

Fire Sweeps Hotel, Beach Buildings

C&D Director Proposes Rule To Settle Dispute Board Will Consider Regulation on Out-Of-State Crabbers

Raleigh—Every effort is being made by the State Department of Conservation and Development to protect the interest of North Carolinians engaged in crabbing in Pamlico Sound and similar areas, it was stated here today by Ben E. Douglas, director of the department, but it is necessary in handling this matter to move within the limits laid down by U. S. Supreme Court decisions, he said.

Mr. Douglas issued a statement after it was reported that the operations of Virginia fishermen presented a threat to the welfare of the North Carolina crabbers because they were using the crab pots.

A regulation has been worked out which will bar out-of-state crabbers unless their states offer reciprocal privileges to North Carolina crabbers. This regulation will be presented to the full Board of Conservation and Development at its quarterly meeting in High Point Tuesday through Saturday and if approved will become effective immediately.

New Problem In discussing the situation, Mr. Douglas said that this was the first year North Carolina crabbers had been presented with this problem although a similar situation arose in connection with shrimping in the sounds of North Carolina about two years ago.

Mr. Douglas said his Department was well aware of the value of the crabbing industry in North Carolina. It brought, he said, approximately \$310,000 to the crabbers during the two-year period which ended last June 30.

The laws of North Carolina provide the same license charges for both in-state and out-of-state fishermen, he said.

Only by barring fishermen from states which do not cooperate by according reciprocal privileges can North Carolina be protected, he added, and thus far it has been necessary to act only in the case of shrimping.

The statement by Mr. Douglas in full is as follows:

"The Department of Conservation and Development is well aware of the difficulties of the crabbers who operate in the Pamlico Sound area and elsewhere along the coast. However the Department is bound by decisions of the United States Supreme Court in making any regulations dealing with out-of-state crabbers.

"The situation which has arisen in the past few days in the Pamlico Sound area has been the subject of the award for fire prevention given to the News-Times in 1954."

The Carteret County News-Times yesterday was named by the National Board of Fire Underwriters as recipient of an honor award for outstanding public service in fire prevention during 1954. The award consists of a framed parchment scroll.

The contest was open to newspapers, radio and television stations throughout the nation. In addition to THE NEWS-TIMES, winners of honor award citations in this field are the Twin City Sentinel, a Winston-Salem daily, and WFMY-TV, Greensboro.

There were 80 entries in the contest. THE NEWS-TIMES submitted a scrapbook containing all the material, newstories, pictures and editorials carried on fires and fire prevention during 1954.

Included in the scrapbook were three letters commenting on the newspaper's fire prevention activities. They were written by Leon Mann Jr., Newport, fire chief in 1954; J. P. Harris Jr., Beaufort, fire commissioner; and Eldon Nelson, Morehead City, fire chief of the Morehead City Department in 1953 and 1954.



Smoke billowed from the Ocean King Hotel at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. Flames ate their way from frame buildings west of the hotel and into the concrete block structure. At left is James Jones, Morehead City bellboy, who noticed the wooden buildings ablaze and gave the alarm. This picture shows the back of the hotel on the landside. The hose line in the foreground was run to Bogue Sound to get water. The fire is believed to have started in a building to the right of this picture. Photo by Clifton Guthrie

Officer Visits Beaufort Jaycees

Jake West of Kinston, ninth district vice-president, visited with Beaufort Jaycees Monday night. He spoke about his visit to the meeting at Louisville, Ky., which honored the 10 outstanding men in the United States in January.

Legislature Gives Local School Boards New Power

Local school boards in this state now have the right to designate which schools pupils shall attend. The General Assembly enacted into law the bill which was backed strongly by Governor Hodges.

Warm Weather Predicted Here

The weather forecast for today and the weekend, according to E. Stamey Davis, weather observer, is fair and warmer.

Table showing temperature and wind predictions for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

The temperatures and wind directions for the first three days of this week are as follows:

Monday 50-30 SW

Tuesday 56-40 NW

Wednesday 60-35 SW

Wildwood Youth Found Lost Wallet

A young man who works for Perry M. Taylor Jr., Morehead City, found the wallet lost last Wednesday by Mrs. John Naf. He's Manley E. Mason of Wildwood.

Harkers Island Boat Works Goes Up in Flame Tuesday

Fire destroyed the West End Boat Works on Harkers Island Tuesday night. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

The fire started at about 7:30 p.m. and Beaufort firemen were called, but they arrived too late to save the building and boats being built inside.

Joe Whitley, owner and operator of the boat works, who lives about 75 feet away, discovered the blaze.

