



Introduces Governor Scranton

Dr. David Stratmon, Southport native, is shown standing as he introduces Governor William Scranton to an audience in Amman, Jordan, where the local man is serving as Public Affairs Officer. Dr. Stratmon introduced the speaker both in Arabic and English. Governor Scranton is seated in the center and on the left is Mr. Sassal, his aide while serving as fact-finding envoy for President-elect Nixon.

Scientists To Seek Answers To Crab Death

C. B. Caroon, owner of Caroon Crab Co. in Southport, is concerned over reports that have been made about some mysterious disease that is depopulating the blue crab population along the coasts of the two Carolinas.

For hundreds of coastal Carolina families, crabbing is a source of livelihood.

For thousands more, year-round residents and casual summer visitors, crabbing is a popular family sport that traditionally has provided a guarantee of a catch big enough for a good meal in almost any salt water creek near the beach at low tide.

However, both the commercial crabber and the family sportsman have been disappointed the last few years, and the fact is that blue crabs are dying by the millions—for causes still unknown.

Chemical pesticides are suspected as a possible killer, and Dr. G. Robert Lunz, a marine biologist and director of Bears Bluff Laboratories here, has begun research to determine the cause of the mass loss in crab population.

The problem extends from North Carolina to northern Florida, with South Carolina and Georgia suffering the most.

Since 1964, the annual commercial crab catch for the four states has dropped from 40 million pounds to 24 million. In South Carolina, the 1968 season yielded only three million pounds of crabs, compared with seven million pounds four years earlier, worth almost \$2 million.

The common blue crab found along the eastern seaboard from Maryland to Florida is a staple item in coastal seafood restaurants and is shipped throughout the world to the restaurants.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service statistics for 1966 showed 430 commercial crabbers in South Carolina and 842 in North Carolina.

Dr. Lunz has met several times with Dr. Tom Linton, his North Carolina counterpart, and officials from Georgia and Florida. Tentative approval has been given for a \$75,000 federal study grant by the Department of the Interior for research.

A wing of the state-supported Bears Bluff Laboratories already has been converted into eight individual, controlled environment tanks in which the temperature, acidity and salinity of the water can be controlled to test environmental changes on crabs.

This first step in the research program was funded with a \$7,000 grant from the Belle W. Baruch Foundation several months ago. Miss Baruch is a daughter of the late Bernard Baruch, New York financier who wintered in his native South Carolina.

Tests have shown high residual amounts of DDT in crab tissues and also some mirex, a chemical used in fire and eradication programs in the Carolinas and Georgia, according to Dr. Lunz. In addition, he reports findings of some amoebic parasites, which are harmless to humans but can be fatal to the crabs.

"It is quite possible pesticides are a factor in the mortality," (Continued On Page Four)



Certificates Of Achievement

Two Sunny Point employees, George W. Parker, Deputy Director of Operations, and Ralph E. Ambrose, Chief, Freight Traffic Division, have recently successfully completed the Executive Seminar in Automatic Data Processing held in Dallas, Texas, and have been issued certificates so indicating. Photograph shows left to right, Colonel Cary A. Kennedy, Jr., MOTSU Commander, Parker and Ambrose.



Deliver Engineering Report

Louis G. Leiner and J. R. Benson, Jr., members of the staff of the engineering firm of Henry Von Oesen and Associates, are shown here presenting a copy of the Comprehensive Water and Sewage Planning Report for Brunswick County to William Powell, chairman of the Resources Development Commission, Parks Fields, in charge of the FHA Office for Brunswick county, and George T. Rourk, chairman of the Board of Commissioners as a meeting Tuesday night at Lorraine Restaurant at Long Beach. (Photo by Spencer)

Board Turns Down Effort In Bond Vote

Members of the Brunswick County Board of Education in regular session Monday night took negative action on a motion to go before the Board of Commissioners to request a special school bond election.

The motion was made by Arthur J. Doshier, who expressed the opinion that it is time to get on with the business that was postponed last fall, and later from the date of the general election. His motion was seconded by James Thompson, representing the Leland School (Continued On Page Four)

Planning Report Will Help County

Two members of the staff of Henry Von Oesen and Associates, engineers, were on hand Monday night to present copies of a Comprehensive Water and Sewage Planning Report to Members of the Brunswick County Resources Development Commission who had as their guests for this meeting members of the Board of County Commissioners and the mayors of the various incorporated towns of this county.

This was a dinner meeting at Lorraine Restaurant at Long Beach.

