Carteret County News-Times "Carteret County's Newspaper"

EDITORIAL PAGE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1953

Timber Valuation Needs Examination

Every year at this time the Carteret county board of commissioners worries about ways and means of raising its share of the cost of forestry service in the county. The state bears 65 per cent of the cost and the county the remaining 35 per

As usual, the only solution which presented itself was to ask owners of large timber tracts, particularly the two paper companies in the county and Miss Georgina Yeatman, to make donations to help the county out.

There are at least three things wrong with this: the county is placed in the demeaning position of seeking donations for services after the collection of taxes; a mild form of legal extortion is practiced in threatening to abandon the service if donations are not forthcoming; and three owners make up the difference for everybody.

The whole crux of the matter is that the county's valuation on timber land is ridiculously low, probably no more than onetenth of its real value. The auditor's office tries to fit most real property valuations into a program at approximately onequarter to one-third of the real value, though of course this cannot be uniform and there are differences.

Obviously the county, if it is to keep the good faith of the citizens, must make some adjustment of the tax structure so that county services can be paid for out of legitimate revenues without resorting to the dubious device of asking or demand-

Now as a matter of fact, it is clear that the owners of timber land are not carrying their fair share of the tax load. This is as true of small timber land owners as it is of the pulp wood companies and other large land owners since the forestry service and forest fire-fighting services are extended without discrimination to small and large land owners alike.

The reason for the low valuation on timber land is that the county has not had a general re-valuation in many years. An average of \$10 to \$15 per acre value on timber land might have been a fair valuation 15 years ago but timber land has increased in value more rapidly than any other kind of property in Carteret county during the intervening years.

According to legal opinion, the county cannot raise the valuation on timber land without a general re-valuation. Our guess would be that there are similar areas in the county's tax structure where one group coasts on the tax payments of others and a genuine, thorough-going re-valuation should benefit the entire financial structure of the county.

If this is not done, there is no way of knowing which seg-

ment of our economy will be asked for donations next.

Sound Finances

The present administration in Beaufort is living up to its promises to give the people of Beaufort efficient, economical government and to make every effort to keep the town on a sound financial footing.

The efficiency of the government and the savings which it

has effected have been demonstrated by the manner in which the town has been able to reduce its debts.

Funds are already budgeted to pay off the \$11,238.11 in interest funding bonds which are due July 1, 1954. These bonds are scheduled to be paid when they fall due next sum-

In addition to having enough money to meet its current obligations, the town was recently able to purchase several of the bonds which fall due in 1974. These bonds were purchased at a considerable discount.

These general refunding bonds, valued at \$100 each, were purchased for \$83.50. The town was thus able to save \$990 on the purchase of \$6,000 worth of bonds. In addition, the town was able to save the interest on the bonds for 21 years, interest which would have amounted to \$4,642.40. This made a total saving to the taxpayers of Beaufort of \$5,632.40.

The amount of 1974 bonds redeemed are merely a drop in the bucket when one considers that there are still \$405,000 in 1974 bonds outstanding. If the town is able to maintain its finances on their present standing, however, it will be likely that many of these bonds will be retired long before they

Under any administration it is quite likely that the town would have been given the opportunity to purchase the 1974 bonds at such a saving. It is questionable, however, that funds would have been available with which to purchase them.

Much of the credit for Beaufort's present strong financial position must go to one man — Dan Walker, town clerk and tax collector. He is the one whose practices of saving money and of seeing to it that the town receives the tax money which is due it made it possible for the town government to have money in the bank when the opportunity came to purchase

Mr. Walker can take pride in the fact that Beaufort's finances have improved so much in the few years that he has held office.

Prosperity Hurts Gold Business

On hot days when things are not going very well, all of us sometimes need a little cheering or if that is not available

perhaps the knowledge that some people are "worse off."
We noted recently that included in this class of people who are "worse off" are gold mine operators in South Africa.

Their plight is sad and paradoxical.

They have no trouble selling every ounce they mine, but, like others, they are caught between rising costs, labor, and taxes while the price on the produce has been pegged by the U.S. Treasury. Some have closed down, and profits are steading ly sagging for all the others.

Their remedy is two-fold: produce uranium and hope for a world depression. We prefer the first alternative if we have a choice, even if a depression would make gold profitable.

