

# Connie Deals Farmers Low Blow

## Storm Clogs Beaufort Sewers

### Mayor Clifford Lewis Asks People to Keep Trash Out of Gutters

Beaufort's storm and sanitary sewers are clogged and flooded as the result of Connie.

Dan Walker, town clerk, said the damage is of such a nature that it's impossible to estimate in dollars and cents, at this time, the extent of it.

Mayor Clifford Lewis said that due to the excellent work done over the weekend by the street department, garbage collection would be back on schedule yesterday.

Garbage will be taken up on east and west streets today and Friday and on north and south streets Monday and Thursday.

The mayor also made a special plea that people comply with the town ordinance requiring trash, debris and garbage to be placed in containers.

"Leaves and trash should not be raked into the gutters because it will stop up catch basins and flood the streets," he said. Trash should be placed in containers at the curb on the day for collection.

He pointed out that each individual's cooperation is important in helping the street department mop up after the hurricane. Storms and sanitary sewer lines, he added, will be opened as quickly as possible.

Front Street, Beaufort suffered little damage. Water hardly rose at all. The major damage was to TV aeriels and trees. Shingles were also blown off roofs.

## Red Cross Sets Up Aid Office

The Red Cross has established disaster headquarters in Beaufort on the second floor of the courthouse annex across from the draft office.

Red Cross workers there will receive applications for relief from persons suffering loss as a result of Connie.

Frank Hollowell, Red Cross director from Goldsboro, said that relief is given on the basis of need, not loss.

If a person's financial resources are insufficient to meet needs for carrying on normal living, he or she should apply to the Red Cross office.

If upon investigation the case is found worthy, funds will be provided. They will be an outright gift from the Red Cross and not a loan, Mr. Hollowell said.

## Alleged Attacker Held by County

William Roger Hardy, Merrimon, is being held in the county jail without bond on a charge of assault and attempted rape of a minor female. He will be given a preliminary hearing in County Recorder's Court Thursday morning.

According to Sheriff Hugh Salter, the alleged attack, on a 5-year-old girl, took place late Saturday afternoon at Merrimon. Hardy was picked up by authorities at 6:30 p.m. The sheriff said the child is all right.

The attack allegedly took place in a garage. The wife of the garage owner heard the child scream and she sent her husband to investigate.

Sheriff Salter said that Hardy apparently is mentally deficient.

## Dr. Lenox Baker Supervises Clinic

In spite of the storm and high water, Dr. Lenox Baker, Duke University orthopedist, came to the county Saturday to hold the orthopedic clinic. Representatives of other state agencies, usually present, could not make it.

Thirty-two patients, 14 of them new ones, attended.

Nurses assisting at the clinic were Mrs. Beatrice Lewis and Mrs. G. T. Spivey of the County Health Department.

Volunteer assistants were Mrs. Walter Morris, Miss Christobel Gilikin and Miss Nicoline Christensen, all of Morehead City.

## Traffic Heavy

Atlantic Beach was crowded Sunday with sightseers. Chief of Police Herbert Griffin, Morehead City, said his men were busy directing beach-bound traffic.

## Local Hams Weren't Lying

(Editorial)

Amateur radio operators in this area during the storm have come in for some unjust criticism. People say, and it has been reported in upstate newspapers, that reports of the storm were greatly exaggerated.

From commercial stations perhaps that is true, but messages sent out by the amateur operators were facts — because we were present when quite a few of them were being sent.

In a period of excitement, people are ready and willing to believe the worst. A description of rain swirling down in waves, wires breaking and tree limbs tumbling down, is imagined by people who never saw such a storm, as something out of the movies.

You can report that 100 feet of ocean fishing pier has been washed away and the listeners, depending on who they are, will picture something 1,000 feet long or 500 feet long, but very few will be able to picture an actual hundred feet. It isn't because many of them don't know how long a hundred feet is, it's just that in times of excitement everybody is anxious to believe the worst. People won't admit it, but they love tragedy — especially if they're not involved in it.

One of the commercial radio operators, we are told, said waves were breaking over the seawall at Atlantic Beach. Did the reporter say how high the seawall was? Were they really waves breaking over the wall or was it just spray from the waves crashing on the beach? Someone who never saw that seawall might have pictured it as 10 or 12 feet above the beach surface, much higher than it is.

Then reporters from news services, who'd never seen a big storm before, came in here. They were pop-eyed. Local folks who have been through hard storms realized that things could have gotten a lot worse and they were fearful of that. But the reporters from Washington, New York and other points were scared to death at what they saw at the moment.

And now after it's all over, it's easy to go around pooh-pooing everything that was reported and saying that the storm reports were grossly exaggerated. We admit that commercial radio stations, in competition with each other, may make things sound a bit worse than they really are, but in the middle of a blow like Connie NOBODY knows whether the worst is over or the worst is yet to come.

And as for the amateur radio operators who live here and were on the job, they were not sending out a lot of cock and bull. If people heard reports, garbled when relayed by commercial stations or if they pictured things worse than they actually were, that is not the fault of the hams.

