

What's What with Piloting Ships into Morehead Harbor

Much mis-information and a few facts have become involved in making a lot of to-do about who can pilot boats into Morehead City harbor, who can't, and why.

It's a long story and after extensive investigation, THE NEWS-TIMES can reach only one conclusion: the authorities concerned with the matter are pursuing the proper channels to get things straightened out.

The problem evolved recently with the charge brought by David B. Willis, a federally-licensed pilot of Morehead City, that there are

ing in the harbor of Morehead City. That is correct, but federally-licensed pilots are not required to bring in vessels of registry. Federally-licensed pilots are required only for vessels of enrollment, and according to port authorities no vessels of enrollment have been or are, at present, coming into this harbor.

Plans are underway, however, to have federally-licensed pilots here. "Teenie" Piner has already taken part of the examination required for a federally-licensed pilot.

There are two classes of documentation for vessels: registry, the classification for ships making port anywhere in the world, and enrollment, the classification for vessels engaged in coastwise trade in the United States.

A state pilot may bring into harbor any foreign ship, any United States ship from a foreign port, and any United States ship under registry. State pilots operating at Morehead City port are Capt. Charles Piner, Charles Piner, Jr., and Ira Willis.

To become a state pilot, an individual has to apply to the Morehead City Pilot and Navigation Commission, an agency of the State Ports authority. The commission may or may not appoint the applicant as apprentice pilot. After the apprentice has met the training requirements, he may, according to I. E. Pittman, chairman of the Morehead City Pilot and Navigation Commission, become a state pilot upon obtaining the signatures of two state pilots already operating in the port.

According to Pittman, David Willis has yet to obtain the required signatures. He added that the pilot commission has no authority in the matter after naming an apprentice. Because he is a federal pilot, Willis is legally privileged to bring into Morehead City harbor vessels under enrollment.

The fact that there are no federally-licensed pilots operating here at present is due to an oversight in the early days of the present port operation. Captain Piner, who has a first class pilot's license, unlimited tonnage, was engaged as pilot here by the port administrators of the 1930s. Being new at the game, they thought the only thing necessary was that a man be a licensed pilot, but more importantly, that he know the Morehead City channel.

Captain Piner filled the bill and has ably brought ships into this harbor ever since as a state pilot. Only recently, in checking papers, it was noted that Captain Piner's license was for the waters of Jacksonville, Fla., to Key West.

Because he is a state pilot, he can continue to operate, as can other state pilots. With steps being taken to have federally-licensed pilots here (they are free agents and can bring in vessels of enrollment whether classified as state pilots or not) the pilot situation, claimed by someone to be not on the up-and-up, takes on an un-alarming aspect.

Company Buys Proposed Site For Tank Farm

Sold to Aviation Fuel Terminals last week was property on Inlet Island, proposed as the site for an aviation gasoline tank farm with facilities for unloading sea-going tankers. The cost of the land was approximately \$42,000.

To make the property transfer, Sam Morgan of New Bern conveyed land to the Coastal Realty company, New Bern, and the Coastal Realty company sold to Aviation Fuel Terminals. The deed was recorded in the court house, Beaufort, Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Aviation Fuel Terminals has been granted a loan by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with the proviso that the loan will be payable upon posting of \$261,000 by the aviation gasoline firm. Authoritative sources state that the tank farm and dock will be built by T. A. Loving company.

The building of the facility by Aviation Fuel Terminals has been under consideration for more than a year. Proposed construction, at that time, involving waters included a steel piling pier 1,230 feet south of the northeast point of the present turning basin in Morehead City harbor, the pier to 702 feet long and 19 feet wide.

The turning basin by the pier was specified at 95 feet wide, 1,300 feet long with a depth of 32 feet. Inlet Island is located on the south side of the causeway between Beaufort and Morehead City.

Roelofs Speaks To Rotary Club

E. W. Roelofs, program chairman of the community service committee, spoke at the Morehead City Rotary club meeting Thursday night on the subject Why Solid Citizens Shrink from Jury Duty.

He pointed out that the state laws have done much to deny the courts the services of the superior type of juror by exempting some thirty to forty occupational groups from jury duty. A show of hands at the meeting indicated that over thirty per cent of Rotary members were thus exempt.

In addition to those exempt by law, too many "solid citizens" ask to be, and are, excused from jury duty. Reasons given are pressure of job or business, boredom, intimidation by lawyers, dingy court-rooms, and the difficulty of getting twelve people to agree on a verdict.

