

Raging \$100,000 Fire Razes Three Beaufort Stores

Firemen Battle Blaze For Four Hours

A \$100,000 fire gutted three stores in the heart of Beaufort's business section yesterday morning. Firemen from five municipal fire stations battled the blaze from 10 a. m. until mid-afternoon. Flames were reported under control at 1:15 p. m. but at that point Eastern Rulane, Downum's 5 and 10, and Downum's department store were shambles.

Damages were expected to go far beyond the \$100,000 mark as acrid smoke and penetrating fumes seeped from store to store on the north side of Front street, the damaging vapors flanking out east and west from the holocaust.

The blaze was caused by an explosion in the rear of Eastern Rulane. A workman, Charles Hudgins, was transferring gas from a small cylinder to a larger one. The fumes came in contact with an open-flame gas heater and the fire leapt up, burning Jack Crawford, Eastern Rulane manager, who was standing nearby. He was admitted later to Morehead City hospital for treatment of first and

second degree burns on his face and hands. Hudgins escaped unhurt. Dr. John Way, who treated Crawford, reported his condition as satisfactory yesterday afternoon.

Half an hour after the alarm, box 16 at Front and Turner, was sounded, the Morehead City fire department was called. Newport, Cherry Point and New Bern fire trucks later turned up on the scene. Newport and New Bern to stand by at the Beaufort fire station.

Hundreds of spectators, who jammed the south side of Front street, were scattered periodically by explosions and clouds of yellow smoke that blanketed the business section.

Morehead Jaycees To Attend Sunday School in Group

Morehead City Jaycees will attend, in a group, the men's adult Sunday school class of the Franklin Memorial Methodist church, Morehead City, Sunday morning. The Jaycees will meet at the church at 9:30 a. m.

J. C. Harvell, chairman of the Morehead City Jaycee religious activities committee, informed the group at their regular meeting Monday night at Captain Bill's cafe that the Sunday project was in support of the Jaycee city-wide Back-to-Sunday school movement.

Distributed yesterday throughout the town were more than a thousand pamphlets urging residents to a one Sunday school this coming Sunday.

At Monday's meeting Bernard Leary, winner of the 1951 Jaycee man-of-the-year award and a former state Jaycee director, spoke on the duties of a state director.

Fred Hamilton and Bill Godwin were appointed editors of the Jaycee bulletin, Ocean Roar, for February, and Sal Palazzo, chairman

of the February scrap paper drive, asked Jaycees, who will do the collecting, to report at the city hall by 1:30 p. m. Sunday.

There will also be a Jaycee scrap metal drive Wednesday afternoon, March 5.

Jaycees took under consideration a request by Mrs. D. G. Bell of the Morehead City Woman's club, to help plant dogwood trees throughout the town.

A large number of men indicated their intention to attend the 8th district board meet at 7 p. m. Wednesday, Feb. 6, in the Cherry Point school auditorium, Havelock.

Dr. Russell Outlaw, in charge of the program, presented Bill Norwood and his accordion. Guests at the meeting were Norman R. Wiley, USMC, Lowell Liles of Oldsmobile division, General Motors, and Edward C. Weeks, Morehead City.

Jimmy Wallace, president, was in charge of the business session.

