

Willis Murder Case Expected to Go to Jury Today

Morehead City Chamber of Commerce Will Meet Next Thursday, March 30

Commissioners Appoint New Adjustment Board

Morehead City commissioners in regular session Tuesday night appointed a new adjustment board for the town. Terms of previous adjustment board members had expired.

The new board consists of Bernard Leary, Harvey Hamilton, Jr., Marion Mills, George Ball, and Robert G. Lowe. They met last night with the town board to receive instructions on their duties.

Serving on the original adjustment board were R. H. Dowdy, chairman, Col. G. D. Gamble, R. C. Fodrie, and Harold Sampson. They were appointed when the town was zoned.

Hazards Removed

Stanley Wainwright appeared before the board to request a clarification of the town's request that large trucks parked in the vicinity of his service station be moved. The commissioners informed him that the trucks were a hazard to traffic and Mr. Wainwright said he would limit the time they park to be serviced.

Alvah Hamilton, acting for the Standard Oil Company, presented a resolution asking the board's permission to build a filling station on an alley intersecting the job, bounded by South 8th st., Evans and Shepard.

Resolution Passed

The oil company own the lots on each side of the alley. Since the alley on which the station will be built has never been open as a public thoroughfare, the resolution was passed.

Mr. Conway, tombstone manufacturer from Greenville, appeared before the board in regard to a display of tombstones he has placed near the cemetery. The display is in a residential section of the town and is in violation of the town's zoning laws. With Mr. Conway was C. T. Jarvis, his representative in Morehead City.

The board withheld action on the matter, pending activation of the new adjustment board.

Also tabled was awarding of the auditing contract. The commissioners felt that the full board should act on it. Commissioner Walter Freeman was absent.

Drainage problems on Evans st. were discussed, but immediate action was not felt necessary.

Canners, Freezers Take A Look at State's Crops

Midwestern canners and freezers, eager to get closer to eastern markets, have received an invitation to move into North Carolina's farming region and sign up for the crops, as Campbell has done in New Jersey and Birds Eye-Snyder in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia.

The bid came from management consultant Richardson Wood, acting for one of his clients, the Tide Water Power company, of Wilmington. Mr. Wood sent them a brochure listing the state's crop assets. One of the largest canners promptly assigned men to investigate, according to a report in a recent issue of Newsweek magazine.

Seniors Promise Night of Fun In Staging of 'Wedding Spells'

Heart Disease, Strokes, Cancer Claim Many Victims

Heart disease, strokes, and cancer claimed the highest number of victims in Carteret county during 1949, according to the vital statistics report released this week by the health department. The total number of deaths was 163, births numbered 602.

Deaths from heart disease were 42, strokes (intracranial vascular lesions), 29, and cancer, 25. Nephritis claimed 13, auto accidents, 7; other accidents, 8; diabetes, 2; pneumonia, 3; material deaths, 1, syphilis, 2.

Tuberculosis deaths, 3; prematurity, 7; suicide, 1; miscellaneous, 20. Stillbirths numbered 12 and infant deaths, 15. These latter two classifications are not included in the 163 total.

Louis D. Gore, president of the Morehead City chamber of commerce, announced today that plans are complete for the annual banquet and business meeting of the chamber. This event is to be staged at the Blue Ribbon club Thursday, March 30, at 6:45 p. m.

The Morehead City Lions club as well as the Morehead City Rotary club have voted to meet with the Chamber of Commerce, Thursday is their regular meeting night. Dinner will be \$1.50 per plate. Cards are in the mail to members of the Morehead City chamber urging their attendance. Any others who wish, are invited to attend. Matters of considerable importance will be discussed. Mr. Gore said.

Colonel to Speak

Col. George W. Gillette, executive director of the North Carolina Ports authority will be the speaker. He will outline the progress made to date on port development at Morehead City, as well as the plans evolved by the ports authority for future development.

President Gore stated, "We have no more important project for the future of Morehead City than that proposed for the development of our port. Colonel Gillette is the man who can tell us more than any individual about what benefit we can expect to derive from the port program. It is to the interest of all to hear him."

