

County Has Paid Bond Coupons, Board Announces

Commissioners Hear Paving Petitions, New Jail Plans

More than \$500,000 worth of interest coupons on old county bonds have been paid off and the coupons are now back in the county's possession, Dr. K. P. B. Bonner, chairman of the Carteret county commission, announced yesterday morning at the regular monthly meeting of the commission.

The coupons represent interest on bonds which was not paid between the time the county went into default on its bonds in 1922 and the time of the refinancing of the county's obligations in 1937.

"This day marks a new era in the financial stability of the county," Dr. Bonner said in making the announcement.

A resolution disapproving a request by the Beaufort town board that the Beaufort court be allowed "exclusive jurisdiction" for five miles outside its limits was unanimously passed by the county commission. The Beaufort court now has concurrent jurisdiction with the county court and the Morehead City court over much of that area.

Merrimon Paving

Sheriff C. G. Holland brought to the board's attention a petition for paving of a road in the Merrimon community. A petition had been approved several years ago, but no action had been taken by the highway commission, Sheriff Holland said.

Other road petitions which were heard included one in Straits township near Gloucester; a road near Stella; re-paving of a road leading from highway 70 to Taylor's store at Sea Level.

In commenting on the road petition, Moses Howard, commissioner from Newport, said that he thought that the western end of the county should receive some paved roads before more roads were paved in the eastern end of the county.

During the meeting, Sheriff Holland presented plans for an addition to the county jail. He described the present jail as inadequate for the county's needs. "When we get somebody who might want to break out, we have to take him to New Bern or Kingston," the sheriff told the commissioners. The county auditor, James D. Potter, was asked to prepare a possible method of financing jail construction for presentation at the board's next meeting.

Tax Listing Action

The commissioners also passed a resolution asking that the proper authorities cite all persons who willfully and deliberately refuse to list their property for taxes to the grand jury next week. Failure to list property for tax purposes is a violation of the criminal code of the state.

The board also raised the advertising fee on delinquent real estate from \$1.50 to \$2.50. This is for delinquent 1952 taxes. The commissioners also approved the purchase of \$99,000 of bonds during 1952.

The clerk of the court, A. H. James presented the report of payments his office made to the county in February. The total was \$6,142.70 of which \$3,989.80 came from the county recorder's court; \$257.75 from the superior court; \$190.50 from the sale of confiscated motor vehicles; and \$120 from probate and clerk's fees. Fines and forfeitures for the month were \$1,470.65 from the Morehead City recorder's court; \$85 from Vernon Guthrie, justice of the peace and \$120 from Fred Seely, justice of the peace.

English Ship Captain Writes About Ocean Flying Pigeon

The pigeon which flew the Atlantic and landed at Bill Styron's Gulf dock last July is still exciting interest around the world.

Jerry Schumacher, whose picture and story on the bird won wide circulation, received a letter recently from Port Said, Egypt, by way of Colliers magazine about the bird. In September the magazine carried a short notice about the bird in its States of Mind column.

Captain W. King, master of the MT London Spirit whose home is in Yorkshire, England, wrote asking for more detail about the bird. Writing to Walter Davenport of the Colliers staff, he said:

"I read with great interest your last item of 48 States of Mind in your issue of September 20, 1952, regarding the pigeon retrieved by Mr. Schumacher of Morehead City, N. C. I am wondering if this is your 'Jennifer'."

"We sailed from England July 19 for Houston, Texas, and ran into widespread fog at the western approaches to the English Channel. Forty-eight hours later, about 600 miles west, Jennifer ambled into the chartroom exhausted. We gave him a drink and a feed of various well advertised breakfast cere-

Morehead City Chamber Hears Barden Friday

Congressman Graham A. Barden of New Bern told an informal meeting of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce Friday night that the proposed coastal highway connecting the outer banks highway at Hatteras to highway 70 at Atlantic is "one of those things that take time to realize."

"You may have to do it in short bits," he continued. "Such roads, however," the North Carolina congressman said, "are projects that the Federal government has been known to assist."

Congressman Barden spoke at a Clambake held in the recreation center. Grover Menden, president of the business group, presided over the meeting. Joseph Dubois, chamber manager, outlined the proposed highway to the group.

The coastal highway would link the recently constructed highway from Nags Head to Cape Hatteras by ferry to Ocracoke Island. Eighteen miles of paving on Ocracoke and a car ferry from the island to Atlantic would complete the highway running from Elizabeth City down the Carolina coast connecting with highway 17 below Jacksonville.

Leaders have pointed out that

tourists desiring to take the ocean highway south are now detouring at least 50 miles away from the banks and the Carteret recreation area on highway 17. Such a coastal highway would also connect state and national parks for two-way traffic.