Louis G. Leiner, the man who did most of the work on the survey, made a brief verbal report of the undertaking, explaining some of the contents of the 2½-lb. volume and pointing out some of the practical uses that can be made of the information contained. In addition to statistics, there are maps showing highway connections, communication systems, population density and a soil map. The latter is particularly important in connection with future planning of water supply and sewage disposal systems.

Leiner pointed out that this engineering is a prerequisite for future applications for federal assistance in projects of this nature, and during the question and answer period it was apparent that the Town of Bolivia, which now has such an application pending, was more than a little interested in the data contained.

Also present from the engineering firm was J. R. (Continued On Page Four)

Southport High School Student Named Finalist

Alumnae committees appointed for every county in North Carolina are this month interviewing the 249 nominees for the Katharine Smith Reynolds Scholarships at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Serving on the committee for Brunswick county are Mrs. Barbara Smith, Mrs. Carol Roycroft and Mrs. Kathleen Barnes.

Nominees from the county, each an outstanding member of her high school graduating class, were Miss Donna Lynn Crouch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Crouch, Jr., of Southport High School; Miss Zephia LaRose Gore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earlie Gore, of Union High School; Miss Brenda Faye Holden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Holden, of Shallotte High School; Miss Janice Lynn Lanier, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Lanier, of Bolivia High School; Miss Valeria Rosa Mims, daughter of Mrs. Rosa Jackson Mims, of Brunswick County High.

The Reynolds finalist for Brunswick County is Miss Donna Lynn Crouch. She will meet before the District 7 Committee for an interview in early February.

Twelve scholarships are awarded to each freshman class. The awards, covering board, room, tuition, fees, books and miscellaneous expenses, are valued at \$1,400 and are renewable for four years of study.

The selection of Reynolds finalists was delegated to the Alumni Association of UNC-G by the Reynolds Foundation when the program was initiated in 1962. District committees were appointed to serve this function.

The Reynolds Scholarships were established by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation in memory of Mrs. Katharine Smith Reynolds, a Woman's (Continued On Page Four)

Southport Native In Overseas Role

Board Hears Jail Complaint

Members of the board of county commissioners in session here Monday heard Sheriff Harold Willets appeal for additional funds with which to operate the jail, with particular reference to a need for additional money with which to feed prisoners.

When he explained that the person who had been taking care of this detail no longer would perform this service, a suggestion was made that he contact one of the local restaurants to see if he could work out a feeding arrangement. This he did while the board was in session, and the plan will be followed for the next month.

During the questioning back and forth between the sheriff and the board members he was asked why at least one of his deputies has an unlisted telephone number. The sheriff explained that this official can be reached on the law enforcement radio.

Monthly reports were received from Archie Martin, farm agent, Homer McKeithan, tax collector, Iran D. Butler, Jr., tax supervisor, and Roy Stevens, director of the Resources (Continued On Page Four)

Public Affairs Officer David Stratmon introduced Governor William Scranton, President-elect Nixon's fact-finding Envoy, at a press conference December 8 in Amman, Jordan. Dr. Stratmon introduced the governor in both Arabic and English.

The Governor was on his 10-day, 6-nation fact-finding mission. Stratmon participated in the general briefing which the American Embassy in Amman arranged for the Governor. The American Ambassador in Amman is Harrison Symmes of Wilmington.

Dr. Stratmon is a native of Southport and is the grandson of Mrs. Mary Martha Gordon.

Dr. Stratmon received his B.A. degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1947 and from 1948 to 1950 served as agent-cashier and administrative assistant with the U.S. Public Health Service at Monrovia, Liberia. He received his M.A. degree in Public Administration from the University of Michigan in 1952 and his Ph.D. in Political Science in 1955.

His first post abroad with USA was in Ghana where he served as Cultural Affairs Officer from 1956 to 1958. During the war he served in the European Theater with the First Army from 1943 to 1945.

Happy Ending For Big Search

A four-day search for a missing woman, involving hundreds of persons, ended on a happy note Saturday morning when Mrs. Clayton Coleman, 54-year-old Ash woman, was found safe in a tobacco barn located a little over a mile from her home.

The search had involved members of all rescue squads in Brunswick county, the National Guard, law enforcement officers and the Civil Air Patrol. Mrs. Coleman first was reported missing on Tuesday morning.

The National Guard was called in Wednesday when the search spread along N.C. 130 on the southern border of the Green Swamp.

More than 100 men were involved during most of Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, officials said.

Considerable pessimism as to Mrs. Coleman's safety was expressed Friday night following failure Friday to discover anything like a lead as to the woman's whereabouts. Searchers pointed out the severely cold weather and the bleak, wintry terrain as boding ill for anyone dressed in ordinary clothing being exposed for any length of time to the elements.

