

Long Silence Broken! Movie Official Replies to PTAs

Letter To The Editor

THE SUPERIOR COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA
Luther Hamilton
Special Superior Court Judge
Morehead City, N. C.

To The Editor of The Carteret County News-Times:

I wish to congratulate you upon the splendid fight you are making thru the medium of your good paper to have our local theatres discontinue the practice of exhibiting gangster, murder, and other crime films on Saturdays, the days they are most available to the youngsters of our communities. As a matter of fact, it would be much better not to have them exhibited at all. Certainly there is to be found in none of them anything conducive to good citizenship.

You know, of course, that while presiding over the criminal sessions of the Superior Courts of the State we Judges have to deal with all sorts and classes of humanity, including the young as well as the old. It might be of interest to you, and to your reading public also, to know that, according to Mr. Edgar Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, we are paying annually into the coffers of the gods of crime in this country the staggering toll of seventeen billion dollars, a sum far in excess of our national food bill. It represents approximately \$32,500 a minute, or about \$550,000 a second, and which is four times more than is spent for all the cause of education in the land, and represents a levy of something like \$120.00 on each man, woman and child in the country. Moreover, it represents a murder every forty minutes, a rape or attempted rape every 44 minutes, and a felony of some sort (the kind of offense so serious that the offender may be sent to his death or the penitentiary) every 22 seconds in the day. We are told that for every boy and girl in our institutions of higher learning we have three criminals outside, that for every teacher in the public schools of the land, working on the impressionable and susceptible minds of our children, we have four criminals lying in wait to prey upon society. And saddest of all, constituting the most serious indictment against our present social order, leading this mighty throng, this vast army of criminals, are our boys and girls, still in their teenage, and in respect of numbers outranking all other classes.

For the past twelve years in particular, and in general for some years prior, I have been a keen observer of the class and type of people appearing in the criminal courts. At one week's sitting in a certain Western county, out of 66 cases there were forty some-odd of the offenders under twenty-one years of age; and repeatedly, there and elsewhere, I have had the youngsters tell me they "got the idea" from the movies. You are right; the demoralizing effect is devastating, and in the name of a more orderly and decent society it is imperative that the practice of which you complain be discontinued. The operators of their own volition should put on the ban.

Luther Hamilton

Atlantic Now Boasts Of a Musical Minister



The Rev. Robert Charles Good, pastor of the Atlantic Methodist church, is an accomplished musician. Through his music he has enlisted many in the legions for Christ, playing his autoharp, organ, and even whiskey bottles.

News-Times Photo

The autoharp is a stringed instrument, the organ a woodwind and the whiskey bottles — well, the ymighit be put in the percussion class. These he played by filling them with an amber liquid, either tea or coffee, hanging them

Beaufort Basketball Team Brings Home Winning Trophy from Wilson

Many Forest Fires Sweep Carteret

Eight Occur During Past Two Weeks, County Fire Warden Reports

Numerous forest fires have been sweeping the county during the past two weeks.

The latest was Sunday afternoon when woods at Lennoxville caught fire.

Cause of the fire was not determined. Beaufort fire department answered the alarm at 2 p. m. and left the scene at 4:30. Approximately 5 acres of timberland was severely damaged.

Flames were brought under control by back-firing and using the booster tank on one of the trucks in addition to the water supply at the Spert plant.

Two four-year-old colored lads were responsible for starting a marsh fire last Tuesday at North River. E. M. Foreman, county fire warden reported. The boys were playing with matches. In addition to the marsh grass burning, approximately 10 acres of woodland at the edge of the marsh caught fire.

The largest fire in dollars and cents damage was last Monday when 400 acres of young and merchantable timber burned at Gale's creek. This fire was quenched by rain, but damage amounted to \$3,200. Two highway patrolmen directed traffic as heavy smoke rolled across highway 24.