CARTERET COUNTY NEWS-TIMES

Carteret County's Newspaper
Winner of National Editorial Association
and North Carolina Press Association Awards A Merger of THE BEAUFORT NEWS (Est. 1912) and THE TWIN CITY TIMES (Est. 1986) Published Tuesdays and Fridays By THE CARTERET PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.

Lockwood Phillips — Publishers — Eleanore Dear Phillip

Publishing Office At 504 Arendell St., Morehead Oity, N. C. Mail Rates: In Carteret county and adjoining counties. \$6.00 one year, \$3.50 gix months, \$1.25 one month; elsewhere \$7.00 one year, \$4.00 six months, \$1.50 one month;

Member Of Member Of Audit Buress of Circulations The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to use for republication of local news printed in this newspaper, as well as all AP news described.

Entered as Second Class Matter at Morehead City, N. C.



Camera News

By Irving Desfor

WITH AN AVERAGE VACATION picture-taking spree just finished, here are a few do's and don'ts based on my experiences which might boost your own picture average.

My prize "Don't!" is based on an effort to squeeze an extra frame or two from a 35mm roll of color film

All camera instructions stress the necessity of getting roll film properly started. In 35mm, there must be no doubt that the take-up spool actually grips and winds up the film. However, many photographers try to shoot on the leader of color film in an effort to get 21 pictures on a 20-exposure roll.

But I tried too hard having been successful in this maneuver before. I started the film in the take-up reel, closed the camera back then began shooting pictures of our picnic. A few days later shooting continued at the zoo then I finished the roll at the beach.

However, when the film counter passed 22 and went on to 23, 24 and 25, I began to wonder . . . and worry. After 27 I knew something was wrong because I felt no tension in winding film. Perhaps I had pulled



For the vacation album, look for the informal shots that round out the story. This was shot from a low angle to suggest the beach background with a minimum of clutter.

the film free from the cassette? That night I opened the camera in a dark room but found instead that the film was back in its original cas-

Had the film been exposed or was it blank?

I RELUCTANTLY mailed the film to the color proc out. The results showed that I had wasted a lot of time, effort . . . and color film . . . at the picnic, zoo and beach. Now I knew that the film had slipped off the reel at the start and rolled back.

You can be sure that I've followed the instructions since then of see ing the film being transported in the sprockets before the back is replaced. I've heard that some professionals remove the lens of their 35mm camera to watch the film being moved at the start of a roll. Proper threading and moving of film applies to non-magazine movie cameras

On the credit side, the incident pointed up the value of using separate cameras for color and black-and-white. On each occasion mentioned, having used both cameras, there is a black-and-white picture record for the family album. That's better than a complete blank

On a later visit to the beach, a whole roll of color film was saved by trusting a meter reading instead of my own judgment. The sun had disappeared behind a cloud haze and stayed there.

was sure, with the absence of sun, that an exposure of 1/50th of a second at about f 3.5 or f 4.5 was necessary. But the meter pointer insisted on hovering between f 5.6 and f 8, even when pointed toward the sand. After many efforts to see if it would change its mind to conform to

my judgment, I surrendered to electronic science and shot according to THIS TURNED OUT to be a wise decision for the color was perfect.

It showed that diffused, open haze light at the beach is surprisingly strong. It made for better color transparencies since it eliminated all the deep black shadows that a strong sun usually brings.

It showed, too, that the game of estimating checking with a meter is dating and quite instructive.

My vacation also taught me that because of the expense of color film, one can be too cautious in estimating needs. I ran short of film and regretted my economy—but this didn't produce any color film when I needed it.

I've learned since that my neighborhood camera dealer would gladly have given me an ample extra supply, with any surplus returnable if unused. In my case it would have been a good deal . . . for him! I'd have shot the whole works anyway and still run short.

Today's Birthday

born Aug. 7, 1890, at Fredonia. Kan. Junior senator from Nevada

and a civil enand power

GEORGE WILSON MALONE,

gineer, Malone has a wide knowledge of flood control, water supply, gineer, he re-signed to bethe secretary of

interior on the construction of Hoover Dam. As senator he op-posed Marshall Plan funds and the North Atlantic pact.

Washington By Jane Eads

Washington — Busiest woman in Washington when the 17-year lo-cust popped up was Eleanor Clay. The "Answer Lady" of the Department of Agriculture's office of information, she was deluged with worried queries about the noisy horde of invaders.

