

In the Spotlight

'Country Architect', with Son, Gives Carolina Good Buildings

With a twinkle in his blue eyes, he calls himself a "country architect," but Burrett H. Stephens of Beaufort, who has just passed his 83rd birthday, has designed buildings in the major cities of this country and Asia. During the past five years since his son, Robert H. Stephens, joined him, their firm has designed and supervised construction of buildings valued at slightly under nine million dollars.

In addition to being a delightful person, Mr. Stephens is inventor and engineer as well as architect. At one time he held seven patents on mechanical devices and continues today to hold a patent on refrigeration equipment he designed for large meat-packing plants.

He was born May 19, 1872 of Scotch-Irish parents in Ottawa, Canada. His father was American-born. When Burrett was a small child, the family moved to Chicago. He attended Chicago Public Schools and Armour Institute, now the Illinois School of Technology.

Beginning as a free-lance draftsman, he worked for various architects, including Charles T. Freijs, D. H. Burnham and Co. and Louis Sullivan, all outstanding architects of their day.

Designer in Steel
Then followed work as a designer of steel structures with the American Bridge Co., mechanical engineer with Armour and Co., master mechanic and promotion to superintendent of power with Libby, McNeill and Libby, a firm which has meat and fruit canning plants from coast to coast.

Mr. Stephens recalls that one of the greatest obstacles in his early days in the profession was his appearance. He looked so young large firms hesitated to employ him.

For example, when the National Biscuit Co. was formed at the turn of the century, they had an opening for a general superintendent of construction. Burrett, who was in his late twenties, made written application from Chicago to the New York office, enclosing recommendations from Armour and Co., Swift and Co. and a personal endorsement by a director of the National Packing Co.

He received notice that he had been selected and was instructed to report in New York for duty as soon as possible. When he reported to the office of the National Biscuit Co., a quick secret huddle was held by the powers-that-be and he was requested to resign.

Since he had left another position to accept this one, he would be paid six months' salary and expenses to and from Chicago. He was curious enough to ask why and was told that although his age and experience were satisfactory, he LOOKED too young and it was feared that older men, whose plants the firm would be taking over, would resent one so youthful in appearance.

Mr. Stephens still recalls vividly that day in the office when he was fired the same day he showed up: "The man I was speaking to kept looking at me and then he went out."

"One by one, three other men walked through the office, looked at me and left by various doors. Then the first gentleman came back, hemmed and hawed awhile and finally asked me to resign. He explained that the other men who came through the office were directors of the company and they believed too that I looked too young for the job."

But young Stephens refused the six months' salary. "I was always taught I had to work for what I got, and that salary wasn't mine."

Back to Chicago
So he hid himself back to Chicago to look for another job.

As a young man with a creative bent, he patented a machine to mass produce combs and collar buttons. This was during the period he was employed by Armour and Co. The combs and collar buttons were made from animal bones.

The collar button was a boon to the male who used to spend half his time looking for it under the dresser. Mr. Stephens' button was square on the back and just couldn't roll.

He also invented and patented another machine for assembly-line skinning of pork fatbacks, an operation which saved many dollars through mass production. It was to Mr. Stephens that the company referred, the suggestions made by employees as to mechanical improvements. Mr. Stephens went over the idea with the workman and they'd go to the machine shop to see what could be worked out. If the idea had merit, the patent was obtained in the workman's name and the company gave him a bonus for his contribution to the industry.

While working for Libby McNeill and Libby, the young inven-



Burrett H. Stephens
... architect, engineer, inventor

tor obtained a patent on the first machine to mechanically remove the seed from olives and refill the space with red pepper in mass production.

Obtains Patent in '23
In 1923 he secured a patent on a refrigeration system that reduced the cost of cold storage buildings approximately 30 per cent by using the unused area between columns in large coolers in place of old style overhead bunkers for the refrigerating units. This system is in use today in many large packing plants.

As a young man, Mr. Stephens received his license to practice architecture in Illinois and entered private practice in 1897 at the age of 25. He acted as architect on various types of buildings including office buildings, cold storage, warehouses, refineries and acid plants in various states, for Armour and Co., Swift and Co., Morris and Co., and other corporations.

