

CARTERET COUNTY NEWS-TIMES

10c

Astronomical Data

Sun Sets Tonight 7:23 p.m.
Sun Rises Tomorrow 5:04 a.m.
Moon Rises Today 12:38 p.m.
Moon Sets Tonight at Midnight.

A Merger of THE BEAUFORT NEWS (Established 1912) and THE TWIN CITY TIMES (Established 1936)

38th YEAR—NO. 17.

BEAUFORT AND MOREHEAD CITY, NORTH CAROLINA TUESDAY, JULY 13, 1948

PUBLISHED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

Hospital Committee Requests Increase in County Funds

Owner Terms Theatre 'Total Loss'

Saturday morning's fire at the Roda theatre in Atlantic Beach has been termed "a total loss" by owner Alfred B. Cooper, who said also that part of the \$200,000 loss was covered by insurance. Mr. Cooper added that rebuilding of the theatre is under consideration.

The fire at the Roda was first discovered at 3 a.m. Saturday morning and an alarm was sent by Gerry Norris, night clerk at the Ocean King hotel, to the Morehead City fire department, which responded with one engine. Norris first learned of the fire from two unidentified girls who discovered the flame while on a beach party.

Mr. Cooper was phoned at his residence in Morehead City and he was at the scene by 3:15.

The firemen were unable to play water on the blaze, however, since there are no fire hydrants at the beach. They tried to get water from a pressure tank and some from a booster tank, and by doing this the firemen were able to prevent the fire from spreading.

A huge crowd was present, including Newman Willis, mayor of Atlantic Beach, but all were helpless because of the lack of water.

The Beaufort fire department was notified to stand by, but some time later the firemen there were advised to the contrary because it was understood that they could in no way help for lack of water.

The engine from the Morehead City fire department remained at the scene until 6 a.m.

The fire apparently was of mysterious origin, but Cooper ventured the opinion that the blaze started backstage from the curtain motor, possibly because of low voltage.

The fire traveled from backstage up to the lobby. Water was played on the ceiling of the building where the office was situated with the hope that the files housed there could be saved. All the files of the Atlantic Beach, Inc., were kept there.

Upon investigation after the fire, the files seemed to be completely lost, but it was hoped that something still could be saved. Some other articles, such as lobby furniture, were salvaged.

See THEATRE Page 8

Teen-Age Club, Under New Plan, To Use Center Three Nights Weekly

Newport Defers Budget Adoption

At the monthly meeting of Newport commissioners at the town hall Tuesday night, adoption of the new budget was postponed until the citizens of the town can meet Monday night, July 19, to discuss a rise in the Newport tax rate. The present rate is 35 cents per \$100.

Clarence Millis, street commissioner who was appointed to head a committee to investigate the street lighting situation in Newport, reported that he had not yet completed his investigation. This matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

Among the things accomplished Tuesday was the making of the privilege tax list for the year May 31, 1948, to May 31, 1949. The commissioners also approved plans for temporary repairing of the jail.

Aside from this, routine matters were considered by the commissioners, such as the paying of monthly bills.

Tide Table

HIGH	Tuesday, July 13	LOW
1:11 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	
1:52 p.m.	8:27 p.m.	
Wednesday, July 14		
2:10 a.m.	8:32 a.m.	
2:53 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	
Thursday, July 15		
3:13 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	
3:59 p.m.	10:39 p.m.	
Friday, July 16		
4:15 a.m.	10:29 a.m.	
4:51 p.m.	11:36 p.m.	

Cafe Ownership Shared

It was erroneously reported in Friday's paper that Mrs. Otis Jefferson is sole owner of the Carolina Grill, Turner street, Beaufort. Mrs. Jefferson is part owner. Her son-in-law, Holden Ballou, who manages the cafe, holds the other half interest.

Marine Air Reserves Begin Maneuvers at Cherry Point

Ennett Says Polio Under Control

No further outbreak of infantile paralysis has occurred in Carteret county, Dr. N. Thomas Ennett, county health officer, told the News-Times today.