"I'm just about frantic," Mrs. Clay told me harriedly, "At first it seemed we were getting as many calls as there were cicadas (they're not really locusts at all)-abo one a minute. People were worried about losing property. Some re-called the Bibical story of locust plagues in Egypt, asked if that's what was happening. Some wanted to know if it was true that the dis-tinct black 'W' toward the outer end of the wings fortells war, or if cicadas poison fruit by stinging

Mrs. Clay and her four assistants told questioners none of these beliefs were true, that the cicada is widely distributed over the east-ern half of the U. S. and occurs nowhere else in the world, that it doesn't feed on foliage, doesn't sting, isn't poisonous and shouldn't be confused with the locust, a species of grasshopper. Injury is due primarily to the scars where the female has laid eggs in tender twigs of young oaks, hickories, apple trees and grape vines.

After the eggs hatch, in four or five weeks, the tiny, barely-visable young fall off the twigs and bore into the ground, and that's the end of them for another 17 years.

A new Agriculture department booklet, "The Periodical Cicada, The 17-year Locust," gives details on the insects' development, time and place of appearance, and ways of combating it. (You may obtain a copy free by writing to the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Please do not write this newspaper.)

Mrs. Clay is used to requests for information. Her department got close to 60,000 telephone inquiries and answered questions of some 18,000 visitors in 1952. These included such things as "can cigars be kept in a home freezer?" an egg is laid is the shell hard, or does it get hard after the air hits it?" "Where do I get a health certificate to get married?" and "Where can I get a butterfly for a

large baby carriage on his line and safely pulled it on the wharf.

By wire to the Coaster. Winston-

State horse hose wagon races be-gan at 2:45 this afternoon. The time made by the different com-panies are as follows:

Tarboro 32 2/5 Fourth Ward, New Bern. 32 3/5

New Bern, Riverside...... 31 Caswell of Kinston blow off.

Morehead City won first place

but for the fact that our man at

the nozzle was a little to quick in disconnecting after water had been taken. Burlington made a protest, and of course the association gave them the money, but the president says our time will be put on the minutes of the association as it is the best time be has seen in a num.

the best time he has seen in a num-ber of years. It is hard luck but

everything works against us. We

will enter the interstate races Fri-

day and expect to make the same time we did today and let the judge take the nozzle off when he sees fit. Thousands of people cheered us in making such a pretty run and think we should have the money.

That the attack of "Dr." Warren

H. Booker of the State Board of Health upon the town of Morehead City has had the desired effect is

proved by the closing of the At-lantic hotel on last Sunday. While hundreds of visitors are yet in the

city stopping at the Charles hotel

and the numerous boarding houses it can be seen that the usual num-

Vic Vet says

DO YOU PLAN TO TRAIN UNDER THE KOREAN GI BILL?...YOULE NEED A PHOTOSTAT OR CERTIFIED TOY OF YOUR DISCHARGE

COPY OF YOUR DISCHARGE OR SEPARATION PAPERS TO ACCOMPANY YOUR APPLICATION

30 3/5 35

31 3/5

39 2/5

373/5

313/5

35

Here and There By F. C. Salisbury

Salem, Aug. 5.

Morehead City ..

New Bern No. 1.

New Bern, Atlantic

Burlington Kinston No. 2...

Fayetteville ...

Sanford

Lexington

THE COASTER

August 7, 1914.

the week visiting her cousin, Miss

Miss Lela Grey Wade passed through this city the first of the week on her way to her home at North River. Miss Wade has been visiting relatives and friends in New Bern for the past two months.

D. B. Wade, jr., made a business trip to Norfolk on Tuesday. Miss Fannie Yarborough returned this week from Bogue where she spent several days with friends. Miss Rachel Royal of Marshall-

The Hon. John M. Morehead left Tuesday afternoon for Charlotte and Greensboro to attend to mat-ters pertaining to the convention of the Republican party on August

Robert Taylor, jr., spent Sunday in LaGrange, returning home Mon-

day morning.

The Rev. H. A. Humble, pastor of the M. E. church of Kinston, and about fifteen members of the Boy Scouts of that place are this week

his brother in a successful meeting at Denbeigh Baptist church. Hill Parham and family returned to their home in Henderson Mon-

Mrs. J. E. Edwards and daugh-

O. B. Willis and daughter Gieula

Miss Helen Chadwick is spend

Miss Lizzie White returned to her home in Kinston after spending few days here with relatives.