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## Abandonment of Teen-Ager Prevented by Authorities

Juvenile court authorities over the weekend prevented a family from leaving this county and abandoning a 15-year-old girl who was told to live with an aged grandfather.

## Hams Closed Up Friday Midnight

Amateur radio operators at the 150-watt station in Morehead City closed shop at midnight Friday. The station had been in operation around the clock since Wednesday.

More than 370 messages were handled. The station was manned by Adam Mayer and Ted Davis, assisted by novice ham operators of the area who stood by to deliver messages on foot if the telephones went dead.

The operators consumed four pounds of coffee during their vigil. The station, located at Carteret Electronics on Arendell Street across from the Jefferson Hotel, transmitted messages for Carolina Power and Light, the Red Cross, civil defense and had to go on emergency power for only about an hour Thursday night.

To assist this area, Civil Air Patrol units from Gastonia, Shelby and Taylorsville, came in with emergency radio communications equipment Friday morning. They had evidently heard one of the false reports that this area was just about washed off the map.

## Connie Causes \$60,000 Road Damage in County

Connie has cost the State Highway and Public Works Commission \$60,000 in this county alone. That's the estimate of road damage made over the weekend by R. Markham, division engineer, and C. V. Griffin, district engineer.

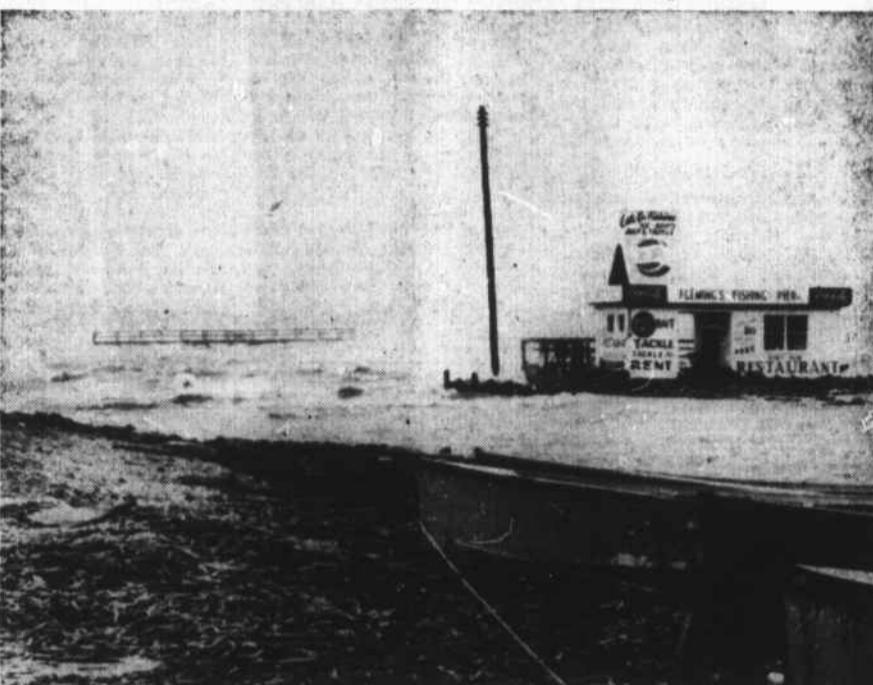
With J. L. Humphrey, county road superintendent, the engineers inspected road damage here Saturday.

Mr. Humphrey said that most of the trouble was caused by heavy rain and not high tide. The fresh water caused low areas to flood, washed out approaches and carried away fill by the tons.

Highway 70 between Morehead City and Newport was blocked just east of Newport when the river overflowed its banks and covered the low portion of the highway. The road was impassable from Friday until 9:30 Sunday morning.

People going upstate had to go by Highway 24 or Highway 101. All bridges in the county are

## Fleming's Pier Gone Again



Connie took the part of Fleming's fishing pier which ran north and south. The east-west portion of the pier is still standing. The pier, just east of the Atlantic Beach bridge, was totally destroyed by Hazel last fall.

## Beach Mayor Estimates Damage at \$200,000

Mayor Alfred Cooper of Atlantic Beach estimated damage to the beach from Hurricane Connie at \$50,000 to \$60,000 in private property and \$100,000 to \$150,000 damage in public property.

Public damage includes beach erosion, street washouts, debris removal, the fixing of water pipes and drainage.

Mr. Cooper said, "We're mighty thankful that the damage wasn't as severe as Hurricane Hazel, or as severe as it looked like it might be. All of the cottages at the beach remained, intact, and work on cleaning up the debris and draining the low streets at the beach started on Saturday."

Six extra state highway patrolmen from different parts of eastern North Carolina were on duty at the beach and in Morehead City from Friday afternoon until Sunday night. On Saturday morning the only persons allowed at the beach were property owners.

The blockade at the bridge was to safeguard property owners from looting. The mayor stated that he was doing his best to protect the cottages and their owners.

