

Carteret County News-Times

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

EDITORIAL PAGE TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1951

Taking the Lid Off Rents

Evidently rent control in Beaufort is going to pass out of the picture Saturday, March 31. Beaufort is following in the steps of Newport which decided, too, to take no action extending rent control.

Under the present rent control law, controls are automatically lifted March 31 unless the municipality chooses to extend them an additional three months, until July 1.

If the municipality decides to tuck on the additional three months, the town fathers merely pass a resolution to that effect. If the town wished to lift controls prior to March 31, the town board was required by law to announce a public hearing on the matter, this announcement to be made 10 days prior to the hearing.

It is too late now for Beaufort to have a hearing. The town can either let controls die, or the commissioners can meet in special session this week and declare them extended to July 1, 1951.

Beaufort's commissioners could not reach a decision on rent control at their March meeting. It was felt that the present law is unfair but on the other hand, due to the interest of Cherry Point Marine air station officials in housing for military personnel, it was believed that the town should go through the motions, at least, of attempting to keep rents low.

Rent officials told the board that the commissioners were to decide whether there was a shortage of housing in the town. If they found that there was a shortage, passage of the resolution extending rent control was the logical choice.

The commissioners readily admitted that there is a housing shortage, but again were stymied by the fact that they felt the control law unfair. They commented on the rule, as interpreted to them by rent officials, to the effect that any new housing, built since 1947 is not under control; also they objected to the regulation which puts an old residence, remodeled, under control while a place of business, remodeled into living quarters, is not controlled.

Most landlords and property owners, of course, are against rent control while persons renting living space are in favor of it. Public hearings in other towns, in relation to lifting controls, resolved themselves, for the most part, into a fight between landlords and tenants. As a result, the group having the largest representation won. For that reason, no doubt, town boards have simply been asked to determine if there is a housing shortage, thus by-passing the self-interest haggling of the two groups involved.

Failure to extend rent control is a mistake. The law may be unfair, but now is the time then, for municipalities or interested individuals to draw up recommendations for changing the law and they should see that these recommendations reach our congressmen.

Political observers state that with the nation in the throes of inflation, a new rent control law is bound to come. Whether it does or doesn't, three months of rents with the lid off can wreck anyone's budget. Many landlords will take advantage of the "holiday" and attempt to receive in three months the profit they otherwise would have realized over the period of a year.

No rent control during April, May, and June could throw affairs into such a state that a more stringent rent control measure than the present one may be demanded.

If rent control is not continued, opponents of control will point to the cities that did away with it and say, "See, the people don't want it." They may say what they wish, but in the final analysis, homeseekers are going to look first in the towns where they know rents are regulated. People in these days of the diminishing dollar are less prone to be sucked in than they were in the days when P. T. Barnum declared a sucker is born every minute.

Beaufort did a fine job in canvassing the town recently, locating rentable living space, and encouraging the building of new, but lack of rent control may nullify all that has been thus far achieved.

A Public Benefactor

An earnest young student of journalism was assigned to write an essay on newspapers. "Of what value are newspapers in a community?" she asked in a letter to the country editor for help.

"We are greatly surprised at this question," replied the editor. "We thought there was no one who did not know that a newspaper stands alone as a community utility."

"When we were a very small child in school, we learned that there is nothing that equals well-chewed newspaper for making spitballs. They have a zing and a sticking quality not to be found in any other paper."