Mr. Foreman, his fire crewmen, O. B. Turner and Neal Chadwick, Preston Willis, of Williston, traveled 12 miles by boat Sunday, March 13, to fight a marsh fire at Long Poy. On their way home they also fought a fire at the foot of Harkers Island bridge, and another fire at Mill Creek the same day was fortunately taken care of by a national forest ranger, Mr. Foreman declared.

The boatman which took the fire fighters through Long Bay to the marsh fire was T. E. Williams, Swanton, N. C. Assisting in this job also were H. B. Burroughs, North Carolina Pulp Ranger, and his helper, Ernest (Pet) Turner, Core Creek.

A fire at Back creek Saturday, March 12, was brought under control before it damaged more than eight acres. William Brown, Rufus Brown, and E. R. Berger, residents in that vicinity, helped fight the flames.

A fire at Gale's creek Monday, March 7, caused about \$600 damage and one recently at Mansfield was brought under control before it gained headway. Flames had spread from a lime kiln.

Rotarians Hear Solicitor Bundy

Morehead City Rotarians will meet Thursday at 6:30 p. m. at the Yacht Basin to partake of one of Charlie Bennett's famed oyster roasts.

They met Thursday night at the Morehead City high school for an excellent meal prepared by Mrs. Delfido Cordova's home economics girls. Following the meal, a speech on criminal procedure was made by Solicitor William J. Bundy of Greenville.

Bundy said the basic court of our judicial system is the justice of the peace court. These courts try cases for which the penalty is no more than 30 days imprisonment or \$50 fine. He stated that he approved of the movement afoot in North Carolina to amend the present JP system.

According to Bundy, a justice of the peace compensation comes from the costs of the court and consequently the JP is interested in the outcome of the case. This practice does not make for impartial judging, said Bundy, and has led to the talk that JP stands for "Judgment for the plaintiff".

The recorder's court, the next in the judicial system, tries cases that are misdemeanors and above the jurisdiction of the JP courts. Bundy stated that a felony was a crime that was punished by a penitentiary sentence and a misdemeanor was any crime that would have to make the trip at their own expense.

Judges Select Four Winners At Talent Show

Trio, Choir, Bobby Hesse, George Washington Will Take Part in Finals

Two hundred persons turned out Thursday night at the Morehead City high school to see the second Talent Search program sponsored by the Morehead City Lions club. The crowd was rewarded with an array of talent that will give the finalists a tough time when the final program is held in the Beaufort high school auditorium April 1.

George Washington was the winner in the vocal and instrumental participants under 16 years of age. A girls' trio composed of Lois Webb, Annie Mae Willis and June Jones sang "The Voice In The Old Village Choir" and walked away with the honors in the vocal competition for those over 16.

Bobby Hesse, pianist, was the winner in the instrumental or novelty group over 16. "Romance" was the selection chosen by the Poptist Young People's choir and it proved good enough to win them the award in the chorus group. No award was made in the novelty classification under 16 group.

Other contestants were Ann Darden Welch who sang "Someday My Prince Will Come"; Rose and Fleming who played an accordion and guitar duo; Mrs. Lila Howell who sang a duet; Curtis Guthrie and Florence Ann Lewis who sang "My Happiness" accompanied by Earl Lewis; the Lions Men's chorus which sang "How Can I Leave Thee" and "Goodbye, My Love, Goodbye"; Jo Jayne Windell, pianist, who played "Melody of Love"; William Lloyd who sang "Rocked In The Cradle Of The Deep"; the Morehead City high school chorus which sang "America the Beautiful" and "Thanks Be To God"; William Norwood who gave an accordion selection; Janice Lewis who sang "Cruising Down The River"; and Imogene Norwood, pianist, who played the "Minute Waltz".

The judges were Mrs. Joseph House, Mrs. James Rumley, and Mrs. Grayden Paul, all of Beaufort.

The next Talent Search program will be held in the Newport high school auditorium tonight at 7:45 and the one following will be held at the Smyrna high school auditorium Thursday night at 7:45.