"The odds thus being stacked against intelligence," Roelofs said "the courts in general have come to rely on the old faithful — the unemployed, the aged and infirm, the busy bodies and the morbid hangers-on — in order to fill up the jury box."

Several remedies were proposed, most of them requiring changes in the state laws. But on the local level, Roelofs suggested that the best remedy would be "a decision by the solid citizens to take more interest in our jury system and to serve as a juror when called."

He federally-licensed pilots operat-

With the Armed Forces

Beaufort Navy Fighter Pilot Leads Squadron at Air Show

Lt. Com. Robert H. Hill, jr., USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Hugh Hill of Beaufort, is leader of Fighter Squadron 22, Fleet Air, Jacksonville, Fla., jet unit, which took part in the Labor Day air show in Detroit.

It was the only full Navy squadron assigned to the exposition, which lasted three days and included the Continental Trophy race for midjet planes. The squadron had chalked up over 1,400 carrier landings without accident and made the longest Mediterranean cruise of all U. S. Navy squadrons.

PFC George Kelly Willis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dola Willis, 1311 Shepard st., Morehead City, returned Monday from Korea where he

Committees Will Continue Work

The Calendar of Events club of the chamber of commerce voted at Thursday's meeting to make permanent three of the special committees set up for the Finer Carolina contest.

The committees are school improvement, cleanup and beautification and recreation. The school improvement committee will work with the county school superintendent to bring the schools up to national standards.

The recreation committee has recommended to the club that churches and civic organizations be allowed to use the recreation center every Wednesday night. The use of the center will be rotated among the various organizations.

The club has announced that all projects for the Finer Carolina contest have been completed with the exception of the city park. The contest closes Oct. 31.

Police Report Two Accidents

Two minor automobile accidents were reported by Morehead City police on Sept. 12.

The first occurred at 20th and Bridges st. at 6:50 p.m., when a 1942 Dodge sedan driven by Berldin Pittman of RFD 1, Morehead City, was in collision with a 1948 Ford driven by William Edward Crank, Beaufort RFD. The Ford is owned by his wife, Gladys Crank.

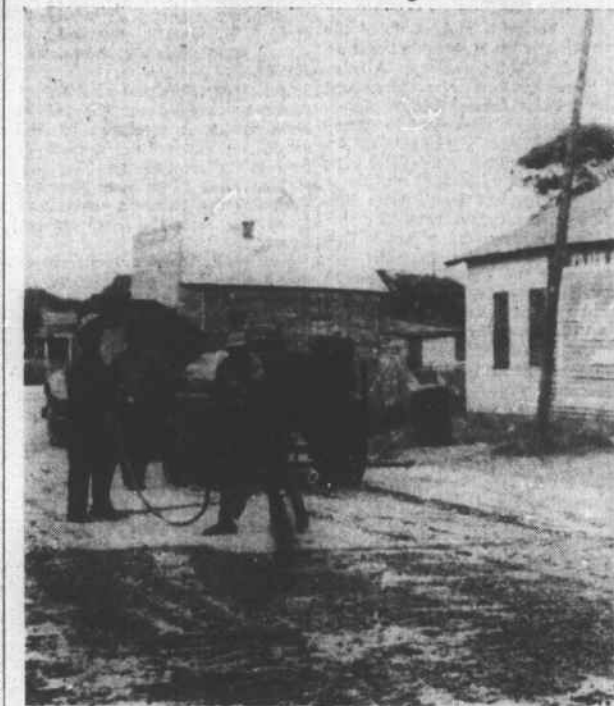
Damage to the Pittman car was estimated at about five dollars. The car driven by Crank was damaged to the extent of \$150. The left fender, grill, hood and bumper were damaged.

The second accident occurred at 11:10 p.m. at 11th and Avery st. It occurred when a parked 1946 Plymouth was struck by a 1941 Buick. The Plymouth is owned by George Brimmer of Beaufort RFD. Damage to the car was estimated at \$25.

Eddie Lee Howell, 304 N. 15th st., Morehead City, is owner of the Buick. He says the accident happened when he pulled in too close and hit the Brimmer auto. There was no damage to the Howell car. Captain BUCK Newsome investigated.