"There should be no question as to the value of the port improvement program to our economy," continued the chamber president. "Added industrial payrolls must follow as a consequence. The flow of traffic through the port of Morehead City cannot help but bolster our annual income. These factors will be the keynote of the chamber's annual meeting."

Directors to be Elected

Business to be transacted on this occasion will not only include Colonel Gillette's report, but the election of three directors to serve for three-year periods on the board of the Morehead City chamber of commerce. Questions concerning the operation or administration of the Chamber of Commerce will be discussed. Any suggestions for the improvement of the Chamber's operation may, at this time, be presented to the membership at large, reports Robert G. Lowe, chamber manager.

The president's report for the 1949-50 fiscal period will be heard. An outline of the program of work for the new fiscal year, 1950-51 will be presented.

The absolute necessity for pre-determining the income of the Morehead City Chamber for the coming year will be pointed out. It is hoped that a reasonable estimate can be reached, commented Mr. Lowe.

Funds Essential

"It is impossible," said President Gore, "to outline a comprehensive program of work for our chamber of commerce without an accurate estimate of the amount of money available to do the job. It will not be fair to the incoming president and board, whoever they may be, to attempt to outline a program without knowing the extent to which it can be financed."

Mr. Gore further stated that it was his intention to turn over the presiding officer's chair to the incoming president with an adequate financial program.

"A program of work which will benefit the maximum number of our citizens cannot be worked out without knowledge of funds available," See MOREHEAD, Page Seven

Family Uninjured

None of the six members of the Pettway family were injured. A new dwelling place for them has not been located but firemen said construction began weeks ago on a house behind the burned home.

The signal on return of the fire trucks was rung at 9:15 p. m. Fire Chief Charles Harrell reported a good turnout of the department. At least 35 firemen were present.

Monday night at 7 o'clock firemen were summoned to Simmon's store on Turner st., to a chimney fire. No damage was caused and no water was used. Instead salt was poured down the chimney to clean it out.

Corsair Pilot Jumps To Safety Near Newport

The pilot of a Marine Corps Corsair fighter plane encountered trouble in flight Tuesday night but bailed out without injury.

Monday night at 7 o'clock firemen were summoned to Simmon's store on Turner st., to a chimney fire. No damage was caused and no water was used. Instead salt was poured down the chimney to clean it out.

Members of the cast are Lois Simpson, Guy Paul Dixon, Charles Macy, Peggy Leary, Betsy Wade, Jane Ballou, Betsy Thornton, Mary Ruth McKnight, Bobby Bowers, L. E. Wade, and Mary Lee Arthur.

April promises to be a busy month for the class of 1950. Seniors will go to East Carolina Teachers college at Greenville for Senior Day Friday, April 21. From April 25 to 28 they will visit the nation's capital, Washington, D. C. Senior class adviser is Mrs. Waldron Bailly, Jr.

FHA Members To Attend County Rally April 4

Plans for a county rally of the Future Homemakers of America, to be held at the Morehead City high school April 4 were made at a meeting of the executive council Tuesday night at the civic center, Morehead City.

The tentative program follows registration, 4:30; rose ceremony, 5:00; supper, 6:00; program, 7:00 with recreation following.

All chapters with a membership of 175, Morehead City, Beaufort, Newport and Smyrna will have a part in the rally. Registration fee will be 10 cents and each group will bring their own supper, using the same menu. Cakes will be supplied by the Morehead City chapter.

The county officers, presidents of the chapters and their advisers were present at the planning meeting, and were served cokes, cookies and salted nuts.

The officers elected by each chapter for the county organization of the Future Homemakers of America are: Jean Bowles, president, Morehead City; Edith Lewis, vice-president, Beaufort; Clara Jean Oakley, secretary, Callie Bland, treasurer, Smyrna; Annette Guthrie, Morehead City, reporter.

Rachel Mundine, Newport, historian; Fay Merrill, publicist; Beaufort; Genevieve, Smyrna, song leader; and Mrs. Florence Cordova, Morehead City, adviser.