The condition of Jean Chadwick, 8, of Beaufort, is not good, according to reports from the family, Jasper Lawrence, 5, of Morehead City, is reported to be in good condition. Both are in James Walker hospital, Wilmington.

The Lawrence boy has only partial use of his left arm but his condition is better than Jean's because his case is not as severe.

The Lawrence boy has lost some function of his left arm. His progress is attributed to the fact that he was less affected in the beginning.

In the meantime, Dr. Ennett warned the public against the many unfounded rumors being circulated. He reiterated his pledge of last week that the public will be kept fully informed, and stated that all cases that are even suspected as polio will be reported.

Dr. Ennett said there is no cause for alarm, but that the wise course is to lead normal life, for no restrictions will be placed on any of the populace at present.

He cautioned the public, however, against flies. Ocean and sound bathing are considered safe by most medical authorities if fatigue and chilling are avoided.

Teen-Agers, beginning Friday night, will use the Carteret Recreation center three nights a week, Mrs. Harold Sampson, director, announced today.

At present they are meeting at the center Tuesday and Saturday nights. They have decided, however, that the Friday night organization wishes to make use of the building.

Junior Teen-Agers will be permitted at Friday night's party from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Only seniors attend Saturday night's affair from 7:30 to 11.

Chaperons this Saturday night will be Mrs. E. C. Ballou and Mrs. J. Dewey Willis. Chaperons will be Mrs. Mort Davis, Mrs. George Lawrence, Mrs. Leroy Guthrie, Mrs. Morris Lewis, Mrs. R. C. Blanchard, and Mrs. Pete Block.

The Margaret Rose dancing class will meet at the center at 9:30 tomorrow morning and the Women's club antique show will be held there Thursday and Friday. Proceeds from the Thursday luncheon will go to the recreation center which will also receive a percentage of the profit on antique sales, Mrs. Sampson said.

For the Rotary club boat sail Thursday night, mothers of Teen-Agers and others interested in seeing the recreation center maintained are helping to prepare food. Among these are Mrs. Russell Willis, Mrs. Vernon Guthrie, Mrs. Blanchard, Mrs. Block, and Mrs. Gordon Willis.

The Telephone Pioneers, approximately 150, will meet at the recreation center at 9 o'clock Friday morning. In charge of this meeting is L. A. Daniels, manager of the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph company here.

A home demonstration meeting will be held there at 10 o'clock Friday morning, Mrs. Sampson also reported.

Mothers of Teen-Agers who have donated food for dinners and luncheons at the center are Mrs. Leroy Guthrie, Mrs. E. Oglesby, Mrs. Bob Lowe, Mrs. R. T. Willis, Jr., Mrs. R. T. Bowers, Mrs. Ethan Davis, Mrs. Stacey Davis, Mrs. Herman Guthrie, Mrs. Milton Webb, Mrs. Linwood Brinson, Mrs. Bill Flowers, and Mrs. Buck Mat. See TEEN-AGERS Page 8

Increased aerial activity over the Carteret coast can be expected this week and next as Marine Air Reserves assemble for their annual two-week maneuvers.

Approximately 2,000 reserves were flown to Cherry Point Saturday in the 59 planes of the combined transport squadrons. Also flown in were more than 185 Marine Corsairs.

While at the air station the Reserves will conduct simulated combat maneuvers, including dive bombing, rocket firing, and gunnery. The Reserves will work also with Marine ground troops at Camp Lejeune on close support problems during which mock landings will be conducted. Later in the two-week maneuvers Reserve pilots with anti-aircraft batteries from Camp Lejeune will be defending the station, supported by other Reserve aircraft.

The annual Marine Air Reserve maneuvers are conducted for the purpose of keeping the "weekend warriors" in top fighting trim, to keep them indoctrinated in the latest Marine corps equipment and tactics, and to determine the rapidly with which the Reserve can be mobilized, officers explain.

