

# CARTERET COUNTY NEWS-TIMES

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## Fisheries Specialist Writes On State's Shrimp Industry

Carter Broad, shrimp specialist with the Institute of Fisheries Research, Morehead City, has recently written a resume of the shrimp industry in North Carolina.

This report, printed below, will appear as a bulletin from the institute in the near future and will be sent to shrimp fishermen and others engaged in the fishing industry, according to Dr. William Ellison, director of the fisheries institute, which is a branch of the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Broad's article, "The Shrimp Industry of North Carolina," follows:

The shrimp industry, which is the third most important fishery from the viewpoint of dollar value in the State of North Carolina, is of comparatively recent origin. Before 1908 the amount of shrimp landed and the money paid for them was insignificant as compared to the returns of other fishing activities. Shrimp were ordinarily taken by cast nets and set nets. The year 1908 saw the introduction of the otter trawl which enabled the shrimp fishermen to go after the shrimp rather than wait for the shrimp to come to them. Before this time an average of about 118,000 pounds of shrimp were taken annually in North Carolina, with an average value to the fishermen of about 4 cents a pound.

With the introduction of the trawl there was a substantial increase in pounds landed, but a decrease in value. By 1918 the catch totaled 940,000 pounds and was valued at \$23,400. The shrimp industry as we know it today is new in these waters. It came with the war years. During the two years 1942-44 there were 5,900,000 pounds of shrimp landed at an average value of 10 cents per pound. In 1944, there were nearly 7,000,000 pounds landed with an average value of 20 cents. In 1946-48 there were about 10,000,000 pounds landed with an average value of about 30 cents. For this period, the total value was over three million dollars. Only menhaden, as a species, outrank

shrimp in dollar value in North Carolina fisheries.

This increase in the production of shrimp has not been due to the sudden appearance of shrimp in these waters. They have probably always been in North Carolina waters in abundance. The first impetus given to shrimp fishing was the otter trawl. The second, and perhaps the most important, was the market demand. This accounts for the large increase over the past ten years. To North Carolina the shrimp represents a valuable asset as a food fisheries product and a tremendous economic asset to the fishing interests. Whereas food fish and menhaden individually outrank shrimp in dollar value, substantial capital is required on the part of the fishermen to go after such fish on a large scale basis. For the smaller, independent operator, shrimp offers an ideal means of income. During the shrimp season both regularly employed and casual fishermen can realize considerable income. The remainder of the year the casual fisherman may fish for food fish, go farming, oystering or practice carpentry or other trades.

Recognizing the value and importance of the shrimp industry to the State of North Carolina, the legislature, urged on by far-seeing individuals in the industry, appropriated \$50,000 for a shrimp survey of our coastal waters. The primary purpose of this survey was to locate, if possible, the hiding place of the shrimp after it left the sound waters, to explore and survey the fishing grounds, and to mark hazards to trawling which are destructive of gear and bring about increased production costs. A parallel program, undertaken by the Institute of Fisheries Research and financed by the Institute, with no drain on the survey appropriation, extends this study into the sound regions. Investigators stationed at important shrimping ports collected statistics during the past shrimping season which, it is hoped, will throw light on the movements, migration, nurseries, growth rates and general

habits of the shrimp. Simultaneously with these land observations, investigations have been carried out in the sound waters to accumulate hydrographic data which may help explain the causes of shrimp movements. The co-ordination of the off-shore work with the inshore work should give to the fishermen of North Carolina a picture of the life and habits of the shrimp which will enable them to fish more successfully and at the same time to protect this valuable fishery.

In North Carolina four species of shrimp are taken commercially, two of these being common and one uncommon. Many names are applied to these shrimp in different localities; the most generally accepted names for the common shrimps are white or green shrimp and brown or grooved shrimp. The less common species are usually lumped with the browns, although one of them is sometimes recognized by a brown spot on either side of the tail and is known as the brown spotted shrimp or channel shrimp.