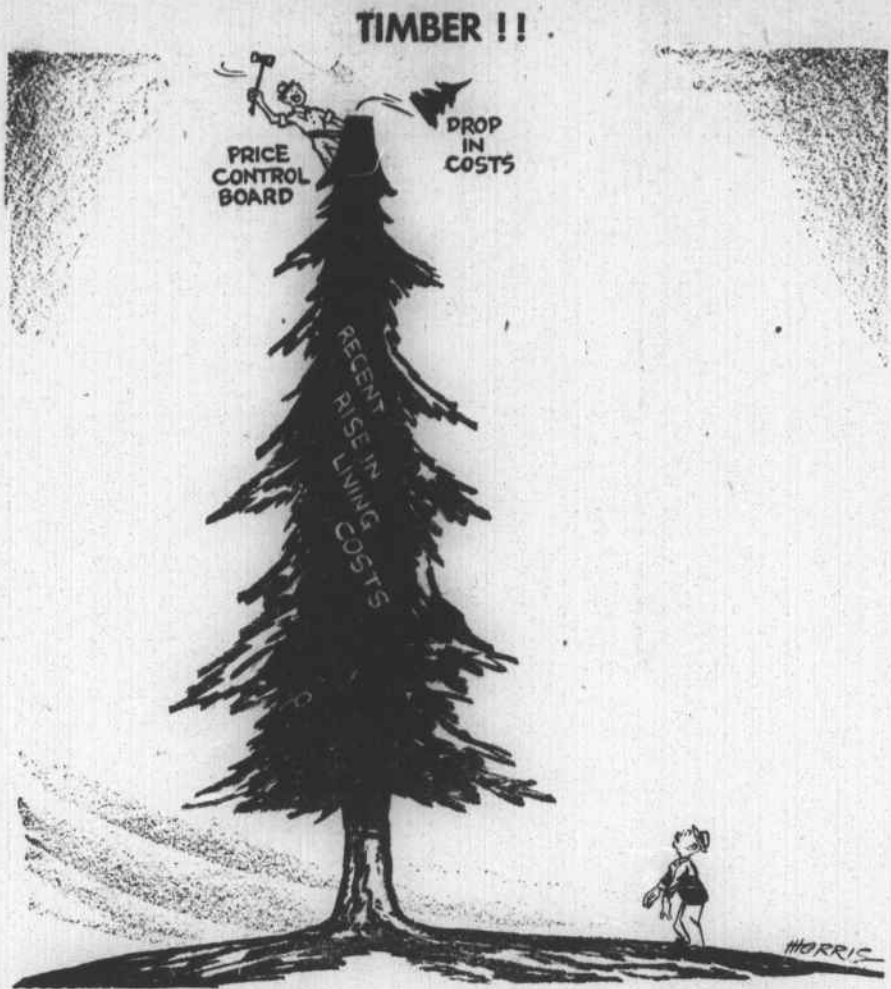
"Newspapers are used everywhere by housewives as a covering for shelves on which pots and pans are stored. Newspapers can be and are spread on chairs when standing on them to hang pictures, to prevent scratching the varnish. They also are used to wrap things that are to be packed in an attic, as the printer's ink discourages moths."

"Housekeeping cannot be carried on without newspapers. A newspaper of wide circulation, crumpled in the hand, makes an excellent mop with which to clean the grease from stoves and ranges. A bit of coaloil on a newspaper turns it into a fine polishing mop for metal work. The newspaper is unequalled for starting a fire, or for lining garbage cans."

"In cold weather the editorial page of a newspaper, spread over the chest and buttoned under a coat, will keep out the cold. Newspapers stuffed in a leaky pipe can be used as a temporary measure. The society section of a newspaper is valuable to spread on a floor when painting, to keep paint stains off the linoleum."

"Oh, we can go on for hours, narrating the various things for which a newspaper may be used, and still not name half of them. And if all else fails, one can sit down and read the thing. What else in the community has this importance and flexibility?"—S. F. Recorder.

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Sou'easter

BY CAPTAIN HENRY

There's going to be a new business in town. Mitchell Clark and his son, Roy, are going to open a cabinet making shop on Front street. They have rented space next to Hugh Hill's place, the Norfolk, Baltimore & Carolina line office and warehouse.

If there's going to be any revising of Beaufort's population figures, things will have to move fast. The Bureau of Census reports that final 1950 population figures for the state, urban and rural, will be available "in the late spring."

Wilmington azalea festival committeemen are turning handsprings. They seem to think they've hit it right on the nose this year and the azaleas will be blooming their best for the festival this weekend.

DuPont's newest synthetic fiber, amilar, is scheduled for production in the \$23,000,000 plant now under construction near Kinston. Housewives will be interested to know that it launders easily and resists wrinkling. A limited production of blouses, shirts, and suiting, all of amilar, are reported to be the big news in New York department stores.

NEWS-TIMES editorials were reprinted last week by two North Carolina papers. "Woman Juror — Phenomenon" appeared in The News and Observer's Spirit of the Press column and "Education Hamstrung?" was reprinted in Thursday's Coastland Times published at Manteo.