Brigadier General Christian Schill, commander of the Marine Corps Air Reserve, who won fame and the Congressional Medal of Honor in Nicaragua, has brought his headquarters from the Naval Air station at Glenview, Ill., to Cherry Point and will personally direct the maneuvers.

Over 2,000 Reserves have been flown to this area from Glenview, Ill.; New York, N. Y.; Miami, Fla.; Squantum, Mass.; Norfolk, Va.; Columbus, Ohio; Grosse Ile, Mich.; Washington, D. C.; Atlanta, Ga.; and Willow Grove, Pa.

Assisting Marine transport squadron 252 in the mass air movement was a Marine transport squadron stationed at El Toro, Calif., and Navy transport squadrons.

Lt. Col. L. S. Reeve, commanding officer of Marine transport squadron, is leading squadron, while Lt. Col. Frank Payne, of the Marine transport squadron at El Toro is in charge of coordinating the movement of the Reserves.

Collision Causes \$1,300 Damage

An estimated \$1,300 damage was the result of an accident at 6:30 Friday night east of Beaufort on highway 70 when a Royal Crown Cola truck from New Bern and a '46 Chrysler collided.

W. Wallace, 57, driver of the Chrysler, escaped with bruises and Randolph Watts, 28, sustained a slight hand injury, according to M. V. Hooper, state patrolman who arrived on the scene shortly after the accident.

The cola truck, following the collision, proceeded eastward on the highway until it overturned in a ditch, spilling a full load of soft drinks.

Watts faces charges of drunken driving, hit and run, and careless and reckless driving.

Officers Make Three Arrests Sunday Morning

M. M. Ayscue, ABC officer, and Deputy Sheriff Murray Thomas arrested three men at 7:30 Sunday morning on route 101 and are holding them now on charges of violating the whiskey law.

All three are being held under \$100 bond each and are docketed for trial in this morning's recorder's court. Sam Hedgemon is charged with transporting non-tax-paid whiskey. Mathew Collins and McKinley Smith, traveling with Hedgemon, are charged with aiding and abetting in transportation of non-tax paid whiskey.

The men were driving a pulpwood truck belonging to Joe Bate-man, who, however, said he did not know it was in the hands of the three Negroes who were on their way to Beaufort, according to Officer Ayscue.

The three defendants are residents of the Laurel road and North River section.

Negro Knifes Wife During Argument

Hattie Miller, Negro, wife of Bennie Miller, migrant worker from Florida, was seriously knifed by her husband at 10 o'clock Sunday night near Beaufort cany, according to reports from Beaufort police today.

The woman is reported to be in good condition at Morehead City hospital where she was taken Sunday night by Officer Carlton Garner.

Miller, her husband, 25 years old, was being sought by police yesterday. The Millers lived in shack No. 1 on the old Webster Gibbs property, North River road. Neighbors said the knifing occurred during an argument.

According to police, Miller used a sharp instrument, a knife or razor, putting a 10-inch gash in his wife's right shoulder. He also slashed her across the chest.

Chamber Labels Thursday M' Day

Thursday has been designated as "M" Day. MOVE AHEAD WITH MOREHEAD CITY, by the Chamber of Commerce.

Approximately 50 Chamber of Commerce members will meet at the Port Macon hotel for breakfast at 8 o'clock Thursday morning. George Ball, chairman of the chamber's membership committee, states that at this time two-man teams will be designated to contact those who have not yet filled in and returned their membership cards for the 1948-49 fiscal period of the Chamber of Commerce.

It is estimated that each team will be asked to devote only a very short time to accomplish their goal and that by so handling the matter, no great deal of time or effort will be required of any one individual in order to complete the chamber's membership for the current year.

Dr. John W. Morris, Chamber of Commerce president for this year reports that first tabulation of the returns of this year's cards and checks is highly satisfactory. Dr. Morris believes that the most excellent summer business season has been in no small part due to the efforts of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce and that this fact, plus the gratifying business enjoyed thus far this year will result in the most efficient and effective program yet undertaken by this organization.