Apparently, the composition of given shrimp population, as regards species, is determined by measurable environmental factors. With fuller understanding of the factors involved, it may be possible, within limits, to predict where and when each type of shrimp will occur. In June brown spotted, or channel shrimp, were taken in Core and Back Sounds, often in channel nets. In late July and August brown shrimp were abundant in Pamlico Sound. The spring or summer fishery off Southport was for brown shrimp with brown-spotted shrimp appearing occasionally. The fall fishery at Southport was for green shrimp. With the studies made this year taken in conjunction with those to be made in 1949 it is likely that the appearance and probable abundance of shrimp may be predicted for 1950.

The life history of the green shrimp is better understood than that of other species. This shrimp See SHRIMP Page 8

## Mother, Son Hurt In Auto Accident

Total Damage to Three Cars Involved Amounts to More Than \$1,000

Mrs. I. W. Woodard and her son, Lewis, 13, Beaufort, were reported yesterday to be recovering from injuries received in an automobile accident Saturday night on the Beaufort-Morehead City causeway.

Mrs. Woodard received a gash on her forehead and Lewis, who was knocked unconscious, was bruised about his chin and left eye.

According to State Highway Patrolman M. V. Hooper, Mrs. Woodard, proceeding west from Beaufort, attempted to make a left turn approximately 500 yards west of the road to Piver's Island.

Patrolman Hooper reported that Mrs. Woodard said she thought a car driven by Allen Lupton, proceeding east to Beaufort, was farther away than it was. The Lupton car, a '42 Buick, crashed into the '40 Dodge driven by Mrs. Woodard.

Another car, a '41 Mercury, behind the Dodge, could not stop and ran into the back of Mrs. Woodard's car. This car was driven by William Laughinghouse, Highland Park.

Because of heavy rain, driving conditions were hazardous at the time of the accident, which was a joint 7 p.m.

Estimated damage to the Dodge was between \$550 and \$600, to the Buick, \$500, and to the Mercury, \$40.

## Harold Sampson Serves As MC

Harold Sampson, as master of ceremonies at the Morehead City Rotary club's Christmas party Thursday night, performed tricks, led singing contests, and conducted humorous quizzes. The party was held at the Blue Ribbon club, following a steak dinner.

The Christmas message from the club president, Lou Gore, was the following poem, slight variations on Moore's famous "Twas the Night Before Christmas":

Who Says There Ain't No Santa Claus?

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. The stockings were hung by the chimney with care in the hopes St. Nicholas would soon be there. The children were nestled all snug in their beds while visions of sugar plums danced in their heads. And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap had just settled our brains for a long winter's nap. When out on Evans Street there arose such a clatter I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash. Fore open the shutters and threw up the sash. The moon on the crest of a lot of street paving machinery gave a luster of mid-day to all of the scenery. My wondering eyes nearly bulged out of bounds as they sighted a sleigh and eight beautiful greyhounds. With a little old driver, so lively and quick, I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick. More rapid than eagles his couriers they came and he whistled, and shouted, and called each by name. "Now, Kolaka! Now Technicolor! Shifty Sue and Bad Pete! Oh, Cindy Jones! On Razz Hound! Miss Zipp and Captain Squeak! To the end of the street, clear down to the wall! We're paving this street—and we're paving it all! As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly, too many cars have hit these obstacles and bounced to the sky! Many letters to Santa have said "please pave our street,"—But I couldn't have done it, except my greyhounds are fleet!" He turned in his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle. And down that part of Evans street already paved they glided like a thistle. But I heard him exclaim, ere he drove out of sight "Happy Christmas and good driving, and to all a good night!"

## Teen-Agers Experience Festive Season at Recreation Center

## Last Call Sounded For Xmas Mailing

Last call was sounded yesterday by Postmaster Harold Webb, Morehead City, to have Christmas cards and gift parcels delivered to cities any distance by Christmas Day.

Emphasizing that only four days remain until Christmas, the local postmaster warned late mailers that air mail and air parcel post facilities should be used exclusively. Otherwise, due to the unprecedented volume of mail now in transit, gifts traveling by slower methods face the probability of not reaching their destination in ample time.

