

**Carteret County News-Times**

A Merger of The Beaufort News (est. 1912) and The Twin City Times (est. 1936)

EDITORIAL PAGE FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1951

**Talking Stops, Board Acts**

At last the county board of commissioners has taken the bull by the horns and raised the valuation of county property. The 10 per cent increase is on real estate only, not on personal property. This is a move which should have been undertaken before now and it has come to pass only after investigation was made on having reappraisal undertaken by professional appraisers.

The cost of bringing property values closer to their true worth was beyond the ability of the county to pay. An estimate from a Charlotte appraiser was \$65,000. Perhaps that would have been the "right way" to do it, but once the appraiser had gone, the county board would have had to struggle with the complaints.

Actually, the increase in valuation will mean only a nominal raise in taxes. A man paying \$10 in taxes in 1950 will pay \$11 this year. A resident whose property was valued at \$800 in 1950 will have a property valuation this year of \$880. Instead of paying a tax of \$14.40 he will pay \$1.44 more or \$15.84.

During the depression the county board, realizing that people could not pay their taxes, cut valuation 33 1/3 per cent. The present increase in valuation only partially restores that cut.

One more thing should be done. The county board should establish the rule that unpaid taxes covering a period of years will not bring to the delinquent tax payer a tremendous discount if he comes before the board asking for a reduction.

That practice penalizes the man who pays his taxes on time and offers a reward for negligence to the man who fails to meet his debts.

If the county board would stick to the rule of "Pay what you owe and that's final," then they would really deserve a pat on the back.

**Newport Says 'No'**

Newport town commissioners, in banning carnivals from town, have strengthened our proposal that the county place such a heavy tax on carnivals that they couldn't afford to cross the county line.

Because the three municipalities, Beaufort, Morehead City, and Newport prohibit the showing of carnivals within their town limits, this unfortunately does not prevent shows from locating right outside the towns where they continue to fleece the people.

Whether the law will be beaten that way at Newport remains to be seen.

The spring carnival season is now opening. The carnivals are beginning their trek north where they will play this summer. A carnival is expected in Morehead City in a couple weeks. One is at Jacksonville now. In the fall, carnivals hit us on their way south, after covering the northern circuit.

The following paragraphs are quoted from an editorial which appeared in THE NEWS-TIMES Friday, Sept. 8, 1950:

"Organizations within a town which sponsor carnivals or invite such shows into the community cannot raise themselves above the filth and trash that are connected with the carnival nor can they ever crush the seeds of crime a carnival sows."

"At a carnival playing near New Bern this week a man was stabbed in a fracas with a show girl. The same type of thing, violence, can arise from disgruntled losers at the gaming tables or roulette wheels . . ."

"Carnivals breed crime, they challenge the supremacy of the law and should be taxed so heavily by Carteret COUNTY, not municipalities, that no carnival could afford to cross our boundaries."

**A Contest That Teaches**

Every farm family in the county should avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in the Better Farming for Better Living contest. This event, sponsored annually by Tide Water Power company and the county agriculture extension service, is not merely a contest for the sake of winning prizes. Farmers and their wives, by taking part in the contest, "learn by doing."

The Better Farming for Better Living program is designed to encourage farm families to obtain increased benefits from farming through better farm management, to make proper use of the land in attaining efficient production, to improve living conditions through better home management, and to make wiser use of income.

It is not too late to enter the contest. A meeting of present and prospective contestants, will take place at 2:30 Tuesday afternoon at the Scout building on Pollock street. At that meeting those who have not yet obtained contest booklets may request them.

The booklets are filled in during the course of the year and then returned to the farm or home agent's office. In the past, the awards to winners have been given at the annual county Farm Bureau meeting.

Farmers receive the greatest benefit by taking part in this program, but in the overall picture it spells progress and better communities for all of us.

The motto of the United States of America is "E Pluribus Unum," Latin for "one out of many," meaning one government made of many states. Thomas Jefferson suggested the motto because it contains 13 letters, significant of the 13 original states.

**CARTERET COUNTY NEWS-TIMES**  
Carteret County's Newspaper

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

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**THE NEW DISC JOCKEY**



**Raleigh Roundup**

By JAMES POU BAILEY

**MAY LENGTHEN SESSION . . .** Appointment last Friday of a sub-committee of 18 men representing both houses in the Legislature to study and make recommendations on the amount of money which North Carolina will spend during the next two years was done to shorten the session.

The rule has been for the Joint Appropriations Committee to go into executive session after appropriation requests have been heard. This has required a great deal of time, with approximately 85 men talking, studying, arguing and sometimes just shooting the bull on favorite programs. The new approach should indeed save time if the full committee will accept the sub-committee's recommendations. However, if it insists on doing its usual amount of bickering, then the sub-committee move will not shorten the session but will lengthen it. In other words, deliberation by 18 men will not require as much time—unless the full committee insists on deliberating on deliberations presented to it.

**LONG BATTLE . . .** A money matter laden with political dynamite has finally reached the front pages. For years now businessmen throughout North Carolina have been wondering why they frequently have to sacrifice from a few cents to a few dollars on checks in order to get them cashed.

If a mill in Hickory, for instance, receives for goods a check for \$50,000 written on a non-par bank, it costs the mill \$62.50 to get the check cashed. The local bank does not receive the money, but the non-par bank does. If you receive any check written on what is known as a non-par bank, then it costs you to get it cashed unless you go directly to the non-par bank and get your money. Gurney P. Hood, State Banking Commissioner, is of the opinion that this exchange fee system—or non-par clearance charge—costs North Carolina people upwards of \$2,000,000 per year.

There are 16,588 par banks in the United States. There are 2,141 non-par banks. North Carolina has 240, or better than one-tenth of all the non-par banks in the nation. Some non-par banks in the State are getting tired of the bookkeeping, bad public relations, and general messiness of the exchange fee system and are going par. A bill which would put all banks in North Carolina on a par basis was defeated in the legislature last week. Although there are a number of small banks now on a par basis—Moycock in Currituck county, for instance—many of them say they can't get along without the exchange fees. All the par banks want the non-par banks to come along and join their ranks. They maintain that the non-par banks can do all right without the fee system if they will get out and promote their banks, lend more money, work more enthusiastically with their customers, and stop depending on exchange fees to carry them.

This Legislature is apparently very much opposed to making non-par banks bring to an end the exchange fee system. Nevertheless, the whole argument has political overtones with big money involved and you will hear more about it as time goes by. The current battle is merely a tempest in a teapot.

**FOR AND AGAINST . . .** In 1948 during the heat of the Kerr Scott-Charies Johnson campaign for Governor, some friends of Scott ap-

proached Gov. R. Gregg Cherry asking him if there was anything he could do for Scott.

Cherry knew he was unpopular with a large segment of the population. He told them he could probably help Scott more by making a speech for Johnson. Rumor had it that he was not for Johnson and was on the verge of coming out for him. The Scott people were not so sure of Cherry's unpopularity. They were uncertain. The Johnson followers felt the same way. So Cherry stayed out of the picture.

Gov. Scott is refusing to comment on pet legislation. He feels that to do so would hurt it. If the trend continues, you may find the Governor making a public statement in favor of something he really doesn't want in order to assure its being killed by the General Assembly. That's the way he feels now; and yet the Legislature is looking kindheartedly on his toll turnpike superhighway. It looks as if the Legislature is willing to go along with Scott on everything except higher taxes.

**CONGRESSIONAL TALK . . .** There are two or three members of the Legislature who may not be here next time because of an interest in going to Washington. Alonzo Edwards of Greene County, Julian Allsbrook of Roanoke Rapids and L. H. Fountain of Tarboro are considered as likely candidates for John Kerr's seat in Congress.

Roy Taylor of Black Mountain, Zebulon Weaver, Jr., of Asheville and R. Lee Whitmore of Hendersonville may be among those running for the seat vacated by Monroe Redden.

Congressman Hamilton Jones of Charlotte is expected to have opposition from one or more members of the Legislature. The talk in Charlotte is that Robert Lassiter, jr., is being groomed for Governor sometime, but he may get sidetracked by Congressional aspirations.

State Senator Hugh Morton of Williamston is mentioned quite frequently as an opponent for Congressman Herbert Bonner.

**BIG CHANGE . . .** Is it still too early to say definitely, but signs point to a big turnover in our Congressional delegation through resignations and otherwise next year. Redden has already said he is quitting after this term. Congressman Harold D. Cooley may have formidable opposition. Congressmen John Kerr and Bob Doughton are likely to drop out at any time. These possibilities, with those listed above, present a potential turnover greater than we have had in Washington in many years.

**WAGE-HOUR CHANGE . . .** Legislative sub-committee sometimes deal harshly with bills turned over to them for consideration and recommendation. This is their privilege; and the full committee can accept the alteration or kick it out the window.

About a month ago the wage-hour bill came before the House Manufacturers and Labor Committee. There was a great deal said for and against the bill, which would put female laborers in North Carolina on a 75 cents an hour wage 40 hours week, and time-and-a-half for over time.

The sub-committee came out Friday with its substitute bill. The new measure says that no employer shall employ any male person under 18 of any female person regardless of age at less than 50 cents an hour up to and including 48

**Hollywood**

By GENE HANDSAKER

Hollywood—"Father's Little Dividend," a sequel to "Father of the Bride," is like most sequels. It has its merry moments, but on the whole it isn't as good as the original.

"Father of the Bride" was a hilarious examination of dad's woes before, during and after his daughter's fashionable wedding. Stunned by his child's casual disclosure of marriage plans, appalled by the man she has picked, and bedeviled by bills, caterers, a wedding nightmare, and a tumultuous reception, Spencer Tracy acted his way to an Academy-award nomination.

"Dividend" opens a year later with Tracy's daughter, Elizabeth Taylor, expecting a baby. The picture is built largely around Tracy's antagonism toward the idea of becoming a grandfather. For six months he is cool toward the infant because soon after its birth, in their first meeting, the baby screamed violently at him. In real life, aren't grandparents usually more indulgent toward offspring than even the parents are?

A quarrel between Miss Taylor and her husband (Don Taylor) is tiresome. A mad dash through heavy traffic by Tracy and his wife (Joan Bennett), to the hospital where their expectant daughter has gone, is reminiscent of the Keystone Cops. And when they get there, of course, Liz has had only false labor pains.

The sequel tries to copy many of the original charms—Tracy soliloquizing on his troubles, while tying his shoe, at the picture's start—His unhappy reaction—believable in the first picture, when his daughter was getting married; questionable now, when she's having a baby—His wife's unbounded delight in both circumstances—The French doors in the Tracy home still stick. But the second time around, these touches don't seem as fresh.

A few lines of dialogue are entertaining too, as when Tracy defines a gift shower given by friends of an expectant mother: "One form of highway robbery not punishable by law."

hours per week. No employer shall employ a female person at a rate of compensation of less than 75 cents per hour for all hours worked over and beyond 48 hours per week.

Difference between the new bill and the old one is tremendous. Despite the change, observers are strongly of the opinion the substitute bill may be killed by the full House committee or by the Labor Committee in the Senate.

**NOT PRESENT . . .** A speeding case scheduled to be heard here this week will not come up for trial. Last June 9 a Wake county youth was arrested in Wendell for speeding. He was convicted in Wendell Recorders Court, but took an appeal. The same driver was convicted in Raleigh City Court on July 15, 1950, and in Wendell Recorders Court on February 2, 1951 for reckless and careless driving.

The defendant in these cases was Harold Hay Hinton of Zebulon, who last week carried six other persons to death with him when his new Ford speeding at a rate of 90 miles an hour plowed into a truck between Wendell and Zebulon. A driver's license revocation notice was in the mail to Hinton when the tragedy occurred.

**HENRY BELL PICKETT**

**Meet Your News-Times Carrier Boy**

**CAMERA NEWS**

BY IRVING DESFOR

IT IS CONTINUALLY AMAZING to hear of the specialized uses to which photography is adapted in peace and war. After studying some of the new cameras and methods, it is refreshing to return to the nice, simple routine of normal amateur picture taking.

For instance, out in Chicago, Dr. George Peabody takes pictures on 35 mm film of the movements of the eyes in order to analyze reading habits. The camera device is called an Ophthalmograph and is in use at the Foundation for Better Reading. It ingeniously places and holds the head in a set position so that only the eyes moves as it follows a paragraph of print.

Each time the eyes go back to reread a word or pick up an idea a pattern is recorded on the film. A fast reader shows a uniform pattern of step-like lines. Slower readers, or those with less ability to focus on reading matter, show uneven patterns.

By studying the 35 mm films, an analysis is made of the reader's ability and a course of study is outlined to correct any defects.

**ANOTHER EYE CAMERA** has been developed by the Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., in Rochester, N. Y., which takes color or black-and-white photographs of the interior of the eye. These pictures are of diagnostic aid in revealing certain systemic diseases even before clinical symptoms



THE FILM AND EYE—This machine is an Ophthalmograph. It photographs eye movements in reading. Here Dr. George Peabody tests June Myer for eye rhythm.

appear. They aid in revealing the extent of glaucoma which causes 12 per cent of all blindness.

Photographs taken with this retinal camera may be enlarged many times for close scrutiny, or projected on a screen for study by surgeons before or after operations, or used as a visual aid for teaching medical and optometric students.

**ON THE WAR FRONT**, the Air Force has a new aerial camera holding 400 feet of film, or enough to map 7,000 square miles in three dimensions when taken from a height of 20,000 feet.

This 85 lb. camera is aciled the most up-to-date in the world by its makers, the Fairchild Camera Corp., and is undergoing tests at the Dayton, Ohio, air base. It records the altitude and time on each picture taken, giving photo analysts precise information to enable them to compute the heights of mountains and general contour of the earth when viewed with stereoscopic glasses.

I guess science and its progress have left me far behind. I still have to write out in labored longhand that Phyllis was 3 years, 2 months old when I took her picture last Sunday. I never did measure her height.

**PHOTO PRIMER**—Composition: better pictures will result from attention to a few elementary rules.

- (1) Concentrate on a single center of interest. If there is more than one feature in a picture, let one predominate, otherwise attention must be divided and the picture weakened.
- (2) The center of interest should never be in the center of the picture space, nor should a horizon line cut across there. There's more interest off center.
- (3) You achieve a feeling of motion and dynamic interest with diagonal lines.
- (4) Framing the picture by taking advantage of tree branches, archways, etc., adds a third dimensional look.

**BOARD MEETING SIDELIGHTS**

**Government Isn't ALL Trouble**

The Croatan Frozen Food company, or what's left of it, is not only situated on the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad right-of-way, it's also in the middle of Arendell street.

These facts were forcibly laid before the county board at their February and March meetings in order to obtain the desired reduction in valuation. R. R. Barbour, owner of this plant, was represented by Claud Wheatly, attorney.

The town of Morehead City never had a right to give a deed for the Croatan Frozen Food property, commented the chairman of the board, Dr. K. P. B. Bonner, at Monday's county commissioners' meeting. (That goes for all the other property situated east of the Croatan plant, too).

The frozen food plant was destroyed by fire in March 1950. Just recently Barbour collected more than \$80,000 insurance as a result of the disaster. The attorney proposed to the board that the taxes for 1950 be paid on the valuation of \$22,500 for January, February and March of 1950, and that the valuation be \$5,000 for the remainder of the year and \$5,000 for 1951.

The board was reluctant to agree to that proposal at first. It was suggested that a realtor give an estimate on how much the property would bring at sale. The committee appointed at the February meeting to appraise the building, Commissioners Mose Howard and Hugh Salter, and Auditor James Potter, claimed that they were not expert appraisers . . .

n't bring \$2,000. Anyone would be lucky if they even got that.