Rotarians Discuss Asiatic Problems

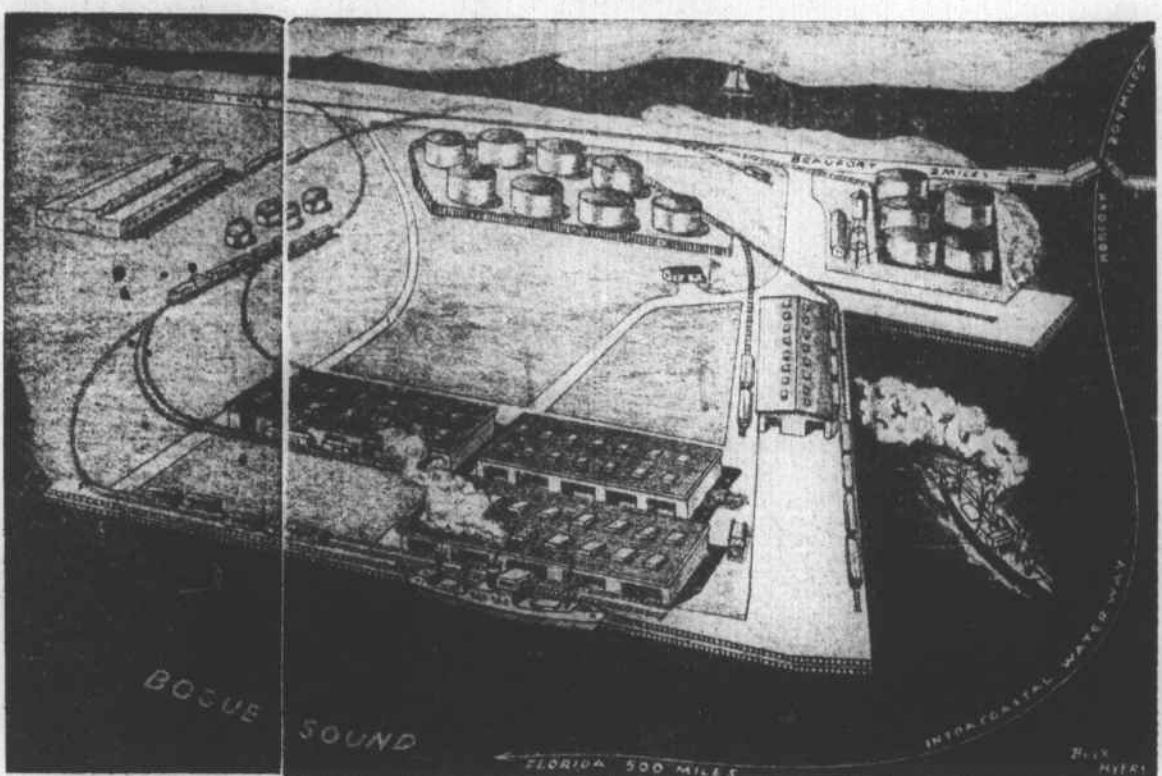
Colonialism and Nationalism in the Middle and Far East was the topic of a talk by Gene Smith, president of Beaufort Rotary club, at the Rotary club meeting Monday night at the Inlet Inn.

Following his address, Rotarians entered a round table discussion on the problems in the Middle East and Asia and came to the conclusion that United States should give aid wherever it will do the most good in blocking communism, regardless of what type of government is in power in the country under consideration.

In charge of next Tuesday's program will be Dr. Walter Chipman who is in charge of the radio-isotope laboratory at the Fish and Wildlife station, Piver's Island.

The Carteret district, Boy Scouts of America, will hold a court of honor in the First Baptist church, Morehead City, at 7:30 p. m. Sunday, Feb. 10.

New Port Facilities Grow



Here is the artist's pencil conception of how the present and enlarged port of Morehead City will appear from the air when work underway there now is completed. Docks, totalling 2,800 running feet and sufficient to handle five or six ocean-going ships at one time, are already completed.

Work now is progressing on transit and storage sheds which, when finished, will total 170,000 square feet of floor space. This will be enough to store 17,000 hogsheads of tobacco at one time. Just recently dredging operations were completed at the port which give a depth of 30 feet of water at the pier.

Early next month the hopper dredge, Lyman, will start dredging operations at the Beaufort bar to give the bar and the channel leading up to the Morehead City docks 30 feet of water. The work at Morehead City is a part of the North Carolina State Ports Authority's big building program, sanctioned by the \$7,500,000 authorization of the 1949 legislature. Similar port development is underway at Wilmington.

CAB Examiner Issues Report On Airline Service to Carteret

Recommendations by Frederick D. Moran, Civil Aeronautics board examiner, places Morehead City, Beaufort airport on a New Bern-Wilmington flight, advocates service to Morehead City-Beaufort May 1 to Sept. 30 each year, and suggests that permission to fly the route east of Raleigh-Durham to Morehead City-Beaufort airport be extended with Kinston substituted for Goldsboro as an intermediate point.

Examiner Moran's recommendations were released in Washington this week. They were based on CAB hearings conducted last August at Winston-Salem and concern Piedmont Aviation, Inc.

Attending the hearing from this area were Dan Walker, manager of the Beaufort chamber of commerce, and Glenn Adair, member of the chamber communications committee.

The Beaufort representatives asked that summer service to Morehead City-Beaufort be continued, asked that Morehead City-Beaufort airport be put on flight between New Bern and Wilmington, and requested that the airport be re-designated as Beaufort-Morehead City.