He pointed out that mail going by air will reach any city in the United States overnight, and in some instances will reach overseas points in 24 hours, particularly to United States possessions and territories as well as Canada, Mexico and Cuba.

There is an average lapse of only seven seconds between landings or takeoffs of scheduled mail planes flying over the 127,000 miles of domestic routes, according to Postmaster Webb, while overseas bound planes leave every 30 minutes.

The local postmaster estimated that since Dec. 15 more than 95,408 greetings have been handled at the post office.

## W. J. Hardesty, Newport, Elected as Committeeman

W. J. Hardesty, Newport, RFD, has been elected Carteret county committeeman of the Lower Neuse Soil conservation district. Roy Beck, soil conservationist, has announced. He will serve a three year term.

Other soil conservation committeemen are Lawrence Garner, Newport who has a two-year term to complete and Carl W. Garner, Newport, who has a one-year term to finish.

This committee will meet within the next two weeks to elect one of their number to the district board of supervisors of Lower Neuse Soil Conservation district.

## Next Issue NEWS-TIMES Will Appear Thursday

To give Carteret County NEWS-TIMES employees a Christmas vacation, Friday's paper will go to press Wednesday night and will be distributed Thursday.

That issue will carry Christmas stories, church programs, and Christmas greetings from the merchants and business houses to residents of Carteret county and other wide-flung areas served by THE NEWS-TIMES and many of these same merchants will help last-minute shoppers with ads containing Christmas gift suggestions.

Next week the two regular editions of THE NEWS-TIMES will be combined in one edition and delivered Friday morning, Dec. 31.

The two NEWS-TIMES offices, 120 Craven street, Beaufort, and 807 Evans street, Morehead City, will be closed from Thursday noon, Dec. 23, until 7 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29.

## Rufus Oglesbys Win Farm Contest

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Oglesby of Crab Point, have been announced as winners in the 1948 Better Farming for Better Living contest sponsored annually in this county by Tide Water Power company.

A \$25 prize will be presented to Mr. and Mrs. Oglesby, James Davis chairman of the Carteret committee, stated yesterday.

The Better Farming for Better Living program is sponsored by the power company to promote progress in the rural life of country residents.

On their farm this year the Oglesbys produced tobacco, truck crops, peanuts, corn, wheat, oats, Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, hogs, and poultry.

Other families in the county which received recognition in the program were Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Piner, Straits, Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Gooding, highway 70 east of Beaufort, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. McCabe, Fordwood, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Gillikin, Bettie, Mr. and Mrs. Dyer Simpson, Bettie, and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Oglesby, Crab Point, who were last year's winners.

## Tide Table

HIGH	Tuesday, Dec. 21	LOW
12:00 AM		5:49 AM
12:02 PM		6:33 PM
Wednesday, Dec. 22		
12:36 AM		6:32 AM
12:56 PM		7:29 PM
Thursday, Dec. 23		
1:35 AM		8:01 AM
1:57 PM		8:27 PM
Friday, Dec. 24		
2:40 AM		9:11 AM
2:59 PM		9:25 PM

## CROP Car Leaves County Today

From North Carolina to Europe's Needy



DURHAM—The children shown above in a German kindergarten were once too hungry and ill to go to school. Now they are eating food contributed by American farmers. They are well and happy. To such as these, in dozens of different countries, a major part of the farm commodities, now being contributed to the North Carolina CROP food train, will go.

## THE SIDEWALK SKIPPER

Still another chapter in the "Carolina Shrimp vs. Virginia fish" story comes with the announcement by Roy Hampton, head of North Carolina's Division of Commercial Fisheries, that "exhaustive studies now under way should reveal definitely how much damage the North Carolina shrimp trawlers are doing to Virginia's seafood industry."