He opened a branch office in Wilmington, N. C., in 1903. He built a sulphuric acid and fertilizer plant there and a cottonseed oil refinery at Charlotte. These projects were his introduction in North Carolina and were followed by an apartment building, two schools, three theatres and several residences in Wilmington.

He was then engaged as an architect and engineer by Miss Mary Bridgers, who developed Carolina Heights, a suburb of Wilmington. This project included 20 homes, water and sewer systems as well as streets and sidewalks. As a result of those projects, assignments as architect were received for innumerable residences in Raleigh, Fayetteville, New Bern and other nearby cities.

Then followed, through all eastern Carolina, schools, banks, theatres and commercial buildings. See Better Buildings, Pg. 3, Sec. 2

Morehead City Town Board Re-Routes Guthrie Drive

Re-routed Wednesday night, by action of the Morehead City Town Board, was Guthrie Drive in the western part of Morehead City.

The south part of the drive, which entered Arendell Street, has been closed and the drive turns east and connects with Bonner Avenue which in turn runs south to Arendell.

The re-routing was requested by Edward Dixon, Morehead City, who is building a 30-unit motel on Arendell Street just south of the new section of Guthrie Drive. Construction on the motel is scheduled to start this week.

Mr. Dixon said that motel construction could not proceed because Guthrie Drive, before it was changed, cut right down through the middle of the motel site.

Dissenter Appears
All property owners in the area, with the exception of one, James Hux, agreed to the street change. Mr. Hux said that he didn't object to the street re-routing but he didn't want the rear of a motel bordering his property on the south.

The board pointed out that a motel can be built in a residential section, according to the zoning law and that the hearing was not for the purpose of considering a zoning law but considering the street change.

Drawings Shown
Mr. Dixon showed drawings which indicated that the rear line of the motel would be 20 to 30 feet away from Mr. Hux's property line.

The board approved placing of a street light in an alley in square 32, between 18th and 19th Streets. Referred to the State Highway Commission was a request by Robert Howard, White's Ice Cream and Milk Co., for a crossing across the railroad at 25th Street. Recorder's Court Judge Herbert Phillips told the board that many motor vehicle violators say they do not see the stop sign on 24th Street at Arendell as they come off the beach bridge.

Mayor George Dill pointed out that a new, large reflector stop sign has been placed there. Judge Phillips said a blinker light or two stop signs are needed. Mayor Dill

suggested that a short distance south of the stop sign another sign, Stop Sign Ahead, be placed.

Judge Phillips said he thought that would help.

Request Tabled
Tabled until an investigation can be made was a request by Josiah Bailey for reimbursement on repairs to his car. Mr. Bailey said that he caused \$80 damage to his car when he ran over a manhole July 25 in an alley between Bridges and Arendell Street in the 1500 block.

A new chassis for the garbage load packer was bought. Low bidder was Sound Chevrolet, Morehead City.

The board met in special session to hear the road re-routing matter. Mayor Pro-Tem Ted Garner presided until the mayor arrived. All commissioners were present.

Newport Rotary Hears Ted Davis

Ted Davis, manager of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce, gave a talk, Creating the Right Climate, at the Newport Rotary Club meeting Monday night at the Community Building.

Mr. Davis, introduced by program chairman, Derryll Garner, spoke on creating the right climate in this area for industry, tourists and business, and said that it was necessary to create this climate both mentally and psychologically. He mentioned the Southern Railroad's proposed acquisition of the A&EC as being a tremendous boost to business and industry, as well as tourists in Morehead City and Carteret County.

In closing his talk, Mr. Davis said that the right climate could be attained but that "by the yard it's hard, by the inch it's a cinch." Guests at the meeting included Morehead City Hoteliers Clyde Carr, Gerald Mitchell, Truman Kemp, Albert Mitchell and Bob Howard, and New Bern Rotarians A. T. Jackson, Ernest Smith and Jim Menius.

Two Cars Collide On Highway 24

Driver Pays \$25, Costs; Other Driver Suffers Broken Shoulder

Mrs. Hattie Cameron Smith, Atkinson, was fined \$25 and costs by Judge Lambert Morris in County Recorder's Court yesterday morning when she was found guilty of failing to grant the right of way, resulting in an accident.

