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Sea Mulletts 4c
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THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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SESSIONS OF
COUNTY BOARD

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VOLUME XXVI

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NUMBER 1

County Officials Make Blunders At Board Meet Law Is Violated By County Board

Commissioners Often Go Into Executive Sessions

"EVERY MEET SHALL BE OPEN TO ALL PERSONS"

It is no secret to the people of Carteret county, or to The Beaufort News at any rate, that when matters of vital news importance are to be discussed by the board of commissioners they go into what they term as an executive session. At executive sessions usually the members of the board and the county attorney attend. What takes place at such meetings the public generally never know.

Executive sessions are contrary to the Public Laws of North Carolina. None other than Julius F. Duncan, dean of the bar in Carteret county, has frequently told the editor of this newspaper that it is a violation of the law to go into executive sessions. On the other hand County Attorney Luther Hamilton has often contended that executive sessions are absolutely necessary in the discussion of certain matters.

The Beaufort News contends that while it is unlawful to have executive sessions, its contention being based upon reliable information furnished by reliable attorneys, that there is no law against members of the board visiting around and agreeing upon certain matters before their meeting. That was apparently done before the "now famous" meetings of this week when the "now famous" resolutions pertaining to changes in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board were presented and passed, without some persons who probably should have known, being in the dark about it all.

This newspaper criticized the old county board frequently when there was occasion to do so. It was just as quick to praise any action worthy of praise. This newspaper thought perhaps with a change in the personnel of the board that executive sessions would become a thing of the past—but on Monday the board went into executive session and on Tuesday at the suggestion of Chairman W. P. Smith there was another executive session.

And this newspaper representing the people of Carteret county naturally could not have a representative to cover the executive meets.

W. O. Williams, local attorney, at the request of The Beaufort News submitted the following excerpts from the statute relative to "executive sessions" of county commissioners:

(Continued on page eight)

FIRST SOLID CAR LEAVES TERMINAL

Forty five thousand pounds of salt in 459 sacks, the first solid car load of any commodity to leave Morehead City's port terminal rolled westward to Kinston Wednesday in an A. & N. C. box car No. 21130, over Atlantic and North Carolina railroad tracks. The shipment was made by Charles R. Allen, owner of nearly 2,000 tons of salt, which came in November to Morehead City from Stax, Tunisia, marking the first foreign shipment received at the new port terminal. The solid car load was consigned to Gray and Oglesby wholesale merchants of Kinston.

Appropriate \$50 For Legislative Purposes

The Carteret county board of commissioners voted on Monday to appropriate \$50 to the East Carolina Association of County Commissioners to be used in the fight to protect the financial interests of the counties in the matter of revenue from the sale of liquor, and other legislative matters. Daily press report indicated that Pasquotank had done likewise. In counties where the ABC revenue is larger, appropriations of \$100 for this purpose were being made this week. It was indicated in a letter received by the Carteret board.

Representative



Fred R. Seeley

Fred R. Seeley of Beaufort is representing Carteret in the General Assembly this year in Raleigh. He left here on Tuesday, but was called back to Beaufort on business the day of the inauguration of Governor Hoey. Representative Seeley's Carteret is one of the most important counties in North Carolina from a legislative standpoint. He has a big job in Raleigh this year, but the overwhelming vote which gave him the office in November is proof that the majority of the people have much faith in his ability to serve Carteret well.

Canadian Reads About Beaufort: Plans Visit

From Montreal, Canada, came a request this week for literature about Beaufort. The letter written by J. E. Riley, and addressed to the Secretary of The Chamber of Commerce follows:

"Dear Sir: I am a retired shipping man 64 years of age, but still active. I want to spend two months in a warmer climate. Sometime ago I read of your town in the Montreal Herald. Will you please mail me printed matter you may have, but more important I should like to know what rates are charged by one of the smaller but good hotels or boarding houses."

The short course for tobacco growers will be held at State College, January 18 to 22 and hundreds are expected to attend.

Carteret's Number One Friend



Representative Barden Shakes Speaker Bankhead's Hand

Representative Graham A. Barden whom The Beaufort News spoke of editorially as being Carteret's Number One friend in last week's edition left New Bern last Sunday for Washington to be on hand for the opening of Congress Tuesday. In the above photo Representative Barden is shown shaking hands with Speaker C. B. Bankhead as Congress adjourned last summer. Mr. Barden's secretary, Tom McGee, of Mount Olive, and Miss Emma Gibbs Morrisey, stenographer left last week for the capital to open his office.

Cahoone Assisted In Attempts To Refloat Grounded Greek S. S.

Setting his course by an out of date chart which gave a different location of Frying Pan Shoals light-ship the skipper of the Greek S. S. Mount Dirys ran his vessel aground on the shoals off Cape Fear several days ago. The Coast Guard cutter Modoc of Wilmington and the 135 foot patrol boat Cahoone, under command of Capt. A. Johansen of Advance Base "A" Morehead City sailed to Frying Pan and made efforts to refloat the steamer.

