

Text of Address by John Motley Morehead

(Editor's Note — Appearing here is the full address given Thursday morning by John Motley Morehead at the formal dedication of the new state port at Morehead City).

Here, today, come together, in the dedication of the Port Terminal of Morehead City, the name and significance of a man and a city, the past and present programs, and the high hopes of a progressive people.

The man is John Motley Morehead, whose name this city bears, and one of whose dreams is being fulfilled here today. Well it has been said that those who do not commemorate their fathers will not deserve to be remembered by their sons. I recall my grandfather here today not so much with filial pride, but as a fitting part of this occasion and as a symbol of all those North Carolinians who in the past and in the present have dreamed dreams and built nobly for a great state. Some of those dreamers and builders still live, and are represented on this platform today.

The name Morehead was given to those families in Scotland who lived at the head of the moors, and they came to be variously known as Moorehead, Muirhead, and Morehead. The Moreheads had lived since 1121 at the head of the moors as farmers and shepherds, served as members and chiefs of the Highland Clans, as parishioners, pastors and Bishops, and as soldiers in the Crusades to the Holy Lands, as knighted lairds, as Ministers of State, as Scottish rebels against English kings, as merchants in Edinburgh and in London, and as colonizers and colonists in the new world. Of such, in common today with uncounted millions in their composite inheritance and descent from the nobility, gentry, and the commons of Britain and the old world, are the people of America melted together in freedom and democracy. These peoples of the old world were the pioneer substance of the new world, and are now the chief hope of freedom and peace in the old world and in the new.

From Scottish moors and London business houses, the Moreheads came in 1630 to the lands of the Northern Neck of Virginia between the Potomac and Rappahannock and thence to the fertile valleys between the Banister and Dan rivers which join to make the Roanoke and tie together much of North Carolina and Virginia. The first John Motley Morehead was born on July 4th, 1796, in Pittsylvania county, Virginia, of John and Obedience Motley Morehead, whose father served as a captain under Washington in the French and Indian War and whose six brothers served under Washington in the Revolution. John Motley Morehead was brought by his parents as a two year old child to their new home in the fertile lands of Rockingham county, North Carolina, in 1798.

Not far away from his boyhood home was the battlefield and historic traditions of Guilford Court House to which her grandmother, Karenhappuch Norman Turner, had ridden on horseback from her Maryland home to nurse her sons and other soldiers severely wounded fighting under the able General Nathaniel Greene. That stubborn battle checkmated the advance of the conquering British and prepared the way for the final American victory at Yorktown of George Washington over Cornwallis.

Lord Cornwallis, tradition has it, directed his surgeon to attend the wounded as he found them on that battlefield, whether friend or foe. Not very far from the Morehead house over in Guilford county was also the famous log college of David Caldwell, who later prepared young Morehead for the University. Caldwell was one of the sons of Princeton, who, in his preaching and teaching, helped to light the fires of the American Revolution, and for whose capture Cornwallis offered 200 pounds.

At the young State University at Chapel Hill Morehead, quite early in the last century, developed in association with other young men who were to become governors, judges, members of Presidential cabinets, senators, ambassadors, preachers, teachers, agriculturists, manufacturers, builders, and leaders of the people in many southern states.

As an instructor at Chapel Hill, Morehead taught, among other future leaders, William Mercer Greene, one of the founders and chancellors of the University of

the Whig party, as trustee of the University of North Carolina for 38 years, organizer and first president of its Alumni association, of which, incidentally, his namesake was president exactly one hundred years later, as reformer of the state constitution, as chairman of the National Whig convention, as president of the North Carolina Railroad association, founder of Edgeworth, a woman's college in Greensboro, friends of religious dissenters, champion of the equal representation of the people, of gradual emancipation of the slaves, of the right of free Negroes to vote — planter, builder of mills and factories, promoter of highways, railroads, and seaports, founder of Morehead City, he was both a prophetic idealist and a practical agricultural, industrial and political statesman.

Not the least of all these enterprises, movements and events, is the development of this port, the terminal and the docks of Morehead City as a junction of railroads, always and for the exchange of goods in the commerce of the world.

More than a hundred years ago he helped to lay the foundations in Morehead City and across the state from the sea to the mountains, of a modern state and the progressive traditions of a humane and hopeful people.

In the vision of Morehead the North Carolina railroad, terminating at Morehead City, was not only to tie together in travel and trade the eastern and western sections of our state and through the new seaport here the seaways of the world and the great interior waterways of the American continent, but also the railroad was to connect with the turnpikes and railroads soon to be built from north to south, across eastern America from Boston to New Orleans.