Speaking to fisheries officials of North Carolina and Virginia at a recent meeting held at the Chamberlain Hotel in Newport News, he pointed out the importance of the shrimp industry to North Carolina and said that he doubted the importance of fish destroyed and that a great number of those destroyed were no doubt predators of food fish or trash fish to begin with. Reports on the amount of fish destroyed, he stated, he believes to be "grossly exaggerated."

Other speakers on the program included Captain John Nelson, North Carolina commissioner of fisheries; William Ellison, director of the N. C. Fisheries Laboratory; Charles M. Lanford, Virginia commissioner of fisheries; Captain G. Alvin Massenburg, of Hampton, speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates, and David Agnew, manager of the oil pollution program of the Hampton Roads Sanitation Commission.

Mr. Hampton, Captain John, and Mr. Ellison, made the trip to Virginia Trawlers Corporation.

Commissioner Langford, speaking whimsically, said that he hoped that "North Carolina will soon change its shrimp nets so that some, at least, of the small fish will get to Virginia." There followed a discussion between Captain Massenburg and Captain Nelson of the manner in which regulations having the effect of laws are made in the two states. The Virginia Commission, it was pointed out, is limited by statute in this respect while, under the existing North Carolina law, either Captain John or Mr. Hampton can give out a regulation as he sees it.

Hampton city councilman John R. Lawson discussed the decline in the number of fish caught in the last few years and asked co-operation in solving this problem. It is his opinion that shrimping activities in North Carolina are "largely responsible" and he stated that commercial fishermen agree with him in the matter.

"There have been quarrels between those engaged in the different types of fishing as long as I can remember," Captain John countered. Continuing, he told of the volume of shrimp business here and made the statement that the shrimpers "don't kill as much fish as summer pound nets."

Bill Ellison expressed the hope that "this will be the first of a long series of meetings" for the purpose of bringing about better understanding and cooperation between seafood industries of the two states. Dr. Nelson Marshall, who has been a visitor in this area several times, predicted "some rather active investigation of shrimp practices this coming summer."

Another point of interest made by Roy Hampton was to the effect that the appropriations by state and federal governments in the interest of the seafood industry have been "a meager pittance" compared with what has been done for agriculture. The reason for that, he believes, is that enough has not been demanded—"Our own fish-

Carteret county's box car of food for Europe was sealed early this morning and will leave for Norfolk following the dedication service at 10 this morning at S. M. Jones' warehouse, east of Gaskill's feed store on the Lennoxville road.

B. J. May, Beaufort, will convey his personal thanks to all who participated and cooperated in the drive. Food was collected from the various stores and churches in Beaufort and Morehead City Friday and Saturday and was packed Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Clyde Jones, of Clyde Jones Gas and Appliance company, donated the use of his trucks Saturday morning. Driver was Johnny Morton, Morehead City.

Carteret Hardware company, Beaufort, contributed the use of its truck, driven by Eugene Ratcliffe, Saturday afternoon.

Grocery stores in Beaufort that cooperated in the program were Potter's Grocery, C. D. Jones company, A. & P., Fender's, and Peterson's grocery.

Stores in Morehead City were B. & H. grocery, Dixon's, Edger-ton's, Freeman Brothers, Kato's Market, L. & W. Food store, Morehead City Grocery, J. S. Parker, Reams market, Roberts Grocery, Stroud's food center, Willis grocery and Market, and W. P. Freeman Wholesale company which contributed 20 cartons of cranberry sauce.

The invocation at the dedication service tomorrow will be given by the Rev. W. L. Martin, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church, and Stanley Woodland, Morehead City, speaker for the occasion, will be introduced by Mr. May, chairman of the drive in Beaufort. The Rev. W. D. Caviness, pastor of Franklin Memorial Methodist church, will give a short human interest story, and Rev. L. A. Tilley, pastor of the First Methodist church, Morehead City, will pronounce the benediction.

The service will be held outdoors, weather permitting, and in the warehouse if it is raining.

## Clubs To Give Decoration Prizes

Numerous outdoor home Christmas decorations went up this past week and will offer lots of material for judging on Christmas Eve in Morehead City. Bobby Bell, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Christmas activities committee, commented yesterday.