Investigation Continues in Prison Camp Robbery

Town Pays All Cost of Paving Street



For the first time, the town of Morehead City has paved a street without assessing property owners for part of the cost. Town workmen, under the supervision of Street Superintendent J. V. (Hooty) Waters, have paved 11th street between Bay and Bridges. Previously, property owners were forced to pay two-thirds of the cost of all paving. The town paid the remainder of the cost.



The street has been surfaced with macadam and hot asphalt. It is the first time the street has been paved. The street, which is next to the high school athletic field, will serve as a test street. It will enable town officials to determine the cost of paving other streets in the town.

NEWS-TIMES photos by Bob Gately

Wilmington Port To Be Dedicated

Wilmington — This port takes on an official new look this week with the formal dedication of the multi-million dollar, state-owned docks and terminals which has been under construction on the Cape Fear river for the past two years.

The dedication ceremonies at the new terminal and in Wilmington are scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m., Thursday with a Camp Lejeune Marine band concert to welcome Naval craft, ranking officials and scores of distinguished visitors.

The dedication of the \$5,000,000 terminal at Wilmington follows by a month the formal opening of similar deep water facilities at Morehead City.

Both Gov. W. Kerr Scott and gubernatorial nominee William B. Umstead will be honored guests and will participate in the program. Vice Admiral E. L. Cochrane, USN, (Ret.) will deliver the principal address, following remarks by Governor Scott.

Joint hosts for the occasion are the city of Wilmington, with Mayor E. L. White officially welcoming visitors; the county of New Hanover and the N. C. State Ports authority whose chairman, A. G. Myers, will introduce members of the authority. Former Wilmington Mayor Hargrove Bellamy will serve as master of ceremonies.

Col. George W. Gillette, executive director of the ports authority, has been advised that at least three Navy and Coast Guard craft will visit the harbor for the occasion and will participate in the ceremonies.

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All are members of Marine Air group 14 and will cooperate with Marine ground and Naval units in See ARMED FORCES, Page 3

Lola Resident Explains Work Behind Cedar Island Bridge

Earl C. Day, Lola, today commented on efforts made to obtain a new drawbridge across the Thoroughfare between Atlantic and Cedar Island. Day's statement, in full, accompanied by letters he received, appears below.

The obtaining of a new draw across the strip of water known as the Thoroughfare, has been a project of many months. In addition to being pushed by Cedar Island residents, the county board of education and other officials have long recognized the need of a new span which would make it safer for travel by the school bus and other motor vehicles.

Day's statement follows: "Early in June of this year Mr. Dennis Goodwin and myself decided we would try to find out, if we could, what the N. C. State Highway commission intended to do about building a bridge across the Thoroughfare between Atlantic and Cedar Island. Our first thought was to take the matter up with Governor Scott, but decided later to contact Mayor Hassell of Beaufort and get his advice as what was best to do. He thought it best to first take the matter up with Mr. Hargett and Mr. Markham (district highway officials), so after several attempts to contact these men, we finally made arrangements to meet Mr. Hargett in Kinston to talk the matter over with him. He

thing can be worked out to the best interest of all concerned.

"So Mr. Hargett told Mayor Hassell what was holding up the building of the bridge was the shortage of steel, due to the strike. Not being satisfied with the answer, I wrote Governor Scott a letter stating the condition of the bridge and especially about the school children having to unload off the bus and walk across the bridge both morning and afternoon, and also told him that we believed if the bridge was not started while he was in office that after he left office, we would be told by a certain faction that he had spent all the money and that there was no money to build the bridge with, or the bridge would be built and that same faction would say, 'See what the new governor has done for Cedar Island.'"

"In reply to my letter to Governor Scott, I received the following letter:

State of North Carolina
Governor's Office
Raleigh
August 26, 1952
Mr. Earl C. Day
Lola, N. C.
Dear Mr. Day:

I appreciate your letter of August 23rd concerning the need for a bridge between Cedar Island and Atlantic, N. C., and I am anxious to help you in any way that I can.

Since I cannot personally acquaint myself with all the details of our tremendous road program, I am asking Mr. Guy Hargett, your highway commissioner, to look into this situation and advise you as to his findings and conclusions.

I am always glad to hear from you and sincerely hope that some-

Beaufort Man Faces Charges

A Beaufort man will go on trial today on a charge of assault with a deadly weapon. Dan Smith, colored, was arrested on the complaint of Mrs. Lydia Branch, also colored.

He is charged with entering Mrs. Branch's house and threatening her with a knife. Mrs. Branch said that the assault took place Thursday.

Smith was arrested by chief Carlton Garner of the Beaufort police. He is free on \$200 bond.

Garner said that Smith is not the Dan Smith who operates a taxi in Beaufort.

Chief Garner arrested George Turner, jr., colored of Beaufort on a charge of public drunkenness. Turner, who was arrested Thursday, is free on \$35 bond.

Lester Fulcher of Sea Level was arrested Friday for public drunkenness. He was arrested by Garner and Lieut. Otis Willis. He has been released on \$35 bond.

Jeff Woodward, Warsaw, N. C., was arrested for public drunkenness by Garner, Willis and Capt. Max Wade. He is free on \$35 bond.

Richard Hardesty, colored, is in the county jail on charges of public drunkenness, resisting arrest and possessing untaxed whiskey. He was arrested yesterday morning by chief Garner. Bond has been set at \$100.

Tanker Arrives
The Esso Lynchburg, coming from Aruba with fuel oil, arrived in Morehead City yesterday. After discharging its cargo here, it will go to Baton Rouge, La.

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Chamber Seeks New Car Ferry

The transportation committee of the Morehead City chamber of commerce decided at its meeting Thursday to seek the highway commission for a car ferry from Cedar Island or Atlantic to Ocracoke. The ferry would connect with the Cape Hatteras highway. The board of conservation and development has been asked to extend the highway to Ocracoke.

The committee will check on the possibility of having the lights restored on the Morehead City-Beaufort drawbridge. The members voted to see what can be done to promote local commercial use of the inland waterway.

Joseph DuBois reported to the committee that the Atlantic and East Carolina railway says it has no funds to paint its station in Morehead City. The station is being used as a bus terminal by the Seashore Transportation company.

Two Steal Cash, Papers; Office Door Left Open

Port Council Asks Regulation Of Waterfront

Body Requests That Coast Guard Enforce Rules, Seeks Funds for Guards

Members of the Morehead City Port Advisory Council, in session Thursday night, requested Lt. L. E. Kelley, port captain, to ask for Coast Guard enforcement of all existing regulations covering waterfront activities, especially in the handling of petroleum products in Morehead City and Beaufort.

The council also agreed to ask the State Ports authority to include an appropriation for guards in the budget for the next fiscal year.

The council surveyed the security needs of the port as a whole and agreed that for the present the users of the port "have authority to provide security as they feel is needed."

It was decided also that members of the advisory council be provided with gold seal security cards. Such cards are to be held also by captains, mates, boatkeepers, and engineers of menhaden fishing boats, these men to be responsible for members of their crews.

D. G. Bell, council member, was authorized to investigate possibility of obtaining office space in the Morehead City post office where a yeoman may handle applications for security cards. The council further suggests that a time be set for applying for the cards which will interfere as little as possible with the fishing operations of the boats.

Because Morehead City has no ordinances regarding waterfront activities, Lieutenant Kelley was requested to furnish Mayor George W. Dill, jr., with copies of municipal regulations enforced in other port cities.

The council set an agenda for the next meeting as follows: city regulations concerning police and fire protection, cooperation between local authorities and the Coast Guard, waterfront fire protection, and radio communication.

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday night, Oct. 2.

Attending Thursday's session, in addition to Lieutenant Kelley, Mayor Dill, and Bell, were W. H. Potter, Beaufort, Walter Edwards, Dr. John Morris, J. D. Holt, and Robert Hicks, chairman.

Disaster Worker Visits Stacy

Miss Mary L. Jones, New Bern, disaster worker on the National Red Cross staff, at Stacy Saturday afternoon surveyed the damage caused by the tornado Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Miss Jones, whose headquarters are at Atlanta, arrived Saturday and expects to remain this week to complete checking on Stacy families in need of assistance.

Of 13 families who suffered damage from the brief but destructive wind storm, nine have applied for financial aid. Miss Jones remarked that she is assisting the Beaufort Red Cross chapter in surveying the individual cases and determining where there are insufficient private financial resources to repair damage. She emphasized that the Red Cross in disaster areas makes monetary remuneration only where the people cannot help themselves.

Accompanying Miss Jones to Stacy Saturday afternoon was Irvin W. Davis, assistant disaster chairman of the area east of Beaufort. With them, to help in making damage estimates, was Elmer Salter of Stacy.