Three Face String Of Charges In County Court

A verdict of guilty of trespass and disorderly conduct was delivered against Willie C. Byrd and Charlie Faison in Tuesday's session of recorder's court after they were tried on a string of additional charges.

Byrd, Faison and Lloyd Daniels were charged, with assault with a deadly weapon, disorderly conduct, using loud, boisterous and vulgar language, breaking the peace, and trespass. Byrd and Faison received a three-months' sentence on the roads, suspended on the condition they remain sober and on good behavior for two years and pay a \$10 fine and one-half the costs each.

Daniels was found not guilty.

John Noe was sentenced to a year on the roads for being drunk and assaulting his wife.

Found Not Guilty

Manly Garner, charged with trespass, being drunk and disorderly and threatening to kill with a rifle, was found not guilty on all counts of being drunk, disorderly and of forcible trespass. He received a year's sentence on the roads, suspended on three years good behavior and sobriety plus a \$50 fine and costs. The gun was ordered confiscated.

Garner appealed to superior court. His case was bound over under \$300 bond.

Fines Paid

Theodore J. Lemaire paid a total of \$160 fines and costs in two separate cases. He paid a \$10 fine and costs for driving without a license and a \$150 fine and costs for reckless, careless and drunk driving.

A fine of \$125 and costs were charged against John R. Watson when he pleaded guilty to driving drunk and temporary larceny of an automobile. Robert G. Cooley was fined \$100 and costs and Nicholas L. Ely was fined \$10 and costs, both penalties for driving drunk.

The warrant was withdrawn in the case of Robert Herring, colored, charged with assaulting and threatening his wife, and the prosecuting witness was taxed with the costs. Lee McFaden was fined the costs for assaulting a female.

Pays Costs

Daniel O. Murray paid the costs for being drunk and disorderly. M. C. Hartless and T. M. Vernick pleaded guilty to public drunkenness and were fined the costs and \$10. Eddie Lee Collins, charged with giving a bad check, was required to pay the costs and make the check good.

Robert Gaskins paid the costs and \$25 for temporary larceny of See THREE FACE, Page Seven

Fire Destroys Pettway Home

A flash fire caused by an exploding oil cook stove swept through the home of Manson Pettway, 508 Pine st., Beaufort, Tuesday night, destroying the four-room dwelling and endangering an adjacent house and store.

Beaufort firemen were summoned at 7:15. Within three minutes they had water on the flames but their efforts were channeled toward saving the adjacent house and store since the Pettway house was almost destroyed within the first three minutes.

Adjacent Home Damaged

A new house beside the Pettway home received considerable damage. Its side was badly scorched, windows burst from the intense heat, and table cloths within the house were scorched and shriveled. The store on the other side was not badly damaged due to its asbestos shingle siding.

There were five stoves in the Pettway kitchen, three of them oil cook stoves and two wood stoves, one of which was connected with the flue. When the oil stove exploded it ignited the whole kitchen and flames spread throughout the house within a minute. Firemen said the dwelling was a fire trap with a patched up tar paper roof and boxes of paper stored in the hall.

Chamber President Requests Funds for Continued Operation

"You can put up or shut up, put up your money or shut up the Chamber of Commerce."

Dr. W. L. Woodard, president of the Beaufort chamber of commerce, laid the chamber's case on the line before a large gathering of Chamber members Tuesday night in the Beaufort Scout building.

"We must decide tonight what we are going to do," Dr. Woodard exclaimed. "At least \$4,000 is needed to pay the debts of the chamber and keep it in operation until July first. We have on hand a balance of only \$87.16 while our debts total almost \$2,000, \$1,200 of which is back salary for Dan Walker, the chamber manager."

Plea Follows Reports

Dr. Woodard's plea followed several reports on chamber activities. One of these was a financial report by treasurer James Davis. Davis reported that receipts since July 1 of 1949 totalled \$2,829.26 and disbursements totalled \$2,742.

County Republicans To Meet Saturday, April 1

Carteret county Republicans will meet at 11 o'clock Saturday morning, April 1, at the courthouse to select a slate of officers for the May primaries. The meeting was called this week by the county executive committee of the Republican party.