Crops Wither In Summer Heat

Dry weather of the past several weeks has caused unestimated damage running into thousands of dollars in Carteret county, R. M. Williams, county farm agent, revealed today.

Damage to tobacco alone amounts to at least 25 per cent he said because of lack of moisture. More damage is being done to the plants he said by the tobacco flea beetle.

Farmers in the eastern section of the county where sweet potatoes are grown have been unable to set out plants due to dryness of the soil. Unless copious rain descends within the next few days, plants not set by July 20 can not be set at all.

Army worm is laying waste large areas of the hay fields throughout the county, Mr. Williams continued.

Corn, he said, while also suffering from lack of rain, is fairly free from parasitical attack.

L. D. Gore Heads Morehead Rotary

Club Installs New Officers, Will Go on Boat Trip Thursday

Morehead City Rotarians installed their new official family at their regular weekly meeting Thursday at the Carteret County Recreation center.

Past President Alvah Hamilton turned the gavel over to Lou Gore, president for the current year and was in turn presented the past president's pin as a token of his accomplishments as president for the year just past. In presenting the award Harvey Joslyn called attention to the good works that the outgoing president had brought about during his tenure of office.

The new officers include L. D. Gore, president, George McNeill, vice-president, and Delfido Cordova, secretary-treasurer. Directors for the 1948-49 period are George R. Wallace, John Morris, H. S. Gibbs, H. L. Joslyn and Mayor George Dill.

Committee chairman are Stanley Woodland, club service; W. C. Carlton, vocational service; John Axtell, community service; Kenneth Prest, international service; Gordon Willis, fellowship; Darcia Eure, Boy Scout and classification; Robert Taylor, music; Bob Lowe, program and public information; Clyde Jones, youth service; James Morrill, attendance; and Alvah Hamilton, Rotary in formation. John E. Bridgers is sergeant-at-arms.

To inaugurate a program of fellowship and service, the Rotarians will be the guests of Charles W. Bennett at its regular meeting next Thursday night for a cruise aboard his yacht. The group will board the craft at the yacht basin at 5 p.m. Thursday for an evening's trip and supper will be served aboard by Mrs. Harold Sampson and the women assisting her in the interests of the Teen Age club. Rotary's dinners for the month of July are under the auspices of this group in order to help increase the funds for the benefit of Teen-agers.

Aero Club Spends Weekend on Coast

More than 50 members of the N. C. Aero club, their wives and guests, descended upon Morehead City airport between 2 o'clock Friday afternoon and sundown. Earl Taylor and his staff extended them a warm welcome, climaxed by a cocktail party in the late afternoon. The guest roster included the names of practically all of the leading figures in private aviation in North Carolina.

Taylor and his associates provided transportation for those who did not have automobiles available. Some of the party had arranged to visit with friends here, but the majority made reservations to spend the night at Atlantic Beach.

The Carolina Racing association was host to the group at the race track Friday night. All of the facilities of the club house were made available to the party, gratis, and a cordial invitation was extended to them to the track Saturday night for another visit.

Management of the Surf club, Atlantic Beach's leading night spot, likewise asked that members of the tour be their guests at any time during their visit to the Carteret coast.

The group left Morehead Saturday morning to fly to Ocracoke where they were the guests of the Wahab enterprises for a noontime barbecue luncheon.

Attendance far surpassed that of last year, which was the first such tour the association attempted. Plans are being made for another next year.

Commerce Directors To Meet at Noon Today

The regular monthly meeting of the board of directors of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Carteret County Recreation center today at 12:45 p.m. Mrs. Harold Sampson, club director, will serve a buffet lunch. Proceeds will go to the Teen-Age club.

County Charges Run Hospital Into Debt, Group Says

S. A. Chalk, Sr., head of the Morehead City hospital board and a committee from the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce yesterday requested county commissioners to increase the amount of funds for caring for indigent persons who are hospitalized.

The commissioners told Mr. Chalk and the committee that no increases could be made in this year's budget which was officially adopted at yesterday's meeting.