Mrs. Coleman was discovered missing from her home by her husband Tuesday morning before dawn. The search began shortly after dawn and continued, ever expanding, for the next three days. (Continued On Page Four)

Time And Tide

It was January 4, 1939, and according to that issue of The Pilot the New Year had received a noisy welcome in Southport. Firecrackers and other pyrotechnics had been discharged throughout the community, and only one minor casualty had been reported. The Pilot that week reported the return to school of college students; Roscoe Rogers had a going fox trapping business; and the Brunswick legislators—Bunn Frink and Cornelius Thomas—had left for Raleigh.

The Pythagoras Lodge in Southport had installed officers for the coming year. Among these were R. L. Thompson, R. F. Plaxco and James Smith. The Southport School News reported that a new first aid kit had been obtained for the principal's office; our editorial writer was calling for more such contributions from the other country schools (columns, not first aid kits); and a couple of local worthies had instituted the sport of wild hog hunting.

It was January 5, 1944, and Lt. Eleanor Niernsee, USA Nurses Corps, had reported on the situation "Down Under." She had been stationed in Australia for two years, and had recently visited the town of Southport, in that country. The W.B.&S. bus line had opened service to Whiteville; the public had been asked to permit the servicemen to have seats at the USO movies on Sunday nights; and our editorial writer was calling for 1944 to be the decisive war year.

A number of local trawlers had turned to blackfishing to (Continued On Page Four)

March Of Dimes Fund Drive Is Now Underway

The Brunswick County drive for March of Dimes funds got under way on January 2.

"Most people feel a sincere desire to help those who are less fortunate than they," said Mrs. Rourk. "Most of us, however don't know where to start. We can think of no better way to show our concern than join the fight against Birth Defects."

"The March of Dimes depends on volunteers and their contributions to help provide care and rehabilitation for children with birth defects—physical and mental. One of the volunteers will call on you soon. We urge you to give generously to the March of Dimes."

The volunteers and the communities they represent are listed below:

Ash, Mrs. William Mathews; Bolivia, Mrs. Jim Henry Williams; Brunswick County High School, A. C. Caviness; Boones Neck, Mrs. Norman Bellamy; Calabash, Mrs. Harry Bennett; Exum, Mrs. A. R. Bradyson; Freeland, Mrs. Raymond Babson; Grissetown, Mrs. Norman Grissett; Holden's Beach, Mrs. Hugh Dutton; Hickmans Crossroads, Mrs. Ernest Stanland and Mrs. Leob Hickman;

Leland, Mrs. Thomas J. Moore; Little Prong Church, Mrs. Leon Ripley; Longwood, Mrs. W. A. Long; Myrtle Head, Floyd Parker; Shallotte, Mrs. W. J. McLamb; Shallotte Point, Mrs. Harry E. Williams; Southport Beaches and Boiling Springs, Mrs. Joe Young; Ocean Isle, Sunset Beach and Twin Lakes, Mrs. Parker Phillips; Supply, Mrs. Chandler Rourk; Thomasboro, Mrs. Grant Gore; Winnabow, Mrs. Thomas Rabon.

Sausage Sales To Help Fund

This year the local chapter of the March of Dimes and the Jesse Jones Sausage Company will be working together to raise money for the annual campaign to help children with birth defects.

Jesse Jones Sausage Company will make a cash donation for each pound of Jesse Jones products sold in these local stores: Vereen's Red and White, Long Beach; Price's Superette and Harrelson's Grocery, Southport, on Friday and Saturday, January 10-11.

Again this year the campaign is sponsored locally by the Junior Women's Club of Southport. Other phases of the campaign will include the Mother's March (time to be announced later) and donations from the local school children.

There will also be donation canisters situated in the local businesses.

The March of Dimes campaign will continue throughout the month of January.

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

Brief Bits Of NEWS

SHRIMP SEASON CLOSED
Upon the recommendation of Dr. Thomas L. Linton, Fisheries Commissioner, all coastal fishing waters were closed to shrimping (other than with fixed nets) at midnight, December 31, 1968.

VISITING LIMITED
Because of widespread flu and the number of cases in Doshier Memorial Hospital, visiting of these patients is prohibited. Those that are hospitalized for other than flu are allowed only one visitor during visiting hours. Limited visiting will remain in effect until the flu epidemic has subsided.

Ferry Boat Now Out For Overhaul

The Southport-Fort Fisher Ferry will be out of operation from January 6 until February 28. The motor vessel will be in drydock at New Bern for annual overhaul and maintenance.

The popular ferry will be returned to service in time for early spring traffic at the end of February.