Newport Juniors To Present Play

The junior class of the Newport high school is challenging the public to find out just who or what is responsible for the weird and mysterious happenings in "The High School Mystery," a three-act mystery comedy melodrama to be presented in the Newport auditorium Friday night at 8 o'clock.

When the curtain first rises the public will wonder if it hasn't mistaken the date of pre-entation, for the boys and girls will be seen rehearsing their parts under the direction of a new drama coach. Then it will become interested in the play they are rehearsing which is suddenly stopped by the happening of a real mystery. At last it will dawn on the public that they are seeing a new thing—a novel mystery play that will continue to hold their interest.

The cast for the play is as follows: Miss Fielding—Camilla Stemberge, Laura Crowder—Iris Cannon, Dorothy Russell—Betty Jo Hill, Mary Lee—Isabel Smith, Miss Jeffries—Margaret Murdoch, Mrs. Reed—Donavene Robertson, Earl Sayles—Eddie Gray, Victor Reed—Don Koonitz, Raul Butler—J. W. Hardison, Joe—Buck Wooten, Jack Howard—Doug Phillips, Jason Shaw—Eugene Haskett.

Governor Appoints Gibbs As Delegate to Rivers, Harbors Congress April 8

Carteret county Representative H. S. Gibbs was among the 22 delegates appointed by Governor Scott Thursday to attend a national convention on rivers and harbors next month.

The convention, scheduled for April 8 and 9 in Washington, D. C. will be the 39th conducted by the National Rivers and Harbors Congress.

"Matters of interest to North Carolina to be considered by this Congress," Scott explained, "include such subjects as President Truman's budget and economic message to Congress relating to the utilization of our national resources; federal regional or valley bills introduced in the 81st Congress; ownership of submerged or tide lands; the necessity, if any, for the adoption of a federal power policy; effect of a national water pollution control act; necessity for the adoption of a national agriculture program; and other water and development programs."

Scott advised the delegates they would have to make the trip at their own expense.

Look! A Complete Page Of Pictures in This Issue

With this issue, THE NEWS-TIMES presents on page 8 a full page of pictures. This feature will continue to appear each Tuesday, upon approval of our readers, and will cover varying subjects of interest from all over the world.

This is the only feature of its type in the United States and it gives THE NEWS-TIMES great pleasure to bring it to our readers each week.

Club Presents Book, 'New World' To Public Library

The Beaufort Public Library has just received a valuable addition to its collection of books on North Carolina in the form of a gift from the Casual club of Beaufort. The Casual club has presented the library with a copy of Stephen Lorant's "The New World" in memory of Mrs. Molly Dickinson, only deceased member of the club.

Lorant's book is a compilation of early pictures of America. The pictures were all made before 1600 by explorers and artists who came to discover the new world. It also includes the text of writings made about America at that early date. Much of the book's pictures and text is concerned with this part of coastal Carolina.

Other new books in the library are: for adults—Bird Hiking by Leon Augustus Hausman; The Way To Write by Rudolf Flesch and A. H. Lass; Lonely Passage by Louisa Grace Erdman; Golden Trek by David Lavender; Justice On Hal-laddy Creek by James B. Hendrix; Championship Basketball by Adolph Rupp; Spring Is Not Gent by Kirkbride; Pony Wagon Town by Ben Riker; The Seven Stormy Mountains by B. Merton; After Midnight by Martha Albright; The Band of the Black Hills; Heaven Faces West by Miriam Young; Sheriff Wanted by Peter Field; An Act of Love by Ira Wolfert; This Is My Son by Clarence B. Kelland; The Case of the Dubious Bride; groom by Earle Stanley Gardner; The Curious Wine by Bianca Bradburn; The Happy Home by Agnes E. Benedict and Adele Franklin; Mary Wakefield Be Not Proud by John Gunther; Point of No Return by John P. Marquand; Psychology by Edna Geister; and So This Is Living by McEwen.