Clyde Douglass, Raleigh attorney and Morehead City property owner, congratulated the group on "visualizing a coastal highway which will mean so much to this community."

"The only way a turtle makes progress is by sticking his neck out," Mr. Douglass said, "and men and women also have to stick their necks out to make any progress."

In his comments, Mr. Douglass also lauded Morehead City country club for their golf course development. "I am astounded at the golf course," he said. "It will mean much to this whole area."

Many out-of-town guests attended the meeting. The food preparation committee was headed by H. P. Scripture.

Members of the business group were urged to promote the coastal highway in every way possible. Leaders are attempting to interest state or federal agencies in the project.

Charlie Piner's Tug Launched, To Be Finished in Five Weeks

Beaufort Radio System Complete

The Beaufort police radio system was completed Thursday with the installation of a telephone extension in the Morehead City police station. The installation of the extension makes a policeman available to citizens of Beaufort at all times.

Morehead City officers will now be able to answer the Beaufort telephone when Beaufort officers are on patrol in the police car. They will then dispatch the car by radio to the scene of any trouble. Until the extension was installed, it was necessary for residents to call the Morehead City police department in order to reach Beaufort officers.

Glenn Adair, Beaufort police commissioner, said that he wished to emphasize that Beaufort residents can still reach the police by calling the old number, 2-5611. The telephone will ring in both stations and will be answered by Morehead City officers if the Beaufort police are out on patrol.

The telephone extension was to have been installed when the radio was placed in the Beaufort car in January. Technical problems connected with running the extension from Beaufort to Morehead City delayed the installation until the present time.

Commissioner Adair said that the extension proved its value shortly after it was installed. A resident of Queen street called to report some trouble and the Morehead City station dispatched the Beaufort car to the scene. The officers arrived and had the trouble under control within a minute of the time that the call was made.

Commissioner Adair said, "We are very pleased with the setup and are grateful to the Morehead City town officials for their cooperation."

Capt. Charlie Piner's tugboat, which he has been building on the shore of Bogue sound off Shackelford street, Morehead City, was launched Friday after an attempt Wednesday afternoon left the tug aground in shallow water.

As the tug slid down the ways Wednesday, it did not gain enough momentum to carry it into deep water and it came to rest with its bow still high on the shore. Piner finally pulled it free at high tide Friday afternoon.

The tug was brought to a Morehead City dock Saturday and will remain there while the engine is installed and the deck house is finished. Captain Piner estimates that the tug will be completed and ready for operation in about five weeks.

The launching was originally scheduled for Jan. 15, but bad weather and a shortage of materials delayed the construction.

Captain Piner will operate the tug as the Carteret Towing company and will use it to bring ships in and out of the harbor. There is also a possibility that the tug will be equipped for use as a fireboat.

A 400-horsepower diesel engine will turn the 72-inch screw and the boat's owner says that the tug will be powerful enough to handle any ship which uses the facilities of the Morehead City port terminal.

The 67-foot craft will have sleeping quarters for a crew of six and will also have a galley, pilot house and toilet and bathing facilities.

The tug's hull was constructed completely with native North Carolina hard pine. Captain Piner said that the native pine, although more expensive, is better suited to shipbuilding than other varieties. It was the difficulty of obtaining the pine which held up construction of the tug. The tug and its equipment cost approximately \$75,000.

Captain Piner said that he believes that a local tug will attract more shipping to the Morehead City port. He said that many companies will not send their ships to ports where tugs are not available.

Core Creek Men Have Blanks

Dan Walker, manager of the Beaufort chamber of commerce, has announced that application blanks for telephone service in the Core Creek community may be obtained from J. M. Whitley and Jeff Sabiston.

The two men received the applications at a meeting Wednesday night at the Core Creek Methodist church. Mr. Walker and Dr. W. L. Woodward, chairman of the chamber's utilities committee, spoke at the meeting and explained procedures being used in the telephone survey which the chamber is making in rural sections of Carteret, Craven, Onslow and Jones counties.

A recorded talk by Walter Fuller of the North Carolina RTA was presented at the meeting, which was arranged by E. M. Foreman, county forest ranger.

R. M. Williams, county farm agent, has announced that meetings will be held Wednesday night in Bettie and Otway. The Bettie meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at Cleve Gillikin's store, and the meeting in Otway will be held at 8:30 p.m. at Connie Gillikin's store. Mr. Williams and Mr. Walker will speak at the meetings.

Al Newsome, assistant county agent, has arranged a meeting at 7 p.m. March 11 at the Crab Point grocery.

German Vessel Brings Cargo Here Sunday

S. S. Carl Fisser Unloads Potash For Fertilizer

The cargo of a German freighter being discharged at the Morehead City port terminal this week may promote a new pattern of North Carolina harbor development and prove of "deep significance" to the state's northeastern farm and industrial economy, leaders here declare.

The S. S. Carl Fisser arrived at the dock Sunday and is the first foreign merchant vessel to import fertilizer to its new deep sea terminal. It brings in several thousand tons of muriate potash from Europe for manufacture and distribution throughout this area. Other ships with similar cargoes are expected this spring and summer, it was said.

Agricultural Commodities

Morehead City has had a brisk petroleum products traffic and a heavy movement of cargo and personnel for the U. S. Marine bases at Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point, with more than 80 navy vessels visiting the port within the past 60 days. But special interest has been centered on the import of agricultural commodities, and the docking of the Carl Fisser begins what Morehead City leaders hope will develop into a two-way traffic to make this harbor one of the principal fertilizer and tobacco import-export centers on the South Atlantic coast.

The potash was directed to the port by General Fertilizer corporation of New York for the account of Mathieson Chemical corporation's standard fertilizer division at Williamston, one of the state's largest processors of insecticides, fungicides and fertilizer.

J. D. Holt, port manager at Morehead City, said special conveyor equipment has been purchased by the Authority to handle bulk shipment. He also announced that the well known stevedoring firm of Stevenson & Young have expanded their Atlantic coast operations to include offices at Morehead City. The firm is handling the Carl Fisser's cargo and is moving in equipment to handle all type of traffic, Holt said.

Heavy Fertilizer Consumption

"The tobacco and grain growing areas of northeastern North Carolina are probably the heaviest consumers of fertilizer in the state," Mr. Holt declared, "yet traditionally this vital material has always moved to us through Norfolk and Wilmington with a higher transportation cost which the consumers must pay. We believe the current movement through our terminal will demonstrate that as much as a dollar a ton can be saved for users in some areas when it comes through Morehead City."

"It would certainly be to the personal interest of every farmer, dealer and processor in this section of North Carolina to influence the use of our deep water facilities upon which the state has spent several million dollars for modern warehouses and docks," Holt added.

"The tobacco crop alone used 531,000 tons of fertilizer last year and a high percentage of it was imported. The state uses close to 2,000,000 tons of fertilizer a year," Holt said.

Holt said the state authority has a program for rate equalization with other ports on all commodities, and that plans for additional warehouse space are already being made for the terminal here.

"Eventually," he said, "we hope to have all the equipment and service here to accommodate the export and import of any commodity for which there is a North Carolina demand."

C. G. Crockett, manager of the Mathieson branch plant at Williamston, indicated the Carl Fisser's cargo was a forerunner of similar movement. His firm has been in business at Williamston since 1927. It produces aluminum irrigation equipment as well as agricultural chemical commodities.

Holt described the decision of Stevenson & Young to open operations at Morehead City as a major port development. Up until the present, he said, stevedoring has been managed with equipment and some labor being imported from Wilmington and Norfolk with a higher cost accruing to shippers.

Tide Table

Tides at Beaufort Bar			
HIGH	Tuesdays, March 3		LOW
9:40 a.m.	3:46 a.m.		
10:01 p.m.	3:53 p.m.		
Wednesdays, March 4			
10:11 a.m.	4:22 a.m.		
10:36 p.m.	4:25 p.m.		
Thursdays, March 5			
10:46 a.m.	4:50 a.m.		
11:15 p.m.	4:59 p.m.		
Fridays, March 6			
11:26 a.m.	5:40 a.m.		
11:59 p.m.	5:38 p.m.		

Carteret Farm Leaders Reveal Agricultural Progress Plans

Two Held for Car Theft, Have Inferiority Complex

Morehead Merchants Hold Election Today

The annual election for officers of the Morehead City Merchants association will be held this morning at 11:30 in Captain Bill's waterfront restaurant.

J. C. Harvell, president of the group, urged all the members of the association to attend the meeting. Plans for the coming year will also be made at the meeting.

Plans Completed For Fund Drive

Final plans for the annual fund drive of the Beaufort chapter of the American Red Cross were made at a kick-off meeting Friday night in the Beaufort town hall. The goal in the drive which will cover Beaufort and the eastern part of the county is \$2,700.

Braxton Adair, chairman of the chapter, gave the campaign workers instructions for the drive which began Sunday and will continue until March 16. He also passed out the material which will be used in the drive and explained its use.

The drive will be conducted through personal contacts with potential contributors. The area covered by the drive will be divided into sections with a chairman for each section. Workers will then contact residents of the sections to solicit contributions.

Mrs. Alma Potter Howard will be in charge of the drive in the residential sections of Beaufort. Mrs. Charles Harris of Marshallberg will conduct the drive in the commercial sections. Mrs. R. M. Davis will have the Beaufort business district. Mrs. Frank King will handle contributions from special groups such as county and town employees and school teachers.

Section chairmen assisting Mrs. Harris are Mrs. Paul Davis of Wilston, Mrs. Virgil Styron of Davis, Mrs. Dennis Pittman of Stacy, Mrs. Hallett Styron of Sea Level, Mrs. Brantley Morris of Atlantic and Mrs. Headen Willis of Smyrna.

Permits Issued For New Roofs

Permits to reroof five buildings were among eight building permits amounting to \$4,137 issued in Beaufort during February, according to Gerald Woolard, building inspector. The roof repairs necessitated by the high winds which struck last month.

O. W. Lewis received a permit to reroof a business building on Front street at a cost of \$1,000. C. D. Jones company received a permit to reroof its Front street store. The work will cost \$480. Will Potter obtained a permit to reroof a business building on Front street at a cost of \$480.

Dick Parker received a permit to reroof a dwelling on Ann street at a cost of \$300. Leon Merrill received a permit to reroof a dwelling on Marsh street at a cost of \$280.

C. G. Austin obtained a permit to build a garage on Cedar street. The garage will cost \$700. William Roy Hamilton received a permit to alter a dwelling on Gordon street at a cost of \$500. G. H. Besant received a permit to make repairs on a dwelling on Ann street. The repairs will cost \$300.

Morehead City Rotary Has Quiz Program

Celebrating the anniversary of Rotary international, the Morehead City Rotary club conducted a quiz program on Rotary at its meeting last Thursday night.

Dr. Eugene Roelofs was in charge of the program. Members who failed to answer their questions correctly were fined. The fines were donated to school lunch program for underprivileged children. A visitor at the meeting was the Rev. J. H. Waldrop, Jr., of Newport.

Fire Damages Sign

Fire Sunday night caused minor damage to a sign at the Central Motor company's used car lot on Arendell street. The Morehead City fire department extinguished the fire before it could cause any extensive damage. The fire is believed to have been caused by wiring in the electric sign.

"We need to start work for something better than just getting by," said Artis Garner of near Newport in commenting on the proposed long-range program for agricultural progress in Carteret county.

Mr. Garner's comment summed up the opinions of approximately 50 representative county farmers and interested business men who heard the presentation of the tentative program at the county court house Thursday night. The group voted unanimously to accept the preliminary report and begin work on a final draft.

The long-range planning program is a part of the statewide North Carolina Challenge agricultural program prepared by the state board of Farm Organizations and Agencies.

Years of Fluctuation

R. M. Williams, county farm agent, presided over the meeting. "Carteret county has had 50 years of great fluctuation, and our farmers have come through the period still strong," he said.

Pointing out that no nation is stronger than its natural resources, Mr. Williams said, "We must work with what we have and start where we are to increase the rural standard of living and conserve and protect our national resources."

The 1950 census showed that Carteret county has a total population of 23,059 with 4,021 people engaged in agricultural work. In the five years from 1945 to 1950, the number of farms decreased from 1,085 to 614; the number of farm acres from 60,929 to 57,015; and the number of acres used for cultivation crops decreased from 19,925 in 1945 to 15,436 in 1950.

The county's farm income in 1950 was estimated at \$3,500,000. Truck crops using 27 percent of the cultivated land accounted for 35.6 percent of the income; tobacco used 16 percent of the land and accounted for 28.5 percent of the income; while forestry using 73 percent of the land brought in only two percent of the income. Livestock accounted for 15.5 percent of the income.

Most of the county farms are small and many are operated on a part-time basis. In the 1945-1950 period, however, the average size of farms in this county increased from 52 to 96 acres.

Seven Sections

The long-range plan has been divided into seven sections, and a committee composed of professional farm workers and county farmers has been working on each section. The reports were made Thursday night by the committee chairman.

Roy Beck, soil conservation service, is chairman of the land use and soil committee. He reported that his committee recommended that the county work towards doubling the present cultivated acreage and adding 30,000 acres in See AGRICULTURE, Page 5

After leaving the marine at the air station, the men continued east on US 70 instead of returning to New Bern to pick up US 17. They ran out of gas in Stacy and slept beside the road. In the morning they borrowed enough gas to reach Pittman's service station.