The only suggestion commissioners could offer for increasing the amount of funds was to apportion part of the Newport and Beaufort ABC revenue to the hospital.

Mr. Chalk declared that it was unfair for Morehead City taxpayers to bear the expense of supporting the hospital when patients unable to pay their bills come to the hospital not only from Morehead but all sections of the county.

Dr. K. P. B. Bonner, chairman of the board, in reply to Mr. Chalk's suggestion that the tax rate or evaluation be raised to meet costs of hospitalizing indigent patients, replied flatly that the board would not consider such a move and offered two suggestions: change the ABC bill so that 2 1/2 per cent of each town's liquor store revenue goes to the county and the county will then divert it to support of the hospital, or make the hospital a county institution.

James Potter, auditor, pointed out that several years ago a bill was drawn whereby the three towns would share in support of the hospital. Beaufort and Newport agreed but Morehead City balked, he said.

In recent legislatures, H. S. Gibbs, Sr., Carteret county's representative, declared that he would not introduce any similar bill unless the mayors and boards of each town approved, Dr. Bonner said.

Dr. L. W. Moore, representing hospital interests, wanted to know why Mr. Gibbs took that stand on the matter. No answer was immediately forthcoming and it was finally ventured that the representative evidently didn't want to "jeopardize his political career."

Mr. Chalk said that within the past 20 years \$40,000 in uncollected bills has piled up. Poor patients did not pay their bills and relatives of patients won't pay them, he declared.

Dr. Bonner pointed out that within the 12 months prior to May of this year, the hospital received \$7,400 from ABC funds, or approximately \$15,000 in the past two years.

The chairman of the hospital board pointed out, however, that the cost of treating a patient has risen tremendously, until now it averages \$11.88 per day.

The group decided that revision of the ABC bill would probably be the most likely solution. They see COMMITTEE Page 8

Lack of Water Spelled Destruction at Roda Fire

By John Havas
The whole tragedy of the Roda theatre at Atlantic Beach can be summed up with the words—lack of water.

Firemen were at the scene and others were standing by, but all were helpless as the leaping flames gutted the once-beautiful theatre because firefighters were unable to obtain sufficient water to keep the damage at a minimum.

They were, however, able to keep the fire from spreading.

The scene of the fire after the engine of the Morehead City fire department left was a pathetic one. Charred walls stood ruined. The theatre was a shadow of its former beauty—a miniature Pompeii. Roofless, the structure gave entrance to a brilliant sun which highlighted the costly and handsome murals that had enhanced the interior. The murals now had a different beauty.

Mobile Wade Rates Unique Nomination

Levi Knowles, of Rose Hill, N. C., was a sick man until about the middle of yesterday afternoon.

On Sunday's visit here he had 28 one hundred dollar bills in his wallet—but on his way home he discovered that the wallet and \$2,800 were gone.

Today he's deeply indebted to Mobile Wade, Morehead City, who found the wallet at Atlantic Beach, and turned it over to Mayor Newman Willis. Several Morehead City citizens, and undoubtedly, Mr. Knowles, who gave Wade a handsome reward, are ready to nominate the wallet-finder for the year's top honors in honesty.

Mayor Dismisses Accident Cases

Two motor vehicle accidents headed the docket yesterday afternoon in mayor's court, Morehead City. Both were dismissed.

One case was an accident that took place Friday afternoon at 12:15 in front of the First-Citizens Bank and Trust company on Arndell street. A truck backing out of a parking space collided with an automobile driven by Mrs. Beatrice Hamid, a visitor from Massachusetts.

Mayor George W. Dill found reasonable doubt of negligence on the part of the defendant, Lawrence Vickers, the driver of the truck, and so dismissed the case and advised the principals that the case would have to be taken to a civil court for payment of damages.

The other accident took place on the corner of 6th and Bridges streets 8 a.m. Friday morning. An automobile driven east on Bridges street by Roy Thomas Dickerson collided at the Sixth street intersection with a car driven by Lawrence Gates.