The accident occurred at 2:20 p.m. Wednesday at the intersection of highway 24 and the Nine-Foot Road.

Mrs. Smith, who was proceeding toward Morehead City, was reported to have made a left turn in front of a vehicle driven by Mrs. Esta Wicker, Hamlet. Mrs. Wicker was headed toward Swansboro.

Mrs. Smith, on the witness stand, said she was so intent in looking for the sign pointing toward the Nine-Foot Road that she did not see Mrs. Wicker's car approaching from the east.

Mrs. Wicker suffered a broken right shoulder and was taken to Morehead City Hospital in the Dill ambulance.

Damage to the Wicker car, a 1952 Plymouth, was estimated by State Highway Patrolman W. J. Smith Jr. at \$300, and damage to the Smith car, a 1952 Dodge, was estimated at \$150.

Funeral Rites For Principal Held Yesterday

Funeral services for Gary T. Windell, 60, were conducted at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon in the First Baptist Church, Morehead City. Mr. Windell, who resigned the principalship at Morehead City High School in May, died from self-inflicted pistol wounds early Wednesday morning.

Coroner Leslie D. Springle said that Mr. Windell was discovered by his wife soon after 7 a.m. He was seated in a chair on the front porch of their home at 1811 Bridges St. The coroner estimated time of death at about 4 o'clock in the morning.

Friends of the former school



Gary T. Windell
... burial in South Carolina

principal said that he was known to be extremely despondent at times.

The bullet wounds, in his chest and head, were inflicted with a .45 calibre service revolver which he used while in service during the first world war. No message, giving a reason for his taking his life, was found. Neither neighbors nor Mrs. Windell heard the shots.

Succeeded H. L. Joslyn
Mr. Windell succeeded H. L. Joslyn, present county superintendent of schools, as principal of the Morehead City School in 1947. He received his bachelor's degree at Furman University and held a master's degree from East Carolina College. He was known throughout the state among educators.

He held district offices in the North Carolina Education Association and retired this year as head of the principals' division of NCEA. He also served as vice-president of the state organization.

Mr. Windell was planning to See FUNERAL, Page 4

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar	
HIGH	LOW
Friday, Aug. 5	
9:18 a.m.	3:18 a.m.
9:20 p.m.	3:23 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 6	
9:58 a.m.	3:50 a.m.
9:56 p.m.	3:58 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 7	
10:32 a.m.	4:20 a.m.
10:26 p.m.	4:35 p.m.
Monday, Aug. 8	
11:15 a.m.	4:49 a.m.
11:23 p.m.	5:15 p.m.
Tuesday, Aug. 9	
12:05 p.m.	5:24 a.m.
	6:08 p.m.

Board Names Guy Springle To Head Police Department

Former Beaufort Officer Receives Top Position

Guion (Guy) Springle was appointed Beaufort police chief at the monthly meeting of the Town Board of Commissioners Monday night at the town hall.

Mr. Springle, now a lieutenant in the Morehead City Police Department, will take over his new office by Aug. 15, according to R. M. Chaplain, police commissioner of Beaufort, who recommended Mr. Springle. A total of 15 letters of application for the post were read by Dan Walker, town clerk, to members of the board.

The new police chief is no stranger to Beaufort since he is a native of the town, having served on the Beaufort police force in 1947 for a short period and then again in 1950-51, resigning in July 1951 to accept a position with the Morehead City department.

In September 1951 he was appointed a lieutenant on the Morehead City force, a post he has held until now. Chief Springle lives at 110 Front St.

He has had varied experience outside the law enforcement field, having worked as an iron worker, rigger, steeplejack and shipfitter. He is married to the former Elizabeth Lewis of Beaufort.

The appointment of Officers Carlton Garner, Mack Wade, and Steve Beacham was approved by the commissioners, subject to the approval and organizational classification by the new chief.

The salary of the new chief will be \$3,750 annually.

Policewoman Sought
Hiring of a policewoman, whose sole duties would be to handle parking meters, was discussed. The board decided that she would have the following qualifications: She should be able to type, be between 25-40, bondable, high school graduate, and no shorter than 5 foot 3.

Salary will be \$35 per week for a 44-hour week with uniforms furnished.