Being an armchair motorist, I guess items like the following have for me a natural attraction: If you sleep in a chair, you have nothing to lose; but a nap at the wheel is a permanent snooze;

The newspaper got an anonymous letter to the editor this week, and following their rule of not printing letters unless they know from whence they come, it almost got pitched into the circular file. But I rescued it and asked permission to reprint part of it here:

"Reading your newspaper—as I always do avidly—I also read the editorials. Today, therein, I found the following:

Spring is here, The flowers is riz, I wonder where Da boidies is.

"It left me hanging. Where? Considerable research has revealed the answer, which I am sure you will be anxious to get. So here it is:

Ah! 'tis spring, De boid is on de wing! My woid, how aboid, I tought de wing was on de boid!

"See what I mean? That's what spring does to a guy!

Yours truly, Anon Emus."

And that ends our ration of corn for at least one month. We're lucky spring comes only once a year.

All Dressed Up

Ethelbert, Man.—(AP)—Ethelbert's fire truck, decorated with white streamers, old shoes and tin cans, escorted Fire Chief Alexander Shewhook to church on his wedding day.

TIMBER !!



In The Good Old Days

THIRTY-THREE YEARS AGO

Children of the Beaufort colored graded school purchased a piano for the school with money which they had earned, and also had electric wiring installed in the school at their expense.

W. P. Smith, president of the chamber of commerce, called a meeting of Beaufort citizens to formulate plans for the town election in May, and to try to eliminate the factional fighting that took place every year.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Whitehurst and Rice of Beaufort had the contract for the Harkers Island ferry which would begin operations July 1.

The second floor of the Bank of Beaufort had been fitted up for office purposes, and was to be occupied by J. F. Duncan, C. R. Wheatley and George J. Brooks.

TEN YEARS AGO

An oil carrier, the Denver, north bound from Port Arthur, Tex., sank 80 miles southeast of Beaufort Inlet with a loss of 20 crew members.

Coffee was selling at 15 cents a pound; eggs, 20 cents a dozen; bread, 8 cents a loaf; strawberries, 2 pints for 35 cents; and one store was offering a cannon towel with each \$10 worth of merchandise.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The Surf club was to be open for families from 2 to 2:30 on Sunday afternoon. Buddy Hisey and his orchestra would play and sandwiches and soft drinks only would be served, so that parents might bring their children for the afternoon.

The American Legion was sponsoring a carnival at the Beaufort fair grounds.

AYCOCK BROWN'S

Covering The Waterfront

Oregon Inlet, N. C. — There were fish of some kind and in plenty, off Oregon Inlet Sunday a week ago.

This was proven by great flocks of sea gannets flying over the area. The gannets had paused here during the week on their northward migratory flights to breeding grounds in the St. Lawrence River valley or beyond. These magnificent "solan geese" of the ancients had come in from the Continental Shelf offshore to do some fishing and between the Inlet and upper Nags Head, 12 miles to the northward there must have been thousands of the white sea-fowl with their black wing tips.

The Ocracokers and Core-sounders who brought a fleet of fishing craft in to Manteo on Saturday to await an opportunity to set nets off Oregon Inlet on Monday and for the next several days, were hoping the gannets were fishing for croakers. That is the species they are hoping to catch in their nets. Many a resident of the Roanoke Island-Nags Head region had hopes that channel bass were involved in some way with the attractions beneath the water's surface that had brought the gannets close inshore.

The residents referred to are guides who bring anglers to Oregon Inlet to troll for channel bass when the big run begins. The residents too, are the operators of hotels, motor courts, tackle stores and others who cater to the sports-fishermen. According to their theory, the channel bass run, if astronomical calculations have anything to do with it, should begin this week. That is, because the full moon is supposed to have some effect on the tides which make the arrival of the copper colored fighters coincide. The full moon comes on March 23. Except for the late mid-April arrival last year, the channel bass during the past three seasons have arrived during late March — the 30th in 1949 and on the 23rd in 1948.

Raymond R. Camp, outdoor editor of New York Times picked up one of these columns about Oregon Inlet channel bass and astronomy during late February. An outstanding authority on all kinds of fishing in all parts of the world and along the North Carolina coast in particular, he said: "After a series of astronomical calculations, an examination of the undersides of stones, and a check on the color of the seaweed, the Nags Head fishing prophets have come forth with the prediction that the first channel bass will be taken off Oregon Inlet on or about March 23."

Words To Remember

"There is a single reason why about one man out of a hundred becomes a business leader—he is willing to assume responsibility." —Owen D. Young.

"Good humor is a tonic for mind and body. It is the best antidote for anxiety and depression. It is a business asset. It attracts and keeps friends. It lightens human burdens. It is the direct route to serenity and contentment."—Grenville Kleiser.

GORDON C. WILLIS, JR.

Meet Your News-Times Carrier Boy

THEY MAKE NEWS STAMPS

By SYD KRONISH

BERMUDA is sponsoring a world-wide stamp design competition. The contest, which ends June 30, is open to everyone. Ten designs are required and contestants may submit as many designs as they wish.

The winner will receive a seven-day Bermuda holiday with all expenses paid, including round trip transportation from New York, accommodations in one of Bermuda's finest hotels, meals and a sight-seeing trip around the islands.

Each design must contain a head of King George VI and the symbol of the crown.

Six of the ten issues are to contain as their main features the following: the Bermuda dinghy, the Longtail bird, an example of Bermuda architecture, the Perot stamp, Bermuda Easter Lily, and the ship Sea Venture.

The four remaining designs must contain as their main features subjects of historical or traditional significance to Bermuda.

Designs must be complete except for the postage and value tablets. The dimension should be not exceed 8 inches by 13 inches.

Entries should be addressed to the Colonial Secretary, Hamilton, Bermuda, and marked "Entry for Stamp Competition."

Additional information may be obtained by writing to the Colonial Secretary at Hamilton.

URUGUAY has honored the 4th World Championship Rugby matches held in Montevideo with two new stamps, reports the New York stamp co.



The 3 - centavo green and 7 - centavo blue show the same design. Depicted is a football kicking a ball. On the player's stockings are woven the flags of many of the competing nations.

RUSSIA has issued a special set of two stamps paying tribute to the 50th anniversary of the first issue of the Bolshevik newspaper, Iskra. The 40 kopek red and gray shows the papers, Iskra and Pravda. The two newspapers, a banner with superimposed portraits of Lenin and Stalin, founders of the publications, are seen on the 1 ruble gray and red adhesive.

YUGOSLAVIA has announced its 1951 philatelic program. Its postal department will issue at least eight sets of stamps. The first set on the agenda is a seven value group to mark the 10th anniversary of the insurrection of the Yugoslav people against Nazi occupation.

TO COMMEMORATE the 400th anniversary of the founding of the city of La Paz, Bolivia has issued a new set of 20 stamps. Ten are for airmail and ten for regular postage. Various historical sites and emblems appear



on the stamps. The dates 1548-1948 appear on each stamp making the entire issue a few years late in arriving on the philatelic scene.

PANAMA has issued a postal tax stamp of 1 cent denomination. The proceeds from the sale of these stamps go to the National Physical Education fund. Pictured on the adhesive is a flag-bedecked athletic stadium. The colors are red and black.

FARABI, the ancient Arabian philosopher, again appears on a new stamp. This time a likeness of Farabi is on a new issue from Iran. The stamps are 50-dinar pink and 2.50 rials blue. The occasion is the 1,000th anniversary of Farabi's death. A few months ago Farabi was duly honored by a four-stamp set issued by Turkey.



TO HONOR the centenary of the death of Gen. San Martin, Peru will issue a set of eight air mail stamps. The designs will show various scenes from the general's campaign for liberation in the 19th century.

ALTHOUGH the U. S. Post Office Department has not announced any specific plans for issuing commemorative stamps this year, four stamps seem assured of being sent to the presses. They are as follows: Final Encampment of United Confederate Veterans, 100th anniversary of the Settlement of Nevada, Anniversary of the Statehood of Colorado, and the Anniversary of the American Chemical Society.



Gordon C. Willis, jr., 14, not only ranks as a first-class NEWS-TIMES carrier boy, he also holds Star rank in the Boy Scouts and lacks only two badges to become Life Scout. He's the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon C. Willis, 600 Bridges st., Morehead City, and is a member of Boy Scout troop No. 130, Floyd Chadwick, Scoutmaster. Gordon is also one of the troop's patrol leaders.