When their efforts proved fruitless the crew of 31 aboard the ill-fated vessel were landed at the Quarantine station near Southport, and the steamer will be a total loss, it is believed.

The Mount Dirys was loaded with a cargo of iron ore. She was 63 days out of Kolkothan, India, where the ore was taken on. She was bound for Wilmington, Del. There is a possibility that her skipper got his Wilmingtons mixed up, although no statement was made to that effect. The assumption is made since the course of the ship was via the Atlantic and not the Pacific and Panama Canal route.

Skipper Wrote That Samnanger Had Fine Trip Down To Chili

Without any hullabaloo, (because she was not the first foreign ship to enter that port) the S. S. Samnanger of Bergen, Norway docked in Wilmington this week with a cargo of nitrate consigned to W. H. Pryde, at the Cape Fear river port from Chili.

In a letter to Aycock Brown, editor of The Beaufort News, Capt. T. Hermansen, master of the vessel wrote from Cristobal, Canal Zone this week stating that his vessel and cargo were passing through the Panama Canal at the time and was expected at Wilmington on January 3. "I certainly had a swell time in Morehead City and I would be very pleased if my ship was ordered to your port with a cargo of nitrate. We enjoyed a fine trip down to Chili," wrote the genial master of the first foreign vessel to enter Morehead City's new port terminal in November. The Samnanger brought a cargo of salt from Stax, Tunisia, to Morehead City. Capt. Hermansen stated that he would like to have copies of The Beaufort News containing pictures of his ship, the port terminal and his salon and same have been forwarded.

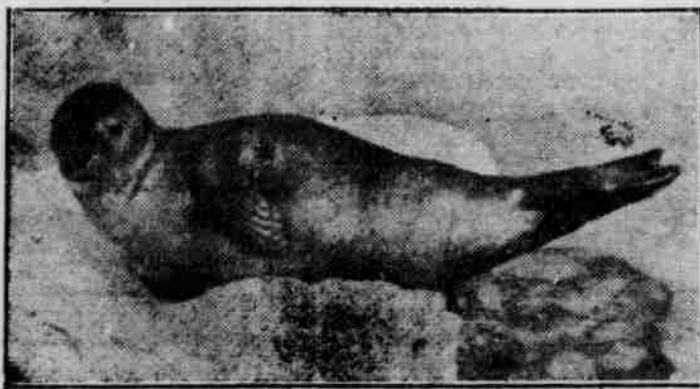
Dr. K. P. B. Bonner Resigns From Commissioners' Board

"I could not sit on a board and be a party to acts actuated by petty politics and personal spite, and I refuse to be a rubber stamp man," said Dr. Kemp Plummer Battle Bonner to the News and Observer correspondent here Tuesday following his resignation from the Carteret County Board of Commissioners. The resignation ended 26 years in the public life of Carteret county.

for the Morehead City physician. For the past three years, until the January meeting of the county board, Dr. Bonner had been chairman of the group. At the January meeting W. P. Smith of Beaufort was elected Chairman and Bonner was made vice chairman.

The text of Dr. Bonner's letter of resignation will be found on page eight.

Suzie The Seal Comes Home



Mounted Now She Is Displayed At Fisheries Lab

Last year the harbor seal in the above photo was captured by fishermen near Ft. Macon Coast Guard station after she had strayed far from her native Labrador shores. For several weeks she was kept alive in the salt water pool at the U. S. Fisheries Laboratory on Pivers Island. Shortly after the big snow she died. Sent to Raleigh, State Museum taxidermists mounted the seal which had been named Suzie and a few days ago the mounted specimen was sent back to the Fisheries Laboratory for display in the marine collection there. (Photo by Dr. Herbert F. Prytherch.)

ABC Official Makes Comments About Situation

BELIEVES "SMITH WILL TENDER RESIGNATION"

Charles Lambert Skarren Jr., Carteret county ABC official who has been more or less in the spotlight at recent controversies involving the County Board of Commissioners vs. the ABC Board said today that "it is felt that Chairman W. P. Smith will tender his resignation at an early date."

He gave several reasons one being that "Smith oversteps authority vested in him by the Public Laws of North Carolina, in that he presented resolutions to the board in connection with ABC law which was not vested in the board under Public Laws of 1935 by repeal of the Turlington Act."

"Smith presented resolutions to appoint J. J. Whitehurst, ex-county auditor who resigned under fire after an audit reflected discreditably on his record," Skarren stated, adding that "Smith had presented Mr. Whitehurst's name as disbursing agent to conduct the affairs of the ABC stores in the face of his record as appeared in that audit." Skarren was referring to an audit made by Abraham and Whitakers several months ago.

"The ABC Board acting at the request of Chairman Smith at the meeting held December 14, combined the office of disbursing agent, warehouse manager and book-keeper. Frank Klein, ex-city clerk of Morehead City was appointed to fill those positions at a stipulated salary of \$150 per month," it was stated by Mr. Skarren.

Commenting on Mr. Klein's record Skarren stated, "It was Mr. Klein who while acting as clerk of Morehead City worked out a system which has enabled, not only Morehead City, but Beaufort and Carteret county to take in thousands of dollars worth of bonds which otherwise would not have been curtailed."