Mr. Gates' son, Bobby, 6, had his front teeth knocked out and his lip split.

Mayor Dill could find no negligence on the part of either party and told both that the case would have to be settled out of the municipal court.

Thomas Anderson Liston, Cherry Point, and Eric Tilley, Jr., Hillsboro, both paid \$15 fines and \$5 court expenses for speeding. Both pleaded guilty.

The case against James Harold Wade, accused of peeping, was continued until next week because the principal witness, Paul Cleland, had not been notified to appear in court and was not present at the proceedings.

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Workmen appeared soon on Saturday morning and began the task of taking the theatre—a \$200,000 wreck—away in sections.

Nothing pointed up the tragedy more than did a lone fabric sign, hanging askew from the ruins with its ironic message, "It's Cool Inside."

Expensive upholstery had given way to licking flames, but the charred frames of seats stood firm as before, empty and awaiting a phantom audience.

Power Survey Reveals Problem In Transmission

Company Plans to Install Larger Transformers, 'Adequate' Wiring

Spasmodic power service in the county has been traced by Tide Water Power company officials to a transmission problem rather than a shortage of power, according to a report received late Thursday from the company.

The most urgent need, it was discovered during a survey last week, is for larger transformers. These are available, the report continues, and will be installed immediately.

Commercial and residential consumer problems have been the result also of inadequate wire, A. E. Jones, vice-president of the company said in the report and correction of this condition should go a long way in solving the voltage problem, he commented.

Mr. Jones again described the company's plans for installation of a 33,000 volt line from Cherry Point by way of route 101. This line, to be completed in March, will terminate at Beaufort where specifications call for a sub-station equipped in the same manner as the present Morehead City plant.

The line from Cherry Point via the Steel Bridge road will be linked with the line which now comes through Newport by a 33,000 volt line across the causeway between the two towns. Either arm of this loop circuit will be capable of sustaining the full load for both communities and the eastern part of the county.

The power company has suggested that Morehead City hospital install auxiliary equipment to provide emergency power for the operating room, exits, and incubators, pointing out that this is standard practice in hospitals throughout the county.

As soon as transformers are available, a 33,000 volt substation will be constructed near Newport, Mr. Jones said. This will relieve the present Newport circuit of about 450 KVA which can then be diverted to other uses. At present this power is supplied from the Morehead City substation.

The company's vice-president stated that Tide Water will continually strive to improve its service in this area.

Davis Legion Post To Repair School

The county board of education at its monthly meeting Tuesday, granted the Willis Murphy post No. 295, Davis American Legion, permission to repair the school house at Davis and supervise its use until otherwise notified by the board.

The Davis school house will no longer be used because of a reduction in teacher allotment. Pupils which would have gone to the Davis school this fall will go to Smyrna.

Frank Hunt, commander of the Willis Murphy post, and Irvin Davis, both of Davis, appeared before the board and requested permission to use the building.

The Legion post, according to Commander Hunt, plans to hold its meetings there. It will also be used for other community functions at the distinction of Legionnaires.

It was agreed by the board that unless repairs were made immediately the building would soon become worthless.

Elections Board Abolishes Long Pine Precinct

The widely-scattered Long Pine voting precinct in the Open Grounds section of the county will be abolished, according to a recent decision by the Carteret County Board of Elections.

The highest number of votes cast by Long Pine residents in the May primary were 14 and in the last five primary and general elections so few votes came in that the board has determined the cost not justified by the results.

Thus Long Piners have been asked to transfer their registrations to Wire Grass, Beaufort or Bettie.

Officials, Committee to Dine
Tide Water Power company officials will entertain the Beaufort power committee at a luncheon at the Blue Ribbon club at 12:30 today.

Court Receipts Total \$4,651
A. H. James, clerk of superior court, told the county board in its July meeting yesterday the receipts in the clerk's office during June totaled \$4,651. From recorder's court receipts were \$3,876, superior court, \$676, and probate fees totaled \$65.