For teenagers and juveniles—Boys Book of Snakes by Percy A. Morris; Secret of the Bog by Eugenia Stone; Writing by Herbert S. Zim; Country Fireman by Jerrold Beim; Down in Dixie by Wilhelmina Harper.

Number Eleven Poplar Street Horse, Bill by Reese Fell Alsop; Ab Carmody's Treasure by Cyrus T. Fisher; Indians On Horseback by Alice Marriott; The First Horseman by Perry Crowell; The Engine That Lost Its Whistle by Cross; See LIBRARY Page 7

NEWS BRIEFS

Capt. John Guthrie, Morehead City, sustained a back injury in a fall on the waterfront yesterday morning and will be confined to the Morehead City hospital for several days.

Beaufort town board held a special meeting last night to appoint a registrar and judges of the May 3 election. They also considered Carolina Telephone and Telegraph company's request to lay an underground conduit on Turner street.

Beaufort Seniors To Present Play, 'Ann What's Her Name?'

The Senior class of Beaufort High school will present their annual senior play, "Ann, What's Her Name?" by Walter Ben Hart, Friday night, April 18, in the school auditorium.

The play, a three-act comedy-mystery, is well cast and offers the playgoer an evening of worthwhile entertainment, said Miss Lena Duncan, class adviser and director.

The cast is as follows: Anthony Wheat, A. C. Blankenship; Burks Clifton Lynch; Marjorie, Gerry Dickinson; Aunt Julia, Margaret Ann Windley; Mooney, Rosemary Bessent; Willie Peabody, Milton Laughton.

Doran, Alton Willis; Grandma, Betsy Jones; Louise Byers, Nova Bell; Judge Bunby, Dowd Davis; Dr. Aked, Jesse Taylor; Nancy Brown, Rosalie Chadwick. Ebenezer Whittle, Jimmy Piner; Mrs. Ebenezer Whittle, Jean Dickinson; and the two little Whites, Dottie Nelson and Ray Willis.

Worth Stewart Flies Here From Charlotte Saturday

Worth Stewart and Perry Reeves of the Charlotte office, Everett Enterprises, and Leonard Register, manager of the Beaufort and Morehead City theatres told Mrs. Ralph Eady, president of the Beaufort Parent-Teacher association Saturday afternoon that "objectionable Saturday bookings will be corrected as fast as humanly possible" and that Mr. Stewart "would do all in his power to cooperate with the PTA or any other civic organization in the communities in which they operate theatres."

Mr. Stewart and Mr. Reeves flew here from Charlotte Saturday morning and made a two-hour call on Mrs. Eady in the afternoon.

Their discussion with the PTA president was the first recognition given by theatre management to the local campaign, initiated by THE NEWS-TIMES and staged by local PTAs for abolition of murder shows on Saturdays when school children flock to the movies.

Last week the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce and Morehead City Chamber of Commerce joined in voicing protests against the gangster films, with the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce requesting comment instead of complete silence from the theatre fields.

A statement, drawn up Saturday afternoon in the presence of Mr. Stewart, Mr. Reeves and Mr. Register, was released yesterday. See REPLY Page 7

Harbors Congress Will Consider Channel Proposals

A 12-foot channel from Beaufort to Lennoxville Point is among the proposed measures slated to come before the National Rivers and Harbors Congress in Washington next month. Carteret County Representative H. S. Gibbs is among the delegates to the Congress.

Following presentation to the rivers and harbors group the United States Congress will be asked to act on the proposed channel and other measures pertaining to waterways in eastern Carolina.

Col. George W. Gillett, director of the State Ports Authority, said the rivers and harbors group is scheduled to meet in Washington April 8-9 at which time these projects along with others from throughout the nation will be placed before the Congress for consideration.