High in his praise for Klein and his ability, Skarren said, "Klein is also an outstanding accountant and business man however the Board of Commissioners disapproved Mr. Klein as disbursing agent and now it appears that in addition to the \$150 Mr. Klein will receive for acting as book keeper and warehouse manager, an additional \$50 per month will be paid J. J. Whitehurst as disbursing agent, bringing the total to \$200."

"The red light district of Morehead Bluffs area will no doubt reappear as the result of one of Chairman Smith's resolutions adopted by the Board Monday has done away with the law enforcement to eliminate the illicit liquor traffic in Carteret county," said Mr. Skarren who added, "It will be recalled that the purpose of the Pasquotank Act was to control liquor instead of profit by operation of stores."

In the foregoing paragraph Mr. Skarren was referring to a Resolution adopted which reduced the sum for enforcement by ABC Board to only 5 per cent of profits.

Chairman's Statement Probably Squelched A Damage Suit

WHITEHURST APPOINTED DISBURSEMENT OFFICER

Trouble between the Carteret county commissioners and the Carteret ABC board were smoothed over, temporarily at least, on Tuesday when the commissioners changed their minds about the auditing of the liquor board's account. When a certain resolution was adopted on Monday a sentence in same indicated that Chairman W. P. Smith was instructed to get in touch with the Local Government Commission and a "reputable" auditing firm for the purpose of effecting an audit of the liquor business of the county. On Monday too, a motion was passed rescinding an order of December 14 which was an agreement that Williams and Wall, accounting firm of Raleigh were to be granted a contract to audit the ABC books of the county during the current year.

An authentic story in The News and Observer Tuesday morning using excerpts of the now famous resolutions which were passed in such a hurry on Monday, aroused the wrath of certain individuals concerned. Frank Wall of Williams and Wall was on hand at the commissioners meeting Tuesday and made no secret of the fact that the word "reputable" used as it had been in Resolution No. 4, adopted on Monday was no compliment to his firm. Direct questions were fired at the board members by Mr. Wall who appeared with Attorney W. O. Williams. Things were getting mighty interesting from a news standpoint at that open meeting—perhaps too interesting because Chairman Smith suggested that an executive session be held. Following this executive session the following statement was released by Chairman W. P. Smith:

"My attention and the attention of the Board of Commissioners of Carteret County has been called to a statement appearing in the News and Observer of this date, under a Beaufort headline, in which it might be inferred that the Commissioners of Carteret County have not been satisfied with the audit that heretofore had been made of the affairs of the ABC Board of the county, and that the order by the Board of De-

This Baffling Lingo An AP Assignment

A assignment received by Aycock Brown, central coast Associated Pressman this week would sound awfully baffling to the average person, but not to a correspondent who understands the language of bureau managers of the world's largest news agency. The assignment:

"Please wire what chance getting Rodanthe Christmas shot and sending Journal Building Atlanta with bill. Uncare for man who has seen beasts kneel unless he standing by Christmas tree in that cillage with chilun—Regards—Associated Press."

Eagle-eyed Associated Pressman in Charlotte had picked up an interview with George W. Hay, Beaufort nightwatchman, who made an unusual story for leading morning papers of state last week. Hay had invited local correspondent to visit around with him on Old Christmas eve night and see "all living beasts move on stroke of twelve."

Associated Press had previously given the world a story about Old Christmas observance down at Rodanthe on Hatteras Island sent in by their Beaufort correspondent, and the Southern AP photo bureau in Atlanta had requested newspaper picture. As George Hay lives in Beaufort where Old Christmas is not observed, and as Rodanthe is nearly 100 miles by water from Beaufort, the local correspondent transferred assignment to Associated Pressman Earl Dean and Victor Meekins down on Roanoke Island, much nearer Rodanthe and Old Christmas.

TIDE TABLE

Information as to the tide at Beaufort is given in this column. The figures are approximately correct and based on tables furnished by the U. S. Geodetic Survey. Some allowances must be made for variations in the wind and also with respect to the locality, that is whether near the inlet or at the heads of the estuaries.

High	Friday, January 8	Low
5:08 a. m.		
5:13 p. m.	11:25 p. m.	
	Saturday, Jan. 9	
5:54 a. m.	11:28 a. m.	
6:00 p. m.	12:15 p. m.	
	Sunday, Jan. 10	
6:34 a. m.	12:16 a. m.	
6:43 p. m.	1:01 p. m.	
	Monday, Jan. 11	
7:13 a. m.	1:21 a. m.	
7:25 p. m.	1:43 p. m.	
	Tuesday, Jan. 12	
7:53 a. m.	1:43 a. m.	
8:07 p. m.	2:23 p. m.	
	Wednesday, Jan. 13	
8:34 a. m.	2:24 a. m.	
8:49 p. m.	3:01 p. m.	
	Thursday, Jan. 14	
9:12a. m.	3:03 a. m.	
9:31 p. m.	3:38 p. m.	