterson, a Swedish immigrant who had come to Southport in 1888, had passed away on Monday. His specialty was house-moving. Miss Mary Dick Cannon had starred in a stage production in Charleston, S.C.; Mayor John Erickson and his dog Bingo had been featured in a front page story; and "wintery" weather of 28 degrees had hit the county.

In another front page story in The Pilot that week the top Southport bowlers were featured. The above mentioned mayor had been deposed as community champ by Arville Cotrell, who had posted a score of 207. Other standouts on the alleys included Prince O'Brien, Eddie Spencer, A. E. Huntley and Mrs. H. T. St. George.

It was December 29, 1943, and "Southport was well dressed for Christmas." Or so a front page head insisted. The story concerned the profusion of decorations at various homes throughout the community. Mrs. H. W. Hood had topped top honors in the Christmas tree division, and Pfc. Edward Taylor had won out in the home decorating division. Southport had shivered through the holidays due to a fuel (petroleum) shortage; the Red Cross workroom was to reopen Monday and it was prematurely announced that veterans could pick up their discharge buttons from the nearest Army installation.

Our Not Exactly newsman had fairly loaded that column with duck hunting news, giving special notice to young Frantò Molycheck for downing two high flying black ducks with one shot. The Clerk of Court office had announced that there were no arrests made during the holiday season; Joel, Josephine and Marie Moore were home from college; and aircraft production in Northern Ireland was on the increase.

(Continued On Page Four)



Receives Citation

Prior to his departure from Sunny Point Army Terminal for duty in Korea Lt. Ronald E. Kirby, right, received a citation for his services while attached to the terminal. The presentation was made by Col. Carey Kennedy, Commanding officer.

Brunswick Man SENC Chairman

Jonathan Hankins of Southport, principal of Union High School in Shallotte, was elected chairman of the board of directors of SENCland Community Action, Inc., at the annual meeting of the board Tuesday night.

C. W. Duggins, superintendent of Whiteville City Schools, was selected vice-chairman, and Mrs. Esther Huntley of Elizabethtown was chosen secretary-treasurer.

R. C. Soles Jr. of Tabor City, newly-elected member of the State House of Representatives, was guest speaker.

He cited the outmigration of residents, particularly young people, as one of the biggest problems in the SCA area, which includes Bladen, Columbus and Brunswick counties.

"Can we ask them to stay?" Soles queried. "Obviously no," he continued, pointing to the population declines in the area—3,008 from Bladen, 605 from Brunswick and 3,332 from Columbus.

The outmigration, according to Soles, included many potential leaders of tomorrow. He cited low per capita income in the three counties as a chief cause. Bladen County, with a per capita income of \$1,364, ranks 89th in the state; Brunswick

County is rated 79th in the state with a per capita income of \$1,462; Columbus with \$1,628 ranks 62nd.

"Young people want part of the action," stated Soles. "The problem is getting everyone going forward to progress together."

Charles Mumford, assistant director of SCA, introduced agency officials who reported in their projects during the past year.

G. Lamont Hinson, Columbus County coordinator and also director of the More Income From Farming project, reported progress in the formation of a vegetable cooperative.

According to Hinson, 200 farmers had signed statements of interest in the co-op, and over 20 meetings to explain the set-up were held. Hinson pointed out that the program could help halt out-migration from the area.

He explained that several private fund organizations had been contacted about financial aid to the MIFF project, and that two groups had indicated interest in aiding the co-op as soon as it was organized.

(Continued On Page Four)

Citation For Local Officer

First Lieutenant Ronald E. Kirby, who has been assigned to the Military Ocean Terminal since May 1967 and is now on orders for duty in Korea, has been cited for his performance of duty while at the terminal. His citation reads as follows:

"For exceptionally meritorious service as chief cargo operations officer at the Military Ocean Terminal, Sunny Point, North Carolina, during the period 19 May 1967 to 27 December 1968. Through his demanding leadership and his extraordinary managerial talents Lieutenant Kirby improved the efficiency of cargo documentation and vessel operations. His remarkably successful efforts earned great credit for himself and the United States Army."

Col. Cary A. Kennedy, Jr., Sunny Point Commander, presented the award to the lieutenant.

Tide Table

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

HIGH	LOW
Thursday, January 2	
6:51 AM	0:40 AM
7:09 PM	1:22 PM
Friday, January 3	
7:33 AM	1:22 AM
7:45 PM	2:04 PM
Saturday, January 4	
8:09 AM	1:58 AM
8:21 PM	2:40 PM
Sunday, January 5	
8:45 AM	2:40 AM
8:57 PM	6:16 PM
Monday, January 6	
9:21 AM	3:16 AM
9:33 PM	3:52 PM
Tuesday, January 7	
9:51 AM	3:58 AM
10:09 PM	4:28 PM
Wednesday, January 8	
10:27 AM	4:34 AM
10:57 PM	5:04 PM