Walter Freeman is spending a

few days in Norfolk.

Mrs. L. L. Leary and daughter, Bernice, left Monday friends in Danville, Va.

Miss Dola Simpson of Kinston spent a few days here the first of

berg spent a few days in the city this week.

camping near Camp Glenn.
Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Gorham and
Mrs. Julia Bell left Monday on a

two-week tour of northern cities The Rev. Edwin R. Harris and family returned. Saturday from a trip to Virginia where he assisted

day after spending several weeks

ters, Eleanor and Bessie, of North, S. C., are visiting Mrs. C. Manly

left Tuesday for Norfolk.

Miss Anna Landis of Oxford is spending some time with Miss Sudie Webb.

ing a few days home with her par-ents since a recent illness while attending school in New Bern.

Mrs. R. L. Stroud and daughter Louise who have been visiting Mrs. Stroud's brother, Dr. W. E. Headen, returned to their home in Chapel Hill Tuesday.

The district meeting of the sec-ond district Imperial Order of Red-men was held here Thursday, Au-

gust 6.
While fishing for sharks off the
end of the Standard Oil company's
dock Wednesday morning, A. D.
Willis broke all records made by
local flahermen when he hooked a

BIG TIME . . . They aren't say-much about it yet but State college powers-that-be have definitely de-cided to go big-time on the football field. For several weeks last spring they labored over the problem of whether to get out of football al-together or to take the high road. Now it can be revealed they have finally chosen the latter course.

After this decision had been reached, the question of whether to start from scratch or improve what they have faced them. They have agreed to start from scratch—unless Horace Hendrickson, head coach at State, can perform a miracle this fall. The third item to receive atten-

tion on State's plan for big-time football was selection of a coach. Who would it be? He would have to be someone with the stuff required to do a thorough face-lifting job. All signs now point strongly to-ward Maryland's Big Jim Tatum

as the man. He is nationally regarded as one of football's miracle workers. Naturally, Coach Tatum's coming to State will create personnel prob-lems, but these can be overcome

without too much difficulty as plans develop. HODGES-OLIVE? ... They are whispering around Wake Forest college these days that Good Alum-Hubert Olive of Lexington is not through with politics. Re-ports persist in Baptist Hollow that he is seriously considering running

for governor three years hence

This would mean he must take on Lt. Gov. Luther Hodges of Leaks

ville, for unless he changes his mind, Luther Hodges is sure to be a candidate. Hodges is a hard man to down, whatever he undertakes. This has been so in the past and will con-tinue to be so if he keeps his health. Friends who have seen him since his return from the Rotary

meeting in Paris say he appears to be in the pink of condition. Now here we have a man who "retreated" several years ago. He looks not a little like the man you see in insurance ads having to with "how you can retire on \$150 a month." For someone in retire-ment, he is exceedingly active perhaps more so than many of us who still look forward to the time when we can "take it easy."

Hodges is getting around, but plenty, making speeches here and there, and with it all having a wonderful time. Remember how, when you used to pitch horseshoes, you would hold one up early in the game, sight through it care-fully at the distant stob and mutter something about "getting my distance?" Well, from here it looks as if Lt. Gov. Luther Hodges has come as near as anyone we know to finding the distance on

this thing called life.

If Hubert Olive runs for governor—and has Luther Hodges as opposition—he will indeed have his hands full.

VISITOR . . . Miss Merle Um-stead visited her grandmother., Mrs. C. D. Davis in Rutherford county a few days ago, returning to Raleigh only in time for her eleventh birthday on July 23. The trip was not so important, but Miss Umstead's return to Raleigh was—

e way she returned, that is. With three cars at his immediate command at state expense—and others if he wants them, including umpteen highway patrol flivvers traversing the state—one might think the governor would send one of them plus his chauffeur up to Rutherford to get his one-and-only. Not so. She returned by bus just Not so. She returned by out justlike your own little girl might doarrived home safe and sound, and
enjoyed the trip "immensely."

Incidentally, folks riding along
old Blount street by the mansion
last spring wondered who was the
nice looking elderly lady silently
knitting and sunning on the spa-

knitting and sunning on the spacious lawn. That was Mrs. Davis, who spends most of the time with her daughter and son-in-law; and helped keep things running smoothly in the Umstead house-hold a year ago in the campaign.