With Republicans putting a full ticket in the field, it looks like a free-for-all race with Republicans, incumbent Democrats, and Scott's forces as the leading contenders.

Claud Wheatley will preside at the Republican meeting.

Jaycees Require \$1,200 to Start Football Program

Group Approves Resolution On Tax-Supported Recreation Program

Football will be played by boys at Morehead City high school this year, if Jaycees can raise \$1,200 to \$1,500 to support the sport.

Bruce Goodwin, chairman of the football committee, reported at the Morehead City Jaycee meeting Monday night that his committee had met with the school's trustees and worked out an agreement whereby the sport could be reinstated at the school.

Goodwin said it would be necessary to pay coach Gannon Talbert \$50 a month for four months in the fall, pay the coach's expenses at a football refresher course this summer, and raise money incident to purchasing equipment and other supplies.

A fund totalling \$1,200 to \$1,500 will have to be raised before these objectives can be reached, he explained. Jimmy Wallace reminded the men that the \$275 profit from the Jaycee theatrical last fall had been set aside, anticipating the need for the money to start football. His motion that this money should be put in the football fund was adopted.

Committee Approved

Wallace was appointed chairman and Goodwin vice-chairman of a committee to find means of raising football funds. Bill Chalk was appointed financial chairman to handle the fund.

A resolution was adopted requesting Morehead City commissioners to divert former tax money for Port Terminal into a fund to support a recreation program in Morehead City.

State Assumes Obligation

Proponents of the resolution pointed out that the State had taken over the port, thereby relieving the town of the financial burden. They also explained that taxes, which had supported the terminal would not be reduced but would go into the general fund. Therefore, they said since the money would still be collected, it should go for a useful purpose such as a recreation fund.

A second resolution to the town commissioners was passed, asking the city fathers to proclaim April 10-17 Clean-Up Week in Morehead City. Jaycees agreed that they would assist in promoting the clean-up campaign.

Al Cooper, president of the Morehead City Parent-Teachers association, stated that his group still was heavily obligated financially and needed all the money it could collect. He asked those who could to attend Stunt night at the school April 14, funds from which will go to the PTA.

Nominations for 1950-51 Jaycee officers were presented by Bernard Leary's nominating committee. Leary explained that defeated candidates for the four major offices would become candidates for the board of directors. Bill Clagon was appointed chairman of an election committee to handle printing and counting of ballots.

Nominations are as follows: president, Walter Morris; Warren Beck; internal vice-president, Jimmy Wallace and Warren Beck; external vice-president, H. S. Gibbs and O. H. (Hick) Allen; directors, Russell Outlaw, Bob Howard, Norman Wade, and Charles Willis.

Ralph Midgette Stands Trial for Life

Examination of witnesses for the state continued yesterday morning in the trial of Ralph Midgette, 43, of Ocracoke, who is charged with murdering Captain Glenn B. Willis of Beaufort.

Bryan Marslander, clerk of superior court of Beaufort county, in a special dispatch to THE NEWS-TIMES said the case is expected to go to the jury today. At noon yesterday it was believed that all the evidence would be heard before court dismissed late in the afternoon.

Jury Selected

Selection of a jury started Tuesday and was not completed until 12:30 Wednesday. The 12 men were selected from a venire of 150 Beaufort county citizens. Members of the jury are Thomas Owens, James H. Woolard, William C. (Bill) Waters, D. Lester Latham, A. B. Windley, Jake Teiterton, Dewey Slade, C. D. Hodges, G. L. Rowe, H. E. Williams and M. R. Doggett. Judge W. L. Halstead of Camden is presiding.

Packing the 350-seat court room to overflowing are residents from Carteret, Hyde, Beaufort, and Dare counties.

The first witness to take the stand yesterday morning was Miss Alice Cherry of Washington, who said she heard the shotgun blast and Captain Willis's cries for help.

Captain Willis, skipper of the passenger-freight boat, Lindsay C. Warren, was shot at 11:25 p. m., Jan. 25 as he was boarding the boat at Little Washington, Midgette, a crew member, is charged with the murder.

Also examined yesterday morning were Chief of Police L. P. Wheeler and Coroner Bonner Paul.