Three members of the Beaufort Junior Woman's club judged store window displays in Beaufort last night. Announcement of the winners will be made in Friday's paper.

Outdoor home decorations in Beaufort will be judged tomorrow night by the Junior Woman's club which is giving a first prize, in each instance, of \$5.

The awards in Morehead City, to be made by the Jaycees, will be first and second prize for the most beautiful, and first and second prize for the most original. These prizes will total \$30 in cash.

## Newport Wins Over Arapahoe

Newport high school boys' team earned a hard-won victory over Arapahoe high school Wednesday night at Newport, 47-37.

Arapahoe was early to gain the lead in the first quarter, but in the second Newport took command of the court. Newport took a 10-point lead and kept it throughout the game.

Koontz and Diffe, were high scorers for the winners with 13 points each. Koontz thrilled the spectators with a hook shot from the corner, and Phillips, guard, the fast-breaking ball thief, racked up 8, Culbreth, forward, 10, Gray, guard, 2, for the losers, Hall, forward, was high with 10 points, Banks, center, 8, Brinson, forward, 7, and Roberts, guard, with 5.

Arapahoe high girls defeated Newport 39-24. It was a fast game with most of the players on both starting line-ups fouling out.

For the winners Bland was high scorer with 4 points and Shinc with 10 for the losers. Quinn had 8, Garner 15, and Hopkins, 1 point.

## Athletic Group Hears Opinion Of State Attorney

Harry McMullan Says He Believes Action of Legislature Necessary

The state attorney general, Harry McMullan, in reply to Wiley Taylor, Jr., attorney for the Beaufort Athletic association, has stated that the legislature would have to specifically authorize the execution of the lease presented to the county board of education two weeks ago by the athletic association.

Mr. McMullan commented in his letter as follows: "The statutes controlling the use of school property make no provision for the rental of same by school boards. We have written quite a number of letters in which we expressed the opinion that school authorities have no authority to rent out property belonging to the schools which would deprive the schools of use and enjoyment of the property."

Mr. Taylor pointed out that the athletic association lease stipulates that the school would not be deprived of use of the property and also mentioned that the attorney general was of a different opinion in the spring of this year.

In the magazine, Popular Government of April 1948, in answer to a question by Clyde A. Erwin, superintendent of public instruction, he said, "While I know of no statutory authority for a board of education to lease school property to an outside organization, I am inclined to the opinion that the board of education of a county could enter into an agreement with a local baseball team permitting it to use the baseball park in consideration of improvement being made thereto and with the distinct understanding that no use of the park could be had when it in any way interfered with any school activities and with the further understanding that the county board of education could cancel the agreement at any time upon notice."

Mr. Taylor said that, if necessary, they will request a special act of legislature to make it possible for the county board of education to sign the lease.

## Garment Company Closes One Week

Morehead City Garment company closed Friday to give its employees their annual one-week Christmas vacation. Work will be resumed Monday, Dec. 27.

Work ended at 2 o'clock Friday afternoon and from under a Christmas tree a present was given to each employee. Mrs. E. M. Jackson, president of the company, opened the festivities and introduced Julius Peters and Manny Kay, of New York.

Mr. Kay, who is a new partner in the firm, gave a short talk commending the employees on their year's work. He pointed out that the company's average weekly payroll is \$8,000 and that the garment company was one of the very few shirt factories in the country busy during the entire year.

This was due to the employees' skill and enthusiasm as well as the management's diligence in searching the market to learn the public's demands, according to Mr. Kay.

Following the distribution of gifts by Santa Claus, employees were given their pay checks and department heads received bonuses.

Those employees who met attendance requirements for the year also received a full week's pay for the Christmas vacation.

## 440 Motor Vehicles Go Through Inspection Lane

Four hundred forty motor vehicles had passed through inspection lane No. 36 by noon yesterday. I. O. Jones, supervisor, reported. The inspection lane is located in Morehead City on 8th street in front of the municipal building. It will close today at 1 p.m.