Raleigh Roundup

TRUSTY . . . Now that summer is upon us, prisoners out on the road gangs are getting a yen for the gangs are getting a yen for the open country. You read now and then how one went up the road to fetch some water and, well, just kept moving—in the direction of that green horizon, slipping through confields and hiding in the hedgerows.

Complaints have reached us of guards permitting their trusties to call on farm homes to get water for the prisoners repairing the roads. It does seem like a bad practice. These prisoners are criminals-the best of them-who are in prison for committing a wide variety of crimes from stealing to murder. It has been shown time and time again that, given a little leeway, many of them will just naturally take to the bushes. One of them, working at the mansion here recently, took off in one of the state cars. At best, a trusty is potentially dangerous. Some of them set up good behavior records merely and only for an opportunity to create confidence and effect

They go to a farmhouse, "case the joint," and can use it as a means of escaping apprehension at a later date in the event they decide to his the open road. All in decide to hit the open road. All in all, it's a pretty bad practice: this thing of sending trusties into farm homes for water or anything else. A solution would be for the road crews to keep barrels of water on

Or, maybe better, if the guards feel so free to turn them loose on the countryside in search of water, why not give them a gun and let them watch the prisoners while the guards fetch the water?

BOND VOTE . . . Gov. William B. Umstead has set October 3 as the date for the school bond elec-tion. That means that there can be no more beer or wine elections in this state until after December

The law provides that no beer or

wine election can be held within 60 days of any other election. The chances are there will be no elections on wine or beer during the holidays, so it looks as if an armistice will exist on this battlefront for the remainder of 1953. This reminds us that a few paragraphs run in this column several

months ago about the Department of Revenue's holding a beer-wine taxes for Concord and Cabarrus county have finally come The Concord Tribune a few days ago announced in a copyrighted

story, if you please, that someone

in Cabarrus county should go after that money which now is nearing

the \$165,000 total. The real fact is that the beerwine election in Cabarrus was less than 60 days—51 to be exact—from a primary election in Concord. If the courts uphold the contention that the beer-wine election was illegal, then Concord and Cabarrus county will receive their proportion -about \$165,000 - of the funds which are distributed by the state

to the beer-wine counties.

IKE CATTLE . . . Growers of beef cattle have been grousing for several months now about the sharp decline in prices they are receiv-ing. At a cattle sale in one of the western counties last week, a pretty good beef cow was knocked down at four cents a pound. As the sale was completed, one old fed-up cattleman stood and said so every-one could hear him: "I like Ike!"

Then he sat down. They said it pretty nearly broke

WESTERN HORN . . . Up in Boone two weeks ago we went to see "Horn in the West." It's a dilly. of the North Carolina dramas playing outdoors from the mountains to the sea. It never drags, folks, has a strong religious and patriotic mo-tif, is full of historical fact, good music and some fine talent. don't want to plug one show over any of the others, but go see "Horn in the West." It's good!

The Readers Write

Aug. 3, 1953 Garolina Telephone and Telegraph

Company,
Morehead City, N. C.
Gentlemen:
Enclosed please find check for \$5.06 covering July bill which was accompanied by a notice of an increase in rates

After having read this notice which was a rather poor explana-tion and an even poorer excuse for such an increase, I am still wondering why it is necessary to pay \$5.06 per month for no other rea-son than having to listen to a telephone ringing incessantly day and night as is now necessary on a ten-

party line.

Why must I pay \$5.06 per month when one waits for hours on end to get through an emergency call, finally giving up in complete frustration and being forced to drive into town and send a telegram. Or why should I be told by in-town and out-of-town subscribers that they tried for days to call by telephone only to be told time and time party line.

again that "the line is busy?" All of this to the tune of \$5.06 per All of this comes down to three

important questions:
(1) Is this your company's idea
of gaining public good will?
(2) Is this the best that can be done commensurate with a fair return to the investor?

(3) Or, is it what might be expected from a monopoly in com-bination with a utilities commission

in a "one party state?"

Better take it a little easy boys and not overplay your hand or the whole thing might backfire. If it should, don't call it "creeping socialism." Because then the voters would be called upon to de-

cide between "creeping socialis and "galloping reaction." Gu-which would win? I await your answer with inter-

ing socialism."

Respectfully yours, W. S. Kidd Copies have been sent to the NEWS-TIMES and the State Utili-