The first two requests evidently met with the approval of Moran, CAB examiner who conducted the hearing, and a compromise was reached on the designation of the airport. The airport, located at Beaufort, appeared as Morehead City on all airline maps and tickets were sold to "Morehead City."

Walker and Adair agreed that a designation of Morehead City-Beaufort would be satisfactory if the request for inclusion of the Carteret airport on the New Bern-Wilmington flights was approved.

Moran's report is merely a recommendation which must be acted upon by the Civil Aeronautics board. The board's decision is expected within the near future.

William Buxton Norris and John H. Thornton, each charged with speeding, forfeited bond.

Dillard Webster Russell pleaded guilty to driving without a license and paid court costs. Thelma L. Boatfield, charged with the same offense, received a costs penalty. Robert Lee Buchanan pleaded guilty to having a faulty muffler and paid costs.

The state decided not to prosecute cases against B. W. Henderson and Paul Burdette Christian, charged with motor vehicle violations.

Cases continued were the following: Ralph Willard Riggs, Reuben Franklin Bell, John W. Burke, Charles Lindberg Frazier, John Reed Sparks, Vernon Edward Lee, Gladys Daniel Lupton, John Joseph Bolduc, Richard W. Broton, Royal Edward Gore, Walter Henry Sykes, Charlie Robinson, and Reuben Whitehurst.

The Carteret district, Boy Scouts of America, will hold a court of honor in the First Baptist church, Morehead City, at 7:30 p. m. Sunday, Feb. 10.

Police Raid Dwelling On Gordon St., Beaufort

Police Chief Carlton Garner and State Highway Patrolman J. W. Sykes raided Monday afternoon the Charlie Robinson house on Gordon st., Beaufort.

Robinson, Reuben Whitehurst, and Walker Sykes were arrested. Robinson has been charged with allowing drunks to lie around his place and with having an indecent house. Whitehurst has been charged with being a public drunk and public nuisance and Walker Sykes has been charged with driving drunk.

Police were informed Monday morning that a 1950 coupe was lying in a ditch on Mulberry street. It was abandoned but the highway patrol learned the car was owned by Walter Sykes and that Whitehurst was there the night before trying to get people to help him pull the car out of the ditch.

Chief Garner and Patrolman Sykes located Whitehurst at the Robinson house and there they found Robinson, but later picked up Sykes in another part of town.

Whitehurst and Robinson have been released under \$50 bond each and Sykes has been released under \$150 bond.

The Robinson house was inspected Tuesday by A. D. Fulford, county sanitarian, who declared the house in a state unfit for occupancy.

Mrs. Godby, who was discharged from the hospital yesterday morning, was riding with her husband toward Morehead City when they collided with the car, driven by Jacob, which was pulling out from the west side of the Blue Ribbon club, headed toward Cherry Point.

Jacob told highway patrolmen that he did not see Godby approaching. Damage to his car, a '41 four-door, was estimated at \$400 and to Godby's car, a '50 four-door, \$600. Godby said that he threw on the brakes when he saw the car pulling out into the line of traffic but could not avoid the collision.

Passengers with Jacob were Missy Abbott and Miss Laurice Aaron, both of New Bern, and George Tillotson of Cherry Point.

Investigating patrolmen were W. E. Pickard and J. W. Sykes.

Committees Set Up for Pupils' Speaking Contest

Appointed Friday in the county agent's office, Beaufort, were committees to conduct the annual Green Pastures speaking contest in this county. The contest is sponsored on a state-wide basis by the North Carolina Bankers' association.

Students in grades 9 to 12 in all white schools in the county are eligible to compete. Cash prizes will be awarded by the First Citizens Bank and Trust co.

The county winner will be awarded a \$25 savings bond and second place county winner will receive \$10. At the individual schools the first prize winner will get \$15, second place winner will get \$10 and third, \$5.

The school contest will be held March 21, county contests March 28, group contests April 4, and the final state contest April 11. The subject of the speech will be Green Pastures, Their Use and Management.

Each contestant is required to take a tour of country pasture lands.

Committees are as follows: Judges, H. L. Joslyn, W. C. Carlton, Bob Howard, George Stovall; tour, Roy Beck, B. J. May, C. S. Long, Lawrence Garner, D. W. Truckner; finance, I. E. Pittman, James Davis; information and materials, R. M. Williams, James Allgood, Miss Martha Barnett.