The beach was thrown open to the public at 12 noon Saturday and all cars were stopped when they left the beach. State Highway Patrolmen looked for loot and then allowed the drivers to proceed. If anything suspicious was seen in the car, the driver's name was taken and the information left with Mayor Cooper.

Tractors and bulldozers were in use on Saturday and again on Sunday to get the beach streets open for cottage owners who flocked back Sunday.

The mayor thanked all of the people who helped during the crisis and stated that the disaster relief program was extremely well organized. He expressed special thanks to the State Highway Patrol, the Salvation Army, Civil Defense volunteers, the Atlantic Beach Police and the Red Cross.

## Auto Hits Parked Car in Morehead

A car smashed into a parked car at 3100 Arendell St., Morehead City Saturday at 6:40 p.m. and Warren Davis Mann, Morehead City, has been charged with careless and reckless driving. He is docketed for appearance in Morehead City Recorder's Court Monday.

Morehead City Police Officer Homer Lewis investigated the accident in which M. Leslie Davis Jr., Beaufort, occupant of the parked car, suffered bruises on his head and back. Mann suffered a bump on his nose. Davis was taken to Morehead City Hospital by the Dill ambulance and Mann was taken to jail.

Mann, headed east on Arendell Street in his 1953 Nash, struck the parked car, driven by Carl Chadwick, Beaufort. Davis was thrown from the car. Mann was also thrown out of his vehicle by the impact.

According to Patrolman Lewis, he believed that Mann spotted the police car on Arendell Street and when he applied his brakes to slow down, he struck the Chadwick car.

## Conifer in Storm Port

The USCGS Conifer was tied up at the port terminal from Monday night until Saturday noon when it returned to its moorings at Fort Macon. The ship was removed from the dock at Fort Macon because of the hurricane. There is not sufficient space there for both the Conifer and Agassiz in a big blow.

## Water Covers State Beach Parking Lot

Fort Macon State Park bathing area was closed Saturday and Sunday because the parking lot was under water. As of yesterday morning the lot had drained considerably, but water was still two feet deep.

The only damage sustained at the park was some shingles blown off the picnic shelter and off the homes of the superintendent and the ranger.

A tree was uprooted in the fort itself, but it was reset.

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## Radio Failure Hampers Power Line Repairs

County farmers were the hardest hit by Connie, the two-day-storm. Crop damage runs into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Rain flooded soybean and tobacco fields and wind beat down tall stands of corn.

It was just impossible for the 12-inch record rainfall to be carried off through natural channels. Some farmers had finished curing their tobacco, but much was still in the field.

Tobacco leaves that weren't blown off were beaten down and bruised. In the Crab Point area about a third of the crop was still on the stalk.

### Profit Gone

Robert Laughton, Crab Point farmer, said "Connie got my profit."

Other farmers reported that the rain was the most they had seen in years. Fields all along Highway 101 stood in water.

R. M. Williams, county farm agent, said farmers have been inquiring about getting this section declared a farm disaster area. Mr. Williams said it may be possible, but with Diane coming along it is doubtful if the federal government would rush anything through immediately. He said such emergency relief may not be forthcoming, if at all, until fall.

The Harlowe-Bachelor area, on the east side of Adams Creek, suffered 100 per cent crop damage. Ninety per cent destruction was claimed in the Newport area.

Some farmers rushed to get their tobacco in before the storm, but roofs on two full tobacco barns were reported blown off and the tobacco damaged anyway.

This county was exposed to the storm all day Thursday and Friday. By mid-morning Thursday, winds started to pick up and rain whipped and lashed. This continued through Thursday and all Thursday night, the wind blowing in 50-mile-an-hour gusts from the east.

According to Chief Boatwain Kenneth Baum, commanding officer of Fort Macon Coast Guard Station, the worst of the storm passed here at 8:40 a.m. Friday with winds blowing 70 to 75 miles an hour. At 7:10 the barometer read 28.40.

## Radio Failure Hampers Power Line Repairs

Loss of the power company's own radio communications slowed repair of power lines considerably. George Stovall, manager of Carolina Power and Light Co., reported Saturday.

He paid tribute to Ted Davis and Adam Mayer, amateur radio operators who were the power company's only communication between here and sources of additional crews and repair equipment upstate. As soon as CP&L's radio technician came in and the trouble was fixed, repair moved along a lot faster.

Beaufort was without power from early Thursday morning until noon Friday, and even after that, certain circuits were out. Beaufort's trouble started when a feeder pole back of Neal Campen's farm on Highway 101 broke in half. The pole carried the 33,000 volt line.

Mr. Stovall said that Beaufort was not picked up on the 33,000-volt line from Morehead City because they didn't know at the time how bad the storm would be and if too heavy a load put on Morehead City, utility companies and the hospital would be completely out of office.

A roof which flew off a shed at the Morehead City Shipbuilding company knocked down a transformer at 4th and Fisher Streets and a couple poles went down on Highway 24 near Alton Bland's farm.

Most of the trouble was caused by falling trees and branches. A pole broken off at Marshallberg stopped power flow down east and another pole went down at Money Island, east of Atlantic Beach.

Power was cