

# Col. G. W. Gillette Retires, Delivers Talk

Col. George W. Gillette, director of the State Ports Authority since 1947, retired yesterday.

Colonel Gillette made farewell remarks at a dinner at Wilmington during the holidays. The dinner was attended by shipping officials and Wilmington businessmen.

## Director Pioneered

The state ports director who pioneered the state's port development program at Morehead City and Wilmington, predicted that North Carolina's ports, harbors and waterways will be vital factors in Tar Heel economy in coming years.

He said there is "ample evidence" that exports through state ports will continue to increase and import traffic will mount as buyers and sellers learn, by experience, the saving to be gained by using state ports.

## Ports Play Big Role

The ports have played an important role in industrial development in Eastern North Carolina, and the new terminals have added impetus to that growth, Colonel Gillette said. Several industrial developments of far reaching impact, and which are directly connected with port and water-borne operations, will locate in the harbor areas in 1954, he declared.

Besides accommodating commercial and military traffic since the state terminals began operation in the summer of 1952, Colonel Gillette said that work on the adjustments of truck and rail freight rates had produced a more favorable traffic position for North Carolina ports and inland shippers.

New equipment and the construction of a fumigating plant, he added, have put the marine terminals in line to give importers a more complete service for special commodities such as bulk fertilizers, imported cotton and lumber.

# Firm to Build Fill for Bridge

Steen Contracting Corp., Norfolk, Va., has applied to the office of the district engineer for a permit to dredge the Neuse River and to construct a fill for the new highway bridge under construction across the Trent River at New Bern. Contract for the bridge was let several months ago.

Plans submitted to the engineer's office show that approximately 150,000 cubic yards of material will be dredged from the Neuse River and deposited to form a fill approximately 3,000 feet long for the southern approach of the bridge.

Plans may be seen at the office of the district engineer or the post-office at New Bern.

Objections to this project by any person, firm, or association from the standpoint of navigation are to be turned into the district engineer's office by Jan. 7. R. L. Hill, district engineer, said yesterday.

**Tanker Docks**  
The USS Kennebago discharged aviation fuel at Aviation Fuel Terminal on Radio Island Wednesday. It arrived Tuesday and sailed for Texas yesterday.

## Several Businesses Will Close for Holiday

**Happy New Year!**  
Banks, the courthouse, town halls and THE NEWS-TIMES office will be closed today.

You'll just have to take your chances on offices and stores being open. Some will be, some won't. THE NEWS-TIMES hereby makes a New Year's resolution: we are going to give up trying to find out what will stay open and what won't be open on holidays. Businessmen and office managers don't even know themselves.

Their stock reply to an inquiry is, "We'll do what the others are going to do." That, of course, means that they'll come down the street, look and see if anybody else is open; if so, they'll stay open, if not, they'll lock up and go home.

Business will be resumed as usual on Saturday.

# Neighbors, Friends Help Knight Family on Causeway

"Due to the kindness of neighbors and friends and some folks whom I've never even seen, our Christmas was wonderful," said Mrs. Colleen M. Knight of the Beaufort-Morehead City causeway. Mrs. Knight and her two children, Charles 3½, and David, 2, live in an apartment near the Machine and Supply Co. Her husband is serving time on a charge of desertion from the United States Marine Corps. Therefore, she is without means of support.

Mrs. Knight, whose home is in

California, has no way of getting home. "My family has sent me as much money as they could," she explained, then added, "the folks here have been so kind and generous—they have brought us food, given us oil for heating and clothing for the children. And I have been so surprised and so grateful."

Mrs. Knight's husband was charged with desertion from the Marine Corps in July. She is expecting another child next month and will be cared for at the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune. While

# Witness Refuses to Press Charges in Assault Case

Jimmie Darby, crew member of the J. Earl Morris menhaden boat, failed to press charges in Beaufort Recorder's Court Tuesday against Hermon Wilkerson, Baton Rouge, La., and Felcher Michel, Miss. As a result the charges against them were changed.

Darby was seen by Carlton Garner, assistant chief of police, limping down Pine street Wednesday, Dec. 23. Officer Garner stopped Darby and asked him what was the matter.

He then noticed that Darby was cut on the leg and it was bleeding. Darby told the officer that two men had jumped him and tried to beat him up. During the scuffle, Darby said, he received the cut.

Darby described the men and Officer Garner said he had seen them earlier, walking down the street. Both the assistant chief and Darby went after the two alleged assaulters after Officer Garner treated the cut on Darby's leg from the first aid kit in the patrol car.

The assistant chief arrested the men just before they got on their boat which was docked at the foot of Turner street. Darby identified Wilkerson as the man who cut him and Michel as the one who struck him in the face and knocked him down.

## Arrests Both

Garner arrested both men, charging Wilkerson with assault with a knife and Michel with simple assault. Both were released after posting a \$50 bond.

she is in the hospital, Mrs. W. J. Ippock who also lives on the causeway, has offered to care for the children.

Mrs. Knight says she expects to go back to work as soon as possible. Meanwhile she said she sincerely thanks everyone who has helped her in the past as well as those who are helping her at present.

Garner then advised Darby to see a doctor for further treatment of the cut.

When Darby failed to press charges Wilkerson's warrant was changed to public drunkenness and Michel's to public fighting.

## Judge Passes Sentence

Judge Earl Mason sentenced Michel to 30 days in jail to work on the streets or get out of town. Wilkerson was ordered to pay costs on the drunkenness charge.

Donald Brooks, of RFD Beaufort, paid \$100 fine and costs and had his license suspended for one year by Judge Mason. Mr. Brooks was charged with drunk driving and hit and run after a five-car collision on Front street last Thursday.

Four cars were damaged besides Brooks' before Brooks' car came to

halt after starting away from the curb in front of the Colonial Store. W. L. Gillikin and Lewis McWell, charged with public drunkenness, paid costs of court. McWell was also charged with assault, but the case was dismissed.

Judge Mason ordered G. M. Goette, charged with leaving the scene of an accident, to pay \$25 fine and costs or go to jail for 90 days to work the streets.

Cases continued were John George, no operator's license; Floyd Hogan, allowing Emory Goode to fire fireworks from his car; Emory Goode, firing fireworks in Beaufort; and Wilbur Davis, assault, public drunkenness, and disturbing the peace. Another charge of assault against Davis was also continued.

Joseph W. Dye, charged with failing to stop at a stop sign, was reported now living in Georgia. The court has deferred prosecution.

French statisticians estimate that 65 per cent of French families own one or more bicycles.

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# Railway

(Continued from Page 1)

ity of A&EC stock. Reports say that Colonel Buchan and Mr. Edwards have requested \$375,000 for controlling interest in their corporation.

Morehead City officials and business men as well as the State Ports Authority are favorably inclined toward the proposed "pur-

chase" of the road by Southern. It would mean improved rail service for the port, serve as a drawing card for industries to locate along the A&EC trackage, provide more attractive freight rates and will give the state for the first time a single line east-west railroad.

The A&EC's present lease will expire in 11 years. Rental paid by the A&EC to the A&NC is \$60,500 annually.

Wheeled vehicles are unknown in Tibet.

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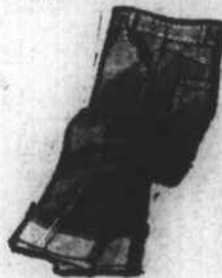
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