He's a member of Mrs. Robert Taylor's eighth grade at Morehead City school and plays the corner in the senior band.

Building model ships and airplanes is his hobby and he's working on a model of the USS Augusta at present. He's a member of the First Baptist church, Morehead City, and a member of the young people's group, Royal Ambassadors. Part of his earnings on THE NEWS-TIMES route are set aside to give to the church.

Gordon started carrying papers for THE NEWS-TIMES in December and covers 10th to 12th street from the waterfront to Arendell street. He delivers his papers by bike, frequently accompanied by his dog, Chubby.

ON THE HOUSE

BY DAVID G. BAREUTHER

So many new houses were built last year, giving so many families their first acquaintance with the behavior of a house, that the villain of condensation succeeded in stealing the show during the winter from that veteran trouper, dehydration.

While a million or so new homes have been sweating out their first winter with steamy windows and damp walls, several million older dwellings fairly sing "How Dry I am," with every piece of furniture joining in the chorus.

Many home owners annoyed by puddles under windows a year ago are mystified to find their homes so dry this season they are worried that chairs may fall apart. Mrs. W. P. H. of Glen Allen, Va., sums up this experience.

"Our house is 14 months old," she says. "Last winter we had condensation problems, but this year it's the reverse." She says the lack of moisture in the air is "interfering with breathing at night and is causing dry skin and dry hair."

FOR COMFORT you have to strike a happy medium between dry and humid air. Both can raise hob with your house, your disposition and your health.

Air that is too dry can hasten a piano's loss of pitch, loosen joints of furniture, shrink lumber until cracks open in woodwork and even parch membranes to the point of causing what the doctors call epistaxis—plain, ordinary nosebleed.

The only way to combat all of this is to evaporate enough water to maintain the proper amount of relative humidity indoors. This can be tricky business.

Winter air holds so much less moisture than summer air that when you let it into the house and heat it, it develops a ravenous thirst. Heating engineers say that when the temperature is 32 degrees outdoors you may have to evaporate as much as a gallon of water per day for each room to maintain comfort. This would be six gallons a day for an average house.

Whether you need that much moisture depends on how you live. Identical houses with identical heating plants can show a variation from excessive moisture to extreme dryness because of the difference in family habits.

USUALLY normal cooking, bathing, laundry, potted plants and other customary containers of water provide enough moisture — and sometimes too much. On the other hand, a neighbor who has become condensation conscious, opens the windows and closes the bathroom door after every shower, uses a hooded ventilating fan over the kitchen range every time the tea kettle is on, has no growing plants and sends out the laundry and diapers — this person may have to keep water pans on the back of every radiator and buy electric steam makers at the hardware store.

You can measure the humidity in your house with a psychrometer or hygrometer in the same way you measure the temperature with a thermometer.

THE PSYCHROMETER comprises two thermometers, one with a wet bulb and the other with a dry bulb. An accompanying table lists the dry thermometer reading up one side and the difference in readings between the dry and wet thermometers across the top. The intersection of the two lines gives the moisture content of the air in relative humidity.

For example, if the dry reading shows the temperature of the house to be 75 and the wet reading is 55, the humidity is only 24%, which is too low when it is zero to 10 above outdoors.

THE HYGROMETER registers humidity through the expansion and contraction of a filament of human hair. These instruments can activate furnace humidifiers similar to the way thermostats operate.

The type of fuel you use has virtually nothing to do with dehydration. Unvented natural gas may be an exception, creating moisture in the air. The type of heating plant has more bearing on it. Warm air is usually easier to humidify, but one large manufacturer of warm air plants has discontinued humidifiers because they were so commonly over-used.

Radiators, steam or hot water, and radiant heat usually call for auxiliary evaporation if normal household moisture is inadequate.

It all boils down pretty much to an individual problem.

Smile Awhile

Mother (to small son on way to a party): "Now, dear, what are you going to do when you've had enough to eat?"

Small Son: "Come home."

You might shun the comparison, but a boy or a politician usually asks for about five times the leeway he expects to get.

Doctors say there are a million women in this country who are overweight. These, of course, are just round figures.

First of all, perhaps, you should look out for your tongue—it's a wet place and may possibly slip.

If others don't start worrying soon, we intend to quit too.