"Keep on, keep on," laughed Dr. Bonner, "you'll have the county owing you money!"

The laughter that followed simmered down finally to Wheatly and Barbour winning their point.

Most people are sitting back now waiting to see what the Croatan Frozen Food plant will bring if or when it is put up for sale. . .

Commissioner Walter Yeomans was quite talkative. He seconded motions three times.

In talking about giving a beer permit to Milford Mann at Newport, Mose Howard solemnly named the places selling beer in Newport, besides the liquor store. "You crack a smile, he added, "Not can get drunk there, if you want to."

It's very unlikely that the county board will approve the roads in the A. L. Pearson subdivision, Broad Creek, for construction by the state. Commissioners are of the opinion that it's a private development like Mansfield park or any other private enterprise and it's up to the owner to build his own roads.

At the Beaufort town board meeting Monday night, Jim Rumley was being taken for a ride. Everybody said they heard he was going to run for mayor. All Jim's deals brought nothing but more chuckles.

The board was quite impressed with the town clerk's report that people are flooding the town hall to pay back taxes. This is the result of a complete house cleaning and effort to get the tax records in shape and collect thousands of



Henry Bell Pickett, jr., is the 12-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pickett, Morehead City. He's in the 6th grade at W. S. King school. Mrs. Williams, teacher. Henry has been carrying THE NEWS-TIMES for a year in the area of town west of 12th street and north of Fisher street. He uses his earnings for spending money.

At school he's a member of the Junior Safety Patrol and he attends the First Baptist church, the Rev. Mr. Hall, pastor. His customers receive their paper, via Henry and his bike, early every Tuesday and Friday morning.

**COVERING THE WATERFRONT**

By AYCOCK BROWN

Swanquarter, N. C. — Tommy K., the highly educated Chesapeake Retriever which spent most of its life at the Swindell farm a few miles from this Hyde County capital, when not bringing in geese and ducks killed by hunters at nearby Lake Mattamuskeet, is dead.

He died almost simultaneously with the publication of a Waterfront column which listed briefly his brilliant career from puppy hood in a Park Avenue apartment. The day I came over to Hyde from Manteo to get material for the column old Tommy K was mighty feeble. He posed wearily for pictures. His 12 years on earth was the equivalent of just about 100 years for a human being.

The story I did about Tommy K was also printed in Victor Meekins' coastal newspapers. On his return to Manteo after delivering the Hyde Record that featured the famous Chesapeake, Meekins saw me on the street.

"Know what happened?" he asked. "That dog died just about the same time we were going to press with the story."

Because Tommy K was such an outstanding dog, the Swindells at their children's request buried him in the front yard of their large country homeplace. They even erected a tombstone to the dog that had its own blind in Lake Mattamuskeet, would retrieve ducks and geese and place them in separate piles in the blind, and on gray days when his eyes showed white to wildfowl flocks flying close over

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dollars in taxes which have accumulated over the years.

Even a couple commissioners have received bills for back taxes—Will Arrington wise cracks: "If Jim Rumley and Joe Barbour would pay their back taxes the town would be out of debt."

J. O. owed a couple dollars and somebody signed the abstract in the tax book for him while he was net living in the county several years back. He says he doesn't mind paying the taxes even though he didn't know he owed them, but he sure does hate to pay the penalties.

To get the meeting under way Mayor Hassell told the commissioners that he was like the darky who was given a draft questionnaire to fill out. The boy just turned it over on the back and wrote: "I'm ready when you are."

Hoping that extension of the town limits will become a reality the board discussed the necessity of sending somebody to Washington to get the census figure corrected before it gets into official records, then into World Almanacs, and all sorts of reference books and encyclopedias.

Brack Adair, who was there as a planning board member, told J. O. it was time for him to make one of his famous motions for \$5 expenses to send Dan Walker to Washington.

"Yes," remarked Dave Merrill, "give him \$5 and let him spend all of it."

Graham (I'd rather adjourn than do anything) Duncan, made the motion to adjourn at 9:20.