Others have told the story of those before him and after him who worked and builded on Shepard's Point. They have told of the times from Bridges Arendell, to the times of the Morehead City Port commission of W. Huffham, B. F. Royal, S. Woodland, W. P. Freeman, and G. R. Wallace, to the days of the State Survey commission composed of the directors of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad, Selby Anderson, Wilson Luther Hamilton of Morehead City, J. Y. Joyner, and later M. D. Stephenson of New Bern. They have told the story on through the recent state administrations of Governor Gregg Cherry, which set up the present State Ports authority, directed by Chairman A. G. Myers, Col. G. W. Gillette, engineer and executive director, and their associates, who have ably brought forward this enterprise to this happy occasion and hopeful outlook: of Governor W. Kerr Scott, who made North Carolina seaports a fighting part of his go forward program through large public investments in interurban and rural highways and commercial seaports at Wilmington and at Morehead City.

Others still will tell of the engineering layout of the harbor, the docks and the terminal, their facilities and their limitations. Others have recalled the vision of Governor Cameron Morrison and his great program for building roads, institutions, and ports in our state.

A proud history gives background and momentum to the forward march of a great people of the purest native stock. The first settlement of the English speaking people and the first English child born in the New World was over there in Dare county on Roanoke Island. At Alamance in 1771, in Mecklenberg in 1775, and at Halifax in 1776, North Carolina blazed the trails of an insurgent people on the way to the American Revolution which started the march of the peoples' revolution around the earth. This revolution for the freedom of people could not be stopped by Adolph Hitler, or Mussolini, and cannot be halted now by the reactionary and no less monstrous dictatorship of Joseph Stalin.

At Chapel Hill, as a child of this American Peoples' Revolution,

there was founded by the soldiers of George Washington and Nathaniel Greene the first state university of the people in the New World. Today, consolidated with the distinguished State college in Raleigh and the pre-eminent Woman's college in Greensboro, and in cooperation with Duke university, Wake Forest, Davidson, and all other splendid colleges for men and women, starting with its outstanding system of nine months a year state supported public school system, is with them all, an advancing hope of "light and liberty" for our people.

The primary purpose of this port is to serve the state of North Carolina. Today big-name industries are swarming to Carolina — General Motors, Western Electric, DuPont, Union Carbide, American Woolen. A total of 101 industries invested over \$140,000,000 in plants in North Carolina in 1951, and estimates of the expenditures for similar purposes for the first part of 1952 have equalled or exceeded those of 1951 for a like period.

The manufacture of their products alone will approximate an additional \$1,000,000,000 a year. These companies require and demand world markets for their raw materials, hence the Morehead port terminal comes vividly into the picture as an outlet to the sea.

It is singularly appropriate that the Union Carbide company should establish a plant in North Carolina, as it was in this state just 60 years ago that this giant industry had its inception in the discovery of a method of producing calcium carbide in the electric furnace. During that 60 years the company has established businesses in every one of the 48 states, and in 18 foreign countries, has built up a business with a volume in excess of \$2,000,000 a day. Having made a round trip in the 60 years, it has come back home and is now building a \$30,000,000 plant in Rockingham county, within less than two miles of the spot where it first saw the light.

If these industries come to our state, spend vast amounts of money in the location of their industries here, if they give employment to thousands of our people and disperse millions of dollars each year to the population of our state, in taxes, in payrolls, and through other channels, it is only fair and right, and it is good business that the state provide every means to help them make a profit in their business, without which profit they will not and cannot continue to operate in our midst.

In this city of Morehead, where "men go down to the sea ships" and fisherfolk as "The sons of the sea capture the wealth of the leaping tides," we are reminded that at Edenton, Joseph Hewes, as the first chairman of the Naval Affairs committee of the Continental Congress, founded the American Navy and enlisted for the American Revolution John Paul Jones. It was John Paul Jones, who, at the very beginning, set high the fighting traditions of the American Navy, so that ever since by his example American sea captains "when armored wrong makes terms to fight, fling back his proud reply, 'We have not yet begun to fight.'"

Joseph Hewes was forerunner of four North Carolinians who became secretary of the United States Navy — Branch, Badger, William A. Graham, and Josephus Daniels. One of these projected the expedition of Commodore Perry which opened up Japan to the world, recently fateful with hazards and now hopeful with resurgent strength for the free peoples of the world. The last of North Carolina's secretaries of the Navy, directed the Navy to victory in the first world war, my old friend, Josephus Daniels.

In the War between the States,

North Carolina furnished more soldiers than any other Southern state, and her University had more of her sons killed or wounded in battle than any other college or university in any state on either side of that war. It was President David L. Swain and Governor Zebulon B. Vance, who, in the spirit of Robert E. Lee, taught the acceptance of "the duties of defeat" after the war. This terrible war shook a continent but forced "an indissoluble union of indestructible states" which are today the chief hope of the Union of Nations and the freedom of the world.