Death Claims Dr. Dan Caldwell

The Rev. Dr. Dan T. Caldwell, 60, died Tuesday night in Richmond hospital after a short illness.

Funeral services will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon from Thyra church near Salisbury and interment will be in the family plot there.

Dr. Caldwell served as pastor of Webb Memorial Presbyterian church, Morehead City, from September to December of the past year. He had just moved his furniture from his home at 1501 Fairmont st., Greensboro, to Wrightsville Beach where he had accepted a call to organize a new church.

Prior to coming to Morehead City, Dr. Caldwell served as pastor of the Immanuel Presbyterian church in Wilmington from 1918 to 1925, and at the Second Presbyterian church in Petersburg, Va., from 1925 to 1941.

Since then he had been in charge of religious education in the North Carolina synod, and during the war he was in charge of the selection of chaplains who served in the United States armed forces.

Surviving are his wife and a son of the Greensboro address.

Firemen, Bike Tags Arrive

Firemen, bike tags arrive. Mrs. Blanda McLoon, city treasurer, Morehead City, announced today that firemen and bicycle tags for 1952 have arrived and are available at the treasurer's office, city hall. Yesterday was the deadline for obtaining 1952 town tags. Those who do not have them are liable to arrest.

Henry Davis Makes Fine Discovery, But Too Late

Fortune smiled on Henry Davis of Harkers Island — but too late. In an oyster he was eating at Leo's Place, Straits, he found a good-sized pearl. Steaming the oyster, however, had made the pearl just another hunk of stuff.

Whether uncoked pearls in North River oysters, if flawless, are as valuable as the pearls found in oysters in the world's famous diving grounds, has never been proved. Oysters should be equipped with a red warning signal which would blink if a pearl were inside, then human beings would know when to cook an oyster and when to take it to a jeweler's.

Fire Alarm System Will Be Revised

Charles B. Harrell, Beaufort fire chief, stated this week that plans are under way to revise the town's fire alarm system.

This will include placement of alarm boxes in the areas recently added to the town and will also entail replacement of boxes already in town so that every part of Beaufort will be adequately serviced.

For example, two weeks ago a fire occurred at the Crockett oyster factory at the west end of Broad street, but the closest alarm box was at Front and Moore, three blocks away. From that box the alarm had to be turned in.

Chief Harrell said the changes cannot be made immediately, but revisions are being worked out and discussed with the Gamewell Fire Alarm corp.

March of Dimes Income Lags

Funds in the March of Dimes campaign totaled \$2,898.72 at 9 a. m. yesterday. Yet to be heard from are communities throughout the county as well as schools.

Mrs. Roma Noe, chairman of the campaign, today urged everyone who has not contributed to the March of Dimes to do so at once. The campaign officially ended yesterday.

Scoreboard

Tuesday Basketball Game...	\$ 71.75
Queen Street School	55.00
Morehead City School	(total to date) 456.79
Free Grace Pilgrim's Holiness church, Harkers Island	12.00

Junior Woman's Club Will Collect Paper in Beaufort

The Beaufort Junior Woman's club will conduct a scrap paper drive in Beaufort Sunday afternoon.

Club members request that homeowners have paper and magazines bundled and placed on the curb by 1 p. m.

John Tuma Pays Stiff Fine, \$250, In Court Monday

John F. Tuma, USMC, paid a \$250 fine plus court costs Monday in Morehead City recorder's court. He was found guilty on the charges of driving under the influence of intoxicants and resisting arrest. A six-month jail sentence was suspended on condition that he pay a fine of \$150 on the first charge, \$100 on the second, bear court costs and remain on good behavior two years.

Judge George McNeill lectured Tuma, telling him "the gravity of your offense is as great as any I have seen in this court." The judge remarked that Tuma endangered and imperiled the lives of people in Morehead City and on the highways wherever he traveled. He further added that he felt he would be fully justified in sending the defendant to the road for six to 12 months.

The case of James Edward Stanley, charged with driving the car which crashed Saturday night, Jan. 19, into a car driven by James Lawrence, was again continued. Injured in the crash was Kemp Bonner of Morehead City.