Colonel Gillette said endorsement would be asked for the proposed Beaufort-Lennoxville Point channel since army engineers have already completed studies and recommendations for it. Other projects on which studies have been completed are as follows: dredging and stabilizing Masonboro Inlet to a 12-foot depth; dredging the Cape Fear River Channel from Wilmington to the Atlantic Ocean bar from 32 to 34 feet deep; providing a 12 to 15 foot channel at Oregon Inlet; deepening the Channel thence to Manteo from six to 12 feet; a 12 foot side channel to Wanchese; and deepening of natural channels from the Pamlico Sound to Oregon Inlet.

A second group of recommendations will be filed as being worthy of consideration. This group is composed of projects, studies, and surveys which have not been completed. They are a 34-foot channel for the Morehead City Port; a new Carolina Beach Inlet near Myrtle Sound; 12 foot depth for Wallace channel; 12 foot depth for Lockwoods Folly; and 12 foot channel for the Little River Inlet.

Beaufort School Makes Good Showing at Greenville

Representatives from Beaufort high school placed well in the district music contests held in Greenville Friday. According to Mrs. C. R. Hassell, music teacher at the Beaufort school, the competition was held for schools in the B class and Beaufort actually should compete in C class contests.

Contestants were Guy Smith, baritone soloist who was rated excellent; the girl's trio composed of Ruth Whitehurst, Mary F. Paul and Marie Smith, excellent; the girl's glee club, good; the mixed glee club, good; and Neva Bell, soprano soloist, fair.

Free Chest X-Ray Campaign Comes To Successful End

Units Take 7,641 Pictures; 65 Per Cent of Persons Eligible Received Them

Carteret county's 1949 free chest X-ray campaign came to a successful close Saturday with 7,641 X-rays taken. Of this number, 3,577 were taken by the unit which covered Beaufort and the eastern part of the county and 4,064 were taken by the unit covering Morehead City and the western part of the county. Approximately 65 per cent of the persons eligible for X-rays received them.

The unit operating in Morehead City and the western part of the county was staffed by Tony Hinton of Wilmington and Elsie Lewis of Fairmont. Both of them have been working in the unit since May of last year.

Miss Margaret Robinson and Mrs. Vera L. Smith, both of Beaufort, and Mrs. Hancy Salter of Morehead City assisted as clerks in the work done by the unit. The Morehead City Jaycees also donated their time, cars, and money toward transporting residents of the county into Morehead to receive the X-rays.

The Beaufort unit was staffed by Bob Ruiz of Asheville. Clerks who assisted in the work done by the unit were Mrs. Bill Braswell, of Gaston, and Mrs. Sidney Syron, of Beaufort.

Tar Heels Afloat Plan Spring Cruise

Some 60 private yachts with 200 North Carolina boat sportsmen aboard will parade Neuse and Trent rivers from Morehead City to New Bern and Pollocksville Memorial Day week-end, May 28 through 30, in the Annual Tar Heels Afloat Spring Cruise, a renewal of the Labor Day cruise of last year.

Boats from all North Carolina ports will rendezvous at the Yacht Basin, Morehead City Saturday May 28, decorated with new pennants and lines and making formation for an early Sunday morning start. The flotilla will single-line through Inland Waterway cut and reform in parade formation off Minnesota Beach in the broad Neuse estuary.

Stopover for Sunday (May 29) night will be in the Trent above New Bern at Trent Pines club and Country Club landings. A banquet and business meeting will be held Sunday afternoon and Labor Day cruise directors will be held Sunday evening at 8 o'clock. C. F. Chapman, editor of Motorboating magazine, has been invited as speaker for the occasion, with other notables, including Governor Kerr Scott, on the invitation list.

A Memorial Day morning cruise up the Trent to Pollocksville has been planned with brief ceremonies at the inland town, and the down stream return to Morehead City with dispersement along the route and to the Basin.

Information bureaus for the cruise and for the non-profit, non-dues organization have been set up in the offices of the Chambers of Commerce in New Bern and Morehead City. Interested boatmen are invited to participate in the cruise, and to discuss the possibilities of a mass cruise this summer the entire length of the North Carolina coast.