In the fulfillment of these great traditions, and on the foundation laid by Archibald de Eow Murphey, Bartlett, Yancy, Calvin H. Wiley, Edwin A. Afterman, Charles D. McIver, Braxton Craven, James Y. Joyner, and others, Charles B. Aycock led a great public educational crusade in North Carolina.

North Carolina has become the new leader of the new South in education, it is near the top of the list of states in agriculture, and it is at the very top of the 48 states in the manufacture of textiles, of tobacco, and of furniture, and is well up in public and general welfare.

As parts of the North Carolina renaissance we see advancing today two great universities, many state, church, and private colleges, three distinguished medical schools — Duke university in Durham, Bowman Gray of Wake Forest, in Winston-Salem, and the State Medical school in Chapel Hill — a statewide system of interurban and rural highways, a humane state-wide system of hospitals and medical care launched by Broughton, and carried forward by Cherry and Scott. This medical and hospital program by the vote of the people, is pointing the way for full competence in the medical care of the people across the state, from the sand dunes to the mountain coves.

Nearby Morehead City, "The Menhaden Capital of the World," not far from where the warmer waters of the Gulf Stream meet the cold waters from the north, is the Beaufort Federal Marine Laboratory, the University of North Carolina Institute of Fisheries, the Duke university teaching center of Marine Biology, and the North Carolina State College Technical institute of the University of North Carolina. Camps Lejeune and Cherry Point are nearby, with Fort Bragg only a little distance off — all the largest camps in their respective classes.

The scenic parkway along the Blue Ridge mountains, from Washington to the Great Smokies National park will soon connect the vast population of eastern America with the majestic mountains of this state. The historical and symphonic folk dramas of "The Lost Colony" on Roanoke Island, "The Highland Call" at Fayetteville, "Unto These Hills" at Cherokee, and "The Horn in the West" at Boone, are eloquent and beautiful with their tales of the North Carolina pioneers.

Too long has North Carolina been mainly tributary to the ports to the North and to the South. Too long have the raw materials of the South been tributary to the great financial centers of the gigantic industrial belt which reaches from Boston, New York and Philadelphia to Chicago and St. Louis.

Rising to play its productive and

Farm Bureau Discusses Coming Membership Drive

Plans for conducting this year's membership drive were discussed at the annual district Farm Bureau meeting Wednesday at New Bern. Assistant county agent C. H. Kirkman and Floyd Garner of Newport attended.

The Five County agents' meeting was held in New Bern on Friday. Plans were discussed there for the junior dairy show. Assistant county agent Kirkman attended the meeting in the absence of county agent R. M. Williams who has been on vacation. Mr. Williams returned yesterday from his vacation.

Dr. A. F. Chestnut Again Holds Shellfish Office

Dr. A. F. Chestnut, 2104 Arendell St., Morehead City, has been re-elected vice-president of the National Shellfisheries association. The election of officers took place Thursday at the organization's national convention at Atlantic City, N. J.

Dr. Chestnut is shellfish specialist with the Institute of Fisheries Research, Morehead City. Other officers are J. B. Engle, Annapolis, Md., president; G. Frances Beaven, Solomons, Md., secretary-treasurer.

Recreation Center Photos Appear in CP&L Report

Appearing in the current Finer Carolina report, giving an account of towns' progress in the Carolina Power and Light company Finer Municipalities contest, are pictures of the Morehead City recreation center before the indoor furniture was reconditioned and after.

Also appearing is a picture of the exterior of the building, after painting, showing a portion of the tennis courts.

Straits Resident Pays Fine on Hunting Count

Wilson Davis, Straits, paid a \$10 fine and costs Friday night on a charge of hunting out of season with dogs and gun. Davis was apprehended Friday night by Leroy McIntosh, game protector for Carteret county, and Bill Kinsey, game protector from Jacksonville.

Davis was given a hearing before Justice of the Peace Vernon Guthrie, Morehead City.

powerful part in America and in the world, is the New South of farms, factories, and electric power, transportation and communication, universities and research on the farthest frontiers of creative ideas and humane hopes.

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By cooperative leadership and the work of millions of people in churches, in schools and in libraries, on farms, in factories, and in power plants, on railroads, on highways, in airlines and in seaports, the future is especially bright. North Carolina is on the march.

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Tankers Dock
Two tankers unloaded at the port terminal over the weekend. The Esso Annapolis, with kerosene from Baytown, Tex., arrived Sunday and sailed yesterday. The Paludina, with asphalt from Curacao, Venezuela, arrived Saturday and also sailed yesterday.

Stephen Foster, the composer who won fame for his songs about the South, was a Northerner. He was born in Lawrenceville, Pa.

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Right Man, Wrong Firm
Architects for the Morehead City port were Carr and Greiner, Atlanta, Ga. The article on port construction which appeared in Tuesday's Port and Progress edition was written by Robert Peel of Carr and Greiner. The by-line erroneously stated that Peel was affiliated with T. A. Loving and company.

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