The commissioners voted to trade in the police car on a new Plymouth Plaza six-cylinder automobile with standard transmission.

Insurance on the new school buildings in the county was discussed.

R. W. Safrin, chairman of the Board presided. All members, D. Mason, Atlantic; Theodore Smith, Davis; W. B. Allen, Newport; and George R. Wallace, Morehead City, were present.



Bottoms Up!

The Hoblyn, cabin cruiser owned by H. W. (Hob) Anderson of Wilson, lies upside down after being overturned in a freak accident during a thunder squall last Thursday night. The boat was tied up behind the home of S. H. Anderson, 2503 Evans St. None of the gear aboard was lost. Other boats within 10 feet of the Hoblyn remained right side up during the storm.

Curb Market Sets New Sales Record Last Month

A new record was posted by the Carteret County Home Demonstration Curb Market, 13th and Evans Street, Morehead City, during the month of July when a grand total of \$3,994.61 worth of fruits, vegetables, flowers and baked goods were sold.

The curb market, founded in 1931, topped its previous high by over \$250, and the total in July was \$500 higher than the total for the same month in 1954.

Vegetables topped the list with \$2,059.43 in total sales. Four ladies sell all the baked goods at the market and their total in July was \$705.25.

Mrs. Beatrice Pittman, Merriam, was the high seller during the month with a total of \$726.

The curb market operates from 7:30 to 11 a.m. Wednesday and Saturday. From 15 to 20 farm women, in their spic and span white dresses, bring into the market dewey fresh products.

Miss Alice Laughton, Crab Point, who sold on the market the very first day it opened, is chairman of the market. Mrs. M. M. Eubanks, Beaufort, RFD, is co-chairman, and Mrs. Abbott Morris, Camp Glenn, secretary-treasurer.

Curb market sellers attractively package their products in plastic bags as they are sold. Some customers forget, however, that plastic is not a substitute for refrigeration and the farm women caution their customers that products so wrapped should be treated the same as if they were in paper bags.

The group meets quarterly for business meetings or at the call of the chairman.

Countians Win Awards at Base
J. C. Morgan, Morehead City, and B. S. Pond, Davis, civilian supervisors of the receiving section and the salvage and scrap units at Cherry Point Marine Air Station, have been honored for their record of no lost-time accidents to themselves or employees under their supervision for one year.

An award consisting of a certificate signed by the Commanding General, MCAS, and a lapel emblem indicating the number of years of accident-free supervision were presented them at recent ceremonies.

Mr. Morgan received his award for 1954, and Mr. Pond's award was for 1953-54.

Awards were presented to civilian employees from their departments for no lost-time accidents. One of these went to M. Garner, Newport, for 1953 and 1954 in the packing section.

M. E. Gould, Newport, was honored at the ceremony as one of six civilian truck drivers with an accident-free record.

Town Clerk Submits July Financial Report to Board
Beaufort collected \$2,423.30 in business license fees in July, according to the financial statement submitted by Dan Walker, town clerk, to the town commissioners at Monday night's meeting. Tax collections for the current and prior years amounted to \$4,947.25.

Other collections showed \$675.98 from the parking meters, \$673.45 in liquor store allotment and \$263 from miscellaneous things such as equipment rental and motor vehicle licenses.

Opening Scheduled
James H. Davis, cashier of the First-Citizens Bank and Trust Co., Beaufort, announces that the formal opening of the remodeled bank will take place from 6 to 9 p.m. next Friday, Aug. 12.

August Brings Heat, Little Wind
Temperatures continued in the high 80's and low 90's as the month of August was ushered in this week. According to E. Stamey Davis, weather observer, the high was recorded Wednesday when the mercury rose to 91 degrees, and the low was registered Tuesday with a reading of 75 degrees. Light breezes did little to cool the atmosphere.

A slight trace of rain was recorded Monday. The high and low temperatures and wind directions for the first three days of the month are as follows:

	Max.	Min.	Wind
Monday	89	76	E
Tuesday	90	75	SW
Wednesday	91	77	WSW

Eight thousand persons visited Fort Macon State Park last weekend. Sunday's attendance was 4,400. The park will close Monday, Sept. 5, Labor Day.



Chief Guy Springle
... back home

Paul Motor Co. was the successful bidder. Only other firm in the county that sent in bids was Sound Chevrolet, Morehead City.

Commissioner James D. Rumley suggested that the town trade the police car every 12 months, instead of waiting as they did in this instance for 18 months.

Loading Zone
The board voted to make a loading zone for George Garner on Live Oak Street near Ann, with the zone to start 30 feet from the corner on Live Oak Street and to extend for 30 feet.

The budget, as set up at the June meeting, was approved. The tax rate was set at \$2 per \$100 of personal property and real estate, with \$3.60 for sewer service per connection. Owners of male dogs will pay \$1, and owners of female dogs will pay \$2, and a poll tax of \$1 was also set up.

Of the \$2 tax rate, half will go for the general fund, and the other dollar to pay off the town debt.

Bonds Retired
Mr. Walker announced that the town had retired \$11,000 worth of bonds that are due in 1974. He told the commissioners that the town had saved \$500 in principal.

See BOARD, Page 5

Port Calendar

Barge BB11—Made two trips, one on Tuesday and the other Wednesday, carrying loads of jet fuel to Cherry Point from Aviation Fuel Terminals.

S.S. Spirit of Liberty—Due in this weekend at the Aviation Fuel Terminal from Aruba with a cargo of jet fuel.

MV Patella—Arrived Monday from Curacao at Trumbull Asphalt Co. with a load of asphalt. Left for Curacao Tuesday morning.

Kinston Lawyer Appears Before Education Board

For two and a half hours Jesse Jones, attorney from Kinston, talked before the County Board of Education Monday, telling members why they should alter their decision on schools Stella pupils shall attend. The board listened but did not change the ruling they made at its July meeting.

The board has assigned children of the Stella section to schools in Jones County at Maysville and Trenton. Some parents want to send their children to White Oak School in Onslow County. Mr. Jones contended that the board of education should let children go to any school they want.

John Larkins, Trenton, representing the interests of Jones County, also attended the meeting.

The controversy over which schools the children should attend started several years ago when, according to H. L. Joslyn, county superintendent of schools, Onslow County without authority sent a school bus into the Stella section of Carteret.

The board agreed to offer for sale 200 feet of unused property at the rear of the Smyrna teacherage.

Insurance on the new school buildings in the county was discussed.

R. W. Safrin, chairman of the Board presided. All members, D. Mason, Atlantic; Theodore Smith, Davis; W. B. Allen, Newport; and George R. Wallace, Morehead City, were present.

Oil Truck Upsets; Driver Uninjured

Eric Hill, Beaufort, escaped injury when the Sinclair tank truck he was driving turned over at 4:50 p.m. Wednesday on Highway 24 seven miles west of Morehead City.

Hill was headed toward Swansboro with a full load of kerosene and as he rounded a slight curve met a truck and auto coming toward him abreast. He told State Highway Patrolman J. W. Sykes that he either had to "split 'em down the middle" or leave the road.

He went off the right, lost control of the truck and swerved over to the left of the highway where the truck ended on its top; Hill, thinking the kerosene might catch fire, scrambled out of the cab as fast as he could, but the kerosene didn't explode. Some of it was lost, however.

The truck, a 1952 Chevrolet, was extensively damaged. It was carrying 1,200 gallons of kerosene. No charges were preferred.

The car and pick-up meeting the oil truck continued on their way. Patrolman Sykes said a witness to the accident described the incident just as Hill did.

Baptists to Add To New Building

Bids on the second story to the recently-constructed First Baptist Sunday School building, Beaufort, were opened Tuesday night. Recommendations of the building committee will be submitted to the congregation at the Sunday morning service.

When the second floor is put on, a balcony will also be added in the church sanctuary.

Bidders on the general contract were W. C. Flowers and Ray Ransom, Beaufort, and O. C. Lawrence, Bettie. Low bidder was Lawrence.

Bidders on plumbing and heating were Pearson, New Bern; Beaufort Plumbing and Heating, and Stallings and Whitehurst. Stallings and Whitehurst were low bidders.

Total cost of the work is estimated at \$31,000. Plans were drawn by the B. H. Stephens firm, New Bern.