In addition to the tools and equipment that went up in the blaze, three boats from 15 to 25 feet long and a new engine were destroyed.

County Hospitals Get Duke Funds

Morehead City Hospital, for the year 1954, has been allotted \$1,016 in Duke Endowment Funds and the Sea Level Community Hospital \$165.

Sign Topples

The sign on top of the hotel, came tumbling down at 7:30 a.m. See FIRE, Page 2

You and Civil Defense

By RUTH PEELING, Carteret Civil Defense Director. Civil defense to most of us is a hazy, indefinable something.

Five Fire Departments Fight Morning Blaze

A \$375,000 fire of undetermined origin completely gutted the Ocean King Hotel, Reggie's Bar, Clark Brothers Bathhouses and Grill and Duck's Burger Palace yesterday morning at Atlantic Beach.

The fire started at 5:45 in Duck's Burger Palace, according to Fire Chief Vernon Guthrie of the Morehead City Fire Department. It spread rapidly through the tinder box buildings to the east and reached the hotel.

Lack of water hampered firemen. Lines were laid from the hotel north to Bogue Sound to get water, a distance of half a mile. Fifty-one guests at the Ocean King were rushed out of the building. No life was lost or persons injured.

Alfred Cooper, owner of the hotel and mayor of Atlantic Beach, estimated hotel damage at \$300,000. The hotel was partially insured.

Bellboy Spreads News James Jones, Morehead City, hotel bellboy, discovered the fire in the buildings to the west, and roused the guests.

Mr. Cooper estimated damage to Reggie's Bar at \$20,000, damage to the Clark Brothers at \$50,000 and approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000 to the new concrete boardwalk and seawall being poured.

Owner of Reggie's place is Regina Willits, Morehead City; owners of the other places (except the hotel) are the Clarks of Elizabethtown.

The cottage closest to the fire is the one owned by Kitchen Cobb of Greenville. It is separated from the hotel by a concrete drive and several feet of property.

Firemen showered water on that cottage and two adjoining it. Damaged in Storm The Ocean King Hotel was badly damaged in the Oct. 15 hurricane.

Sign Topples The sign on top of the hotel, came tumbling down at 7:30 a.m. See FIRE, Page 2

Tide Table listing high and low tide times for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

Health Officer Outlines Rules On Housing

Dr. Luther Fulcher, county health officer, today reminded farmers of the regulations they must comply with if they are going to have migrant laborers working for them this year.

- List of housing regulations including safe water supply, safe excreta disposal, safe method of garbage disposal, migrant-labor headquarters or housing facility, and health certificate.

Livestock Bill Goes in Hopper

A bill to prevent livestock roaming at large on Portsmouth Island was introduced in the General Assembly at Raleigh yesterday.

The bill would close off the area between Evergreen Creek and Ocracoke Inlet, making it unlawful for sheep, ponies or cows to roam in that section.

Mr. Bell, Carteret's representative, said he received a petition from Portsmouth residents and property owners asking that a bill be introduced which would be similar to the 1931 act which curbed the roaming livestock.

News-Times Wins 1954 Award for Fire Prevention

David Felton Pleads Not Guilty Tuesday

David Felton pleaded not guilty to operating a vehicle with no operator's license and driving while under the influence of intoxicants when he appeared before Judge Earl Mason in Beaufort Recorder's Court Tuesday.

Fulton Grayson was assessed \$15 of costs when he pleaded guilty to failing to stop at a stop sign.

Alberta Fair was given 10 days' work in town hall when she was declared guilty of malicious prosecution.

Cases were continued against the following: James Raef, Jess James and Calvin Edwards.

Civil Defense Tip

In case of enemy attack and destruction of the town water system, you should have on hand in your home stored drinking water—1 gallon for each family member plus an extra gallon for each child under 3.

Glass jugs with tight-fitting covers or stoppers, or other glass containers will do. Water fresh from the tap is safe for storage.

Store in a dark place and re-fill with fresh water at least every six weeks. Other good sources of liquids are fruit juices, waterpacked cans of fruit, fruits and vegetables, milk, citrus fruits (wash and peel if exposed to radioactive dust), and melted ice cubes.

Tri-Hi-Y Clubs to Sell Paper Lilies Tomorrow

Members of the Beaufort and Morehead City Tri-Hi-Y Clubs filled up lily baskets as they completed preparations for the annual Lily Parade to be held tomorrow.

Camp Glenn, Morehead First Grade Clinics Set

Pre-school clinics will be conducted at the Camp Glenn School Wednesday, April 13, at 1 p.m. and at the Morehead City School Friday, April 15, at 1 p.m.