At the service station, one of the men told Mrs. Pittman that his father was working in Atlantic and said that he would get the money from him to pay for the gas. They then drove toward Atlantic but quickly turned around and headed west. When Mrs. Pittman saw them pass, she called the highway patrol.

New Yorker Burned to Death In Blazing Broad Creek Home

Post Tooker, 65, a retired New York architect, is believed to have been burned to death early yesterday morning in a fire which destroyed his Broad Creek home.

Coroner L. D. Springle said that hot ashes had hampered a search of the ruins but that neighbors

were certain that Tooker had been in the house at the time of the fire. Springle returned to the scene of the fire late yesterday afternoon in the hope that the two to three feet of ashes would have cooled sufficiently to permit a search of the ruins.

Springle and George Dill, Morehead City undertaker, went to the scene while the building was still blazing and decided to return after the fire had burned itself out. When they returned later in the morning, the ashes were still too hot to permit a search. The men placed boards across the ashes in an effort to reach the ruined house, but the intense heat set the boards on fire.

The fire was discovered at about 2 a.m. yesterday morning by a neighbor who called the Morehead City fire department. The man said that the house was already blazing when he first saw the fire. The building was a raging inferno when firemen reached the scene and they could do nothing to bring it under control. Neighbors said that Tooker had made extensive repairs on the house and that there was a large amount of lumber in the building.

Coroner Springle planned to swear in a jury and take it with him to the scene when he returned yesterday afternoon. He said that he hoped at that time to be able to find out what had happened. The cause of the fire is as yet unknown, and the complete destruction of the house makes it unlikely that the cause will ever be definitely determined.

Tooker had been spending his vacations at Broad Creek for many years and had spent most of his time there since his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Gertrude, and a son, William, both of Long Island, New York.

Merchants Group To Hold Meeting

The Morehead City Merchants association will meet this morning to elect officers for 1953 and make plans for the coming year at Captain Bill's waterfront restaurant. The meeting will start at 11:30.

At a meeting of the group last Friday morning, the elections were set for today. J. C. Harvell is president of the group now. The nominating committee's report was made by D. G. Bell, chairman.

Nominated for president was R. B. Howard. Other nominations were W. B. Chalk vice-president; J. C. Harvell, treasurer; and Joe DuBois, secretary.

Nominated for membership on the group's board of directors were Vergil Jenkins, furniture; Oscar Allred, jewelry; W. C. Matthews, drugs; E. C. Watson, general merchandise; and Jasper Bell, special service.

Other nominations will be made from the floor this morning.

At the Friday meeting, voting for officers was postponed due to the small number attending the meeting. During that meeting the members discussed "Friday night openings and a 'clerk of the month' award program. Discussion and final decision on both of these ideas was tabled until today's session.

In a letter to the membership, Mr. Harvell urged every business in Morehead City to send a representative. "No decision is possible without the participation of a large majority of our business firms," he wrote.

Woman Receives Minor Injuries

Mrs. Marie Murrell, North River Negroes, suffered minor injuries, Sunday afternoon when she was struck by a car on the Merrimon road. She was taken to the Morehead City hospital where she was treated for a lacerated scalp.

Martin Davis, Negro, of Rt. 1 Beaufort, operator of the car which struck the woman, said that he was driving north on the Merrimon road at the time of the accident.

Davis told Highway Patrolman W. J. Sykes that he had just passed another car and had pulled back into his own lane when the woman crossed the road and stepped in front of his car. Davis said that he applied his brake and turned the car toward the ditch on the right side of the road in an effort to avoid the woman. He said that the left rear fender of his car struck the woman as the car swung around.

Witnesses substantiated Davis' story.

The accident was the second of the same type in that area within recent weeks. Earl E. Johnson, three-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Johnson, was fatally injured Jan. 22 when he was struck by a car operated by Marvin Britt of Bettie.

Few Building Permits Issued

Only three building permits were issued in Morehead City during February, according to A. B. Roberts, building inspector. The permits were for two commercial structures and for alterations to a residence.

The Sinclair Refining company has received a permit to erect a metal building at its bulk filling station on Evans street. The building will cost \$2,400. In December, the company received permits for a one-story building and storage tanks at the plant.

The Gulf Oil company will erect a small building on its dock at an estimated cost of \$950. The building will be used for an office and for storing marine supplies. It will be separated from the present building which is used as a lounge for yachtsmen.

Grover Menden has received a permit for alterations on his Evans street home. The work will cost \$700.

Construction is running well behind that during the corresponding period of last year. Permits for February total \$4,050 compared to \$14,115 for February 1952. Construction for the first two months of this year amounted to \$11,015 compared to \$22,815 for the first two months of last year.