Speeders Tried

Nine out of Monday's 35 cases were speeding charges. All defendants were found guilty: Robert Frederick Lawrence, court costs; David Arnold Harrell, court costs; Ellis Loftin Yeomans, \$10 fine and court costs; Ronald B. Diaz, paid court costs, half of which were remitted; Gene Mason Bell, court costs; Patsy Marino, court costs; See COURT, Page 2

Defendant Gets Suspension, Pays Costs of Court

Mitchell Wetherington, charged with assault on a female with intent to commit rape, was given a two-year suspended sentence by Judge Lambert Morris in court Tuesday. Wetherington was told to remain on good behavior for five years and pay court costs.

Ernest Morris, who faced the same charge, did not appear because he could not be found so that a warrant could be served. Wetherington, who is reported to have given himself up to authorities, stated that he and Morris were involved in the case.

Charges against them were filed in October and the alleged assault took place at Stella.

Heleen Rogers Hill did not contest the charge of driving after her license was revoked. She was given a one-year sentence suspended on condition she pay \$200 within 10 days.

Durant Chase, charged with abandonment and non-support, and Abraham Williams, charged with assault with a knife, did not appear and their bonds were forfeited. Eugene Gaskill, Harkers Island, also forfeited bond. He was charged with failure to stop at a stop sign.

Luther Merrill Guthrie, James Edward Rhodes, and John Benjamin Sewell, jr., were charged with failure to stop at a stop sign. Each pleaded guilty and paid court costs. John Dewey Lewis, jr., faced the same charge but the case was dismissed.

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Appreciative Audience Hears Little Symphony Last Night

A large and appreciative audience last night heard the concert by the Little Symphony orchestra in Beaufort school auditorium. The free concert for children in grades 3 to 6 will be given at 2:30 this afternoon in the school auditorium.

The orchestra began its 1952 tour Jan. 17 and will conclude it May 20. The orchestra appeared in New Bern Wednesday night. During the coming months they will play at the following places in this general area: April 17, Wilmington; April 21, Rocky Mount; April 22, Washington; April 23, Wilson; April 24, Goldsboro; April 30, Raleigh. Membership cards will be honored at all these concerts but tickets may be bought at the door.

The evening concerts start at 8:30 p. m. and children's concerts at 2:30 p. m.

Tide Table

Tides at Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Friday, Feb. 1	LOW
12:11 a. m.		6:34 a. m.
12:27 p. m.		6:45 p. m.
Saturday, Feb. 2		
1:06 a. m.		7:32 a. m.
1:19 p. m.		7:38 p. m.
Sunday, Feb. 3		
2:02 a. m.		8:34 a. m.
2:15 p. m.		8:34 p. m.
Monday, Feb. 4		
3:02 a. m.		9:38 a. m.
3:17 p. m.		9:33 p. m.
Tuesday, Feb. 5		
4:02 a. m.		10:41 a. m.
4:20 p. m.		10:33 p. m.

County License Tag Sales Lag

A report Wednesday from the Carolina Motor club agency, located in the loan department of the First Citizens Bank and Trust co., Morehead City, revealed there were approximately 1,028 license tags to be sold in Carteret county before today, the legal deadline for obtaining 1952 tags.

Sold by Wednesday were 3,472 auto tags, eight motorcycle tags, 585 tags for private trucks, 100 farm truck tags, 175 for Z trailers and 40 for C trailers. Persons had not yet begun to stand in line but a rush was predicted for yesterday.

The highway patrol throughout the state began strict enforcement of the 1952 tag regulation at midnight last night.

Motorists have been unusually slow this year throughout the state in purchasing their plates, the Department of Motor Vehicles pointed out, adding that long lines at the main office in Raleigh and the 71 branch offices were to be expected on the last days of sale before the deadline.

More than 1,226,000 motor vehicles were registered in the state in 1951. Approximately 665,200 plates had been issued by Jan. 25.

Workman Hurt Yesterday In Fall from Roof Rafter

Fred Willis, Salter Path, a workman on the new Pender building in Beaufort was injured at 11 o'clock yesterday morning when he fell from roof rafters 12 feet to the ground.

He was admitted to Morehead City hospital and treated by Dr. John Morris who said his injuries were not serious. Several small bones in Willis's back were cracked and he suffered bruises of the right hand and arm.

He is expected to be hospitalized several days.

Yard Office at Morehead Yacht Basin Catches Fire

The yard office at Morehead City yacht basin caught fire yesterday morning. An alarm was sounded from box 21 and firemen had the blaze out in a short while. It is not known how the fire started.