The disaster worker from New Bern stated that Dr. Lawrence Rudder, disaster chairman for Beaufort, was not contacted in regard to Red Cross assistance for Stacy until Sept. 11 and the Atlanta office was notified the next day. For that reason no disaster worker was sent here until now.

Miss Jones has worked in mid-west flood areas, in the tornado zones of Tennessee and Arkansas and hurricane-stricken areas of Florida.

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Announces Meetings
Miss Martha Barnett, county home agent, yesterday announced the following club meetings: Camp Glenn meets tomorrow, 2 p.m., with Mrs. Leslie Brinson; Crab Point, Thursday, 2 p.m., Mrs. J. L. Seamon; Gloucester, Friday, 2 p.m., Mrs. Richard Whitehurst.

The Carteret county sheriff's office and the state bureau of investigation are continuing their investigation into the robbery Tuesday night at the Newport prison camp. The robbery netted \$150. It was discovered at 5:30 Wednesday morning by W. R. Skinner, superintendent of the camp.

Footprints indicate that two men committed the crime. They entered the unlocked office and made off with the foot locker which contained the cash. The locker also contained Skinner's private papers.

The metal cash box was found on the Deep Creek road, about 1 1/2 miles from the camp. Ashes indicated that the foot locker and papers had been burned.

The footprints of two men were discovered in a field near the camp office. The prints indicated that the thieves fled in the direction of Newport. Officers followed the trail with bloodhounds who led them to a house in Newport. The occupant of the house is under investigation.

Concert Drive Opens Today

Community concert salesmen took up their posts today to remain on their posts until Saturday evening at 6 o'clock, when all sales will close for the year, 1952-1953.

Ticket headquarters in Beaufort will be the Eastern Rulane Sales corp., on Craven street; in Morehead City the headquarters will be at the recreation building on Shepard street, in Cherry Point the Cherry Point Dress shop will be the headquarters and Mrs. Ruby Woodruff of Newport will direct sales in Newport.

Mrs. Arthur Diehl, Community Concerts representative, addressed the executive board, directors and salesmen of the Carteret-Cherry Point Community Concerts association last evening when members of the Beaufort PTA served them dinner in the Beaufort school cafeteria.

All former members of the concerts will be contacted, and asked to renew their memberships. The type of concerts to be given will depend on the number of memberships sold. No single tickets may be bought at the door, and no memberships will be sold after Saturday evening.

Two concerts will be given in Beaufort this year, and one in Morehead City.

Mrs. George W. Dill, jr., is president of the association this year. Mrs. G. W. Duncan is vice-president, J. R. Sanders is treasurer and Mrs. G. Henry Jackson is secretary.

Chairmen of the association are publicity, Mrs. Wiley Taylor, jr., dinner, Mrs. R. M. Williams and appointments, Joseph A. DuBois. Chairmen of ticket sales are Mrs. W. L. Woodard in Beaufort, Mrs. Bruce Willis and Mrs. Gus Davis, co-chairmen in Morehead City, Mrs. Inez Temple in Cherry Point and Mrs. Ruby Woodruff in Newport.

Two Tugs Fail In Salvage Try

The Ann Moran and Margot Moran, tugs attempting to rescue the 5,500-ton freighter, Foundation Star, which was hit by the hurricane off Charleston Sept. 7, came into Morehead City Wednesday when the hawser, by which they were towing the vessel, broke.

The Foundation Star sank at 12:41 p.m. Wednesday off Ocracoke, about 65 miles from Morehead City. It was hoped that the vessel could be saved, but high seas forced the tugs to make port. A Coast Guard cutter standing by reported that the Foundation Star went down shortly after noon.

Party boatmen, hearing of the sinking, expressed regret that if she had to sink, she should have gone down closer inshore so that they wouldn't have to go so far to fish. (Game fish abound around sunken vessels).

The Star, of Honduran registry, was carrying molasses when she foundered in Hurricane Baker. Eleven men in a lifeboat were lost, the others were rescued. The cook who refused to leave the vessel finally was taken off but died later from exposure and exhaustion. The skipper was among those lost in the lifeboat.

Wrong Buck
The John Buck convicted of public drunkenness last week in Morehead City court was not John Buck of 2112 Fisher st., Morehead City. Buck, who received a 30-day sentence, is a resident of Greenville.