Cook Testifies

John D. Banks, 24-year-old cook of Washington route 3, key witness, testified Wednesday afternoon. He told how he had been forced at gunpoint to remain in the hold of the boat while Midgette waited for the boat captain to return to the vessel.

Later, officers quoted the defendant as saying that "I had many good reasons why I shot him." He elaborated, witnesses said, by saying that "he promised me \$30 a week and never gave me over \$14 or \$15 a week." He also stated that he had been refused income tax blanks by Willis.

Dr. G. B. Himmelwright, surgeon at Tayloe hospital, Washington, where Willis was taken after the shooting said the captain was brought to the hospital about midnight and lived about two hours. He was shot around the left, left arm and on the face, the doctor related.

Banks, already in custody of officers for violating of probation following previous convictions of drunkenness, forgery and temporary larceny of a car, related that he had seen Midgette on two occasions on the afternoon that preceded the shooting and that he went to Banks' sister's home. He said Midgette left about 9 p. m. to return to the boat. He said, "I couldn't tell if he had been drinking."

Midgette Waits

Banks testified that when he went to the boat about 10 p. m., Midgette called and asked him to come aboard. Then he related he found Midgette sitting on the hatch with a rifle and shotgun beside him.

Asked what he was doing with the guns, Midgette was quoted by Banks as saying, "I'm waiting for someone." Banks said he asked Midgette to put up the guns and was told, "You've seen too much, get down below."

"Then he threw one of the guns on me," Banks said.

Defendant Threatens

After going below, Banks said he turned on the lights and Midgette told him to fix him sandwiches and coffee. When he started up the ladder, however, he stated that

See MIDGETTE, Page Six

Rotarians Set Up MCTI Scholarship

A \$300 annual scholarship at Morehead City Technical Institute will be offered to the graduating senior at Morehead City high school who shows the greatest ability for work taught at the Institute.

The scholarship was voted by Morehead City Rotarians at their recent meeting in the Carteret Recreational center. The Rotary club will finance and sponsor the scholarship. Selection of the recipient will be made by a special committee appointed for that purpose.

Retiring Vice-President James I. Maso was elected to the Rotary presidency for 1950 to succeed President George W. Dill, and George McNeill was elected vice-president. Defidio Cordova was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Directors elected were Robert Taylor, H. S. Gibbs, Gordon C. Willis, George W. Dill and George R. Wallace.

Rotarians met last night at the high school as guests of students in the home economics department. They will meet Thursday night with the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce and the Lions club for the annual chamber banquet and business meeting.

Officer Lists Projects Achieved By Businessmen

A considerable number of accomplishments were accredited to the Morehead City Merchants association during its first year, the outgoing president, Bernard Leary reported recently at the group's luncheon in the Jefferson restaurant.

Uniform store hours among Morehead City business establishments was one of the chief achievements of the organization, President Leary observed. This included standard opening and closing hours, agreement on remaining open Wednesday afternoons during the summer, and observing special hours during holidays.

The Merchants association endorsed and observed Holy Week last year in cooperation with the Morehead City Ministerial association's request for closing stores. Closing hours also were observed on Armistice Day, as requested by the American Legion, and the Marine Corps birthday was observed. President Leary pointed out that the association had worked as a unit and had been successful in carrying out cooperative advertising, control of solicitation and committee recommendations.

Finally, the report said, the Merchants association had sponsored the raising of funds for Christmas decorations for the Morehead City business district and had sponsored a Christmas promotion program to bring business to Morehead City.

Stricken Seaman Removed From Ship, Hospitalized

Norfolk—(AP)—Paul Wayne Matthews, 17, seaman recruit, USNR, listed as suffering from an attack of appendicitis, was taken from the destroyer escort Hemminger off the North Carolina coast Tuesday and rushed to a hospital at Cherry Point, the Coast Guard here reported.

Later he was removed to the hospital at Camp Lejeune for observation. The Coast Guard landed him at Harkers Island and a Cherry Point air base ambulance took him to Lejeune Wednesday morning.

Matthews, a Norfolk resident, was making his first trip away from home as a reservist and was bound for Puerto Rico when stricken. The Hemminger continued her cruise.

When Matthews became ill Monday afternoon his symptoms were described to Navy medical officer here by radio. They diagnosed his illness as acute appendicitis and arrangements were made to remove him from the ship.

Commissioner Hears Morehead Stowaway Case

Eliitus Cornelius Marlin Alleged to Have Entered U. S. on Esso Tanker

Charges have been filed in New Bern in what is believed to be the first stowaway case in this section of North Carolina. Eliitus Cornelius Marlin is alleged to have entered this country at Morehead City aboard the steamship Esso Providence by using the pass of a crew member. The Providence docked at Morehead City last fall, Oct. 14, 1949.

Charges were filed against the "immigrant" Monday at New Bern before Mrs. Matilda H. Turner, United States commissioner. As far as the present authorities can recall, it is the first such case to occur.

Details as to the native country of the stowaway were not given in the papers filed before Mrs. Turner. The case was transferred to the Federal court in the Southern district of New York where Marlin will be required to face immigration and naturalization authorities at Ellis Island after he is apprehended.

There were three charges against Marlin. The first was that he had entered the United States at a time and place other than designated by the Immigration and Naturalization authorities. The second was that he eluded examination and inspection by officers of the Immigration and Naturalization service when he entered this county at Morehead City on October 14, 1949.

The third charge was that he obtained entry by willful and false representation, or that he wilfully concealed material facts, in that he came ashore from the Steamship Esso Providence falsely using the pass of a member of the crew of the ship when he was stowaway on the ship and had no valid immigration visa and had no right to enter the United States by any means.

Wade Heads Stunt Committee

Three teachers have been named to the committee to supervise Stunt Night April 14 at Morehead City school. They are Ralph Wade, Mrs. Robert Taylor, and Mrs. John Willis.

Stunts, to last no longer than 15 minutes each, will be presented by the first seven grades. A cash prize of \$5 will go to the best stunt given by one of the primary grades and \$5 will be given to the class presenting the best stunt in the grammar grade classification.

The high school will sell peanuts, popcorn, candy, and soda pop at booths in the main hallway.

Proceeds from the affair will go to the Parent-Teacher association which is sponsoring the affair.

Marines to Prosecute 'Peeping Tom' Case

The charge of being a "peeping tom" against Marine Pfc. Emery L. Pettit was not prosecuted in Monday's session of Morehead City mayor's court. Instead the case was turned over to Marine authorities.

Pettit was apprehended Wednesday, March 15, at the residence of Marine Lt. W. P. Brown at 907 Shepard street. Mrs. Brown notified police that someone was skulking around her yard and peeping in her window.

Police Officer Murphy Jenkins and Marine military policeman, S/Sgt. Avery, went to the neighborhood to investigate. They found Pettit in front of the house. He explained that he was waiting for a ride to Cherry Point. He was arrested and taken to the police station where he was booked and taken back to the Marine base under guard.

Boy Scout Troop No. 101 To Sponsor Wiener Roast

Boy Scout Troop No. 101 will sponsor a wiener roast on the vacant lot across the street from Franklin Memorial Methodist church in Morehead City tonight at 6 p. m. Games will be played, ghost stories told, songs, and general entertainment around the camp fire are on the program.

Hot dogs will be 10 cents and drinks 5 cents. All proceeds will go for Boy Scout equipment. The public is invited.

Tide Table

Tides at Beaufort Bar		
HIGH	Friday, March 24	LOW
11:40 a.m.	5:30 a.m.	
12 Midnight	5:46 p.m.	
Saturday, March 25		
12:10 a.m.	6:30 a.m.	
12:26 p.m.	6:35 p.m.	
Sunday, March 26		
1:02 a.m.	7:35 a.m.	
1:22 p.m.	7:34 p.m.	
Monday, March 27		
2:03 a.m.	8:37 a.m.	
2:27 p.m.	8:41 p.m.	
Tuesday, March 28		
3:08 a.m.	9:39 a.m.	
3:33 p.m.	9:48 p.m.	

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