

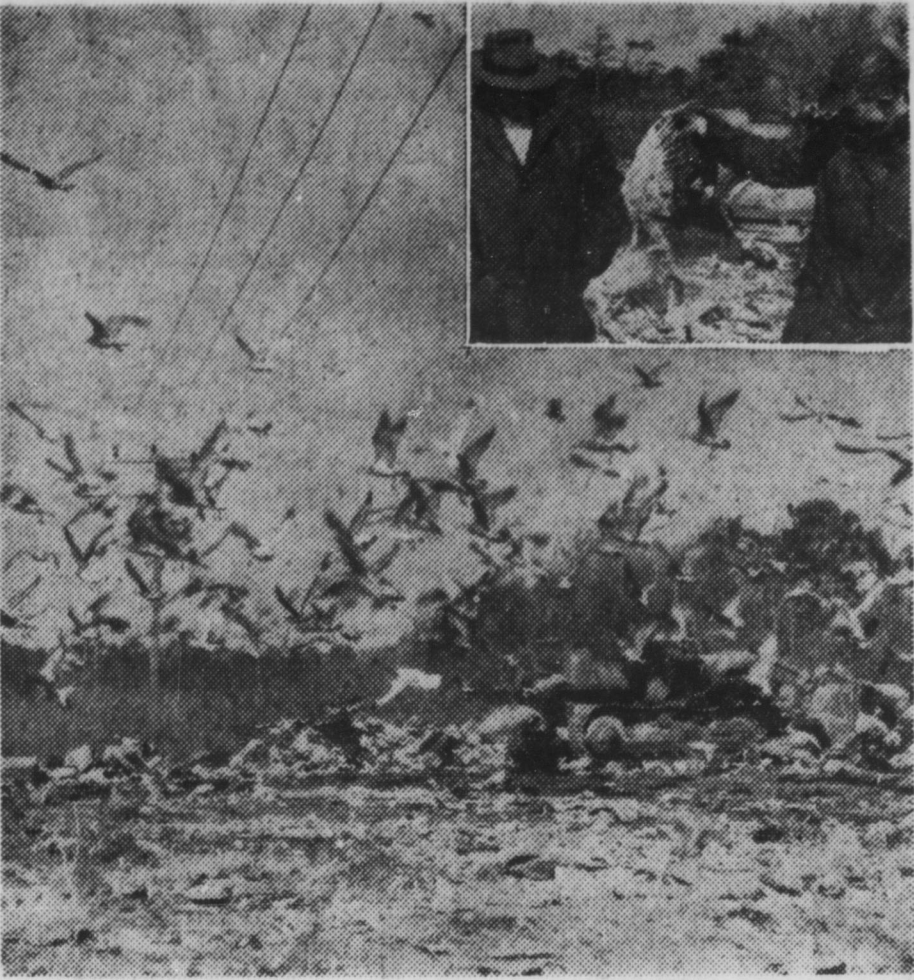
THE ZEBULON RECORD

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GULLS GET THE HOT SEAT



FLICKER MYSTERY SOLVED — Morehead City's lights flickered for days before the cause was found. So many hungry sea-gulls visited the garbage dump that their overlapping wings short-circuited power lines. CP&L spread the lines farther apart. Here CP&L Manager George Stovall (left, inset) and James Hardison examine a singed gull. Gulls almost obscure Hardison's bulldozer. (Photos by Jerry Schumacher.)

Rotarians Hear Young, Whitley at Two Sessions

Dr. R. C. S. Young, after-dinner speaker connected with the Atlanta branch of the University of Georgia, spoke to local Rotarians, their wives, and other guests last Friday night at the Wakelon cafeteria, where the Zebulon Rotary Club celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary, along with the fiftieth anniversary of Rotary's founding in Chicago.

Dr. Young, a native of Scotland, told of his experiences after emigrating to this country following World War I. He regards America, he said, as the land of opportunity, and advised his audience not to sell America short.

President Rodney McNabb presided at the anniversary session, and opened the session, introducing Egbert Peeler, district governor of Rotary International, who spoke briefly.

Ralph Talton presided at the introduction of guests, and the Rev. B. A. Asbury welcomed them. Mrs.

L. M. Massey sang a solo, and Dr. L. M. Massey introduced the speaker and summarized his remarks following the address. E. H. Moser gave the invocation at the beginning of the supper meeting.

At the meeting of the local club held a week earlier, C. V. Whitley, for years a prominent Zebulon merchant and civic leader, spoke on improving buyer-seller relations. Beginning with his early experiences in Wakefield, Mr. Whitley traced the development of buyer-seller transactions from the days of the old-time "time merchant" until the present day, when highly specialized credit devices are used.

Mr. Whitley praised the late Governor Bickett, under whose administration the present 10% maximum time charge law was enacted.

"Even this figure seems high to us today," the speaker declared, (See ROTARIANS, Page 7)

Wakelon PTA to Meet Monday; Variety Show Set Thursday Night

Safety will be the subject of the program Monday night, March 21, at the meeting of the Wakelon PTA. Mr. Clarence Hocutt, Chairman of the Safety Committee and Driving License Examiner, will be in charge of the program.

Music will be furnished by the two sections of the fourth grade under the direction of Mrs. Elizabeth Ellett and Miss Thompson.

Caldwell on Program

The Rev. Johnny Caldwell, Pastor of the Hopkins Chapel Baptist Church, will bring the devotional message.

The Nominating Committee will announce the slate of officers proposed for the coming two-year period.

The meeting will begin at 7:45 p. m. Members of the Executive Committee will meet at 7:15 p. m.

Thursday, March 24, is the date set for the big Variety Show sponsored by the Wakelon PTA.

Each classroom has chosen its representative on the program, and all participants are working hard to make the show a success. There will be dancing, singing, skits, and instrumental solos. The talent will be our own boys and girls.

Mr. Gilbert Beck, finance chairman, is in charge of the Show and has announced that a prize of \$5.00 will be awarded to the winner of each of the three divisions, primary, grammar and high school contestants.

The Wakelon PTA is sponsoring this event to raise funds to pay a salary supplement to Mr. Alger Batts, who is making remarkable progress with the Wakelon Band.

Tickets will be on sale at the door, adults, 50¢ and children 25¢.

Weaver Discusses Water Law; Potato Storage Project Stalled

Leader Declares Fifteen Thousand Bushels Required

Farm Bureau committee members have apparently reached an impasse in their attempts to interest local farmers in a sweet potato project.

Committee chairman Dewey Massey reported to the Farm Bureau Monday night that Foster Finch, Wakelon Trading Co. operator and originator of the sweet potato recommendation, wishes to be assured of 15,000 bushels of potatoes in order to justify efforts which he will have to make towards the project.

Greatest problem now, according to Mr. Massey, is to focus active, organized community interest along these lines.

Owing to reduced tobacco allotments this season farmers will have more surplus land available, and Mr. Finch proposed at the February Farm meeting that farmers consider organized growth of sweet potatoes in order to take advantage of this deficiency.

He has agreed to provide storage space for the potatoes and to take responsibility for curing them at \$.50 a bushel if he is guaranteed a sufficient amount to make it worthwhile.

Since he will be obligated merely to store and cure the potatoes and not to sell them, present plans do not call for a full-fledged market here; however, that is a hoped-for future development, say committeemen.

Henry Covington, State College Horticulturist Specialist, at the time of the proposal advised that, presupposing favorable reception, the project should be started on a limited scale only, until farmers gain experience.

Meeting with committee members (See PROJECT, Page 7)

FOR TAX CUT



Senator W. Kerr Scott voted this week to cut federal income tax payments for persons making \$5,000 and less, but Republicans, joined by a few dissident Democrats, voted the tax cut down. Senator Sam Ervin voted with the majority.

Senator Scott said that larger income taxpayers who derived revenue from stocks and bonds were given relief by the preceding Congress, and he felt that small farmers, merchants, and wage-earners were entitled to some tax relief this year.

Speakers Are Listed For Methodist Course

The Commission on Missions of the Zebulon Methodist Church, Mr. Ed. Hales, Chairman, will sponsor a Church-wide Mission Study Course on "The City," Sunday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Those helping with the study include Mr. E. H. Moser, Mrs. F. L. Page, Miss Rebekah Talbert, Miss Ruth Temple, Mrs. Andrew Jenkins, and Rev. Troy J. Barrett, Pastor. The Junior Choir will sing. Miss Temple is director of this group.

Extension Director Says State Faces Dangerous Crisis

People need to consider constructively the precarious water situation that exists in North Carolina, according to Dr. D. S. Weaver, N. C. State College Agricultural Extension Director, who addressed local Farm Bureau members at Wakelon School last Monday night.

He pointed out several factors that are contributing to shortage of water, and said that a bill currently before the State Legislature proposing to regulate the water supply was resigned more to provoke thought along remedial lines than to create any positive answer to the situation.

"Purpose of the bill is to make people mad," he told the group.

Present law prevents one from hampering materially a water flow whether crossing private property or not. The speaker said farmers have recently been tempted to break that law.

Referred to Committee

(Wednesday the joint Conservation and Development committee of the Legislature referred the controversial bill to a sub-committee for further study after it received an unfavorable hearing Tuesday).

As landowners, said Dr. Weaver, "what we've got to do is to get water to enter the land."

Though our yearly average of rainfall is remaining stable there is an uneven distribution of rainfall throughout the year. This, said the speaker, is one of the principal reasons for our recent lack of water. "We're not getting it when we need it most," he said.

A growing population in relation to a fixed amount of land; lack of (See CRISIS, Page 7)

FORMER MAYOR TO SLOW UP:

R. H. Bridgers Announces Retirement

R. H. Bridgers, for many years one of the most active citizens of Zebulon in business and civic circles, announced this week his impending retirement from business because of declining health. He experienced a serious illness several weeks ago.

Mr. Bridgers is offering for sale the business started following World War II and operated under the name of Home Builders Corporation. Included is a dry kiln and a large steel building housing a shop adjacent to the Norfolk Southern Railroad.

Because he has been advised not to climb stairs, he is also offering for sale his two-story home on Highway 64 at the town limits. He plans to build a new one-story home on other property he owns.

Mr. Bridgers first came to Zebulon as proprietor of Little River Ice Company, manufacturing ice in the mill building at Little River later used by A. D. Privette for his corn meal mill. Subsequently



R. H. Bridgers

the business grew, and a large plant was constructed in the Town of Zebulon, still in use by his successor.

He later operated the Zebulon Gin Company, and organized with C. V. Whitley, Dr. C. E. Flowers,

and Z. J. Robertson, the Home Builders Corporation, initially to help relieve the local housing situation. He subsequently acquired the stock of the other incorporators.

Wide Field of Service

Mr. Bridgers has served on virtually every local civic board since he came to Zebulon. He is both a former Mayor and former member of the Board of Commissioners. Prior to his last term as Mayor, he was a member of the Wakelon School Board, and he has served both as Worshipful Master of the local Masonic lodge and as president of the Zebulon Rotary Club. He was chairman of the building committee of the Methodist Church when the new church was built here.

One of the organizers of the Zebulon Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Bridgers has four daughters and one son, all married except the youngest daughter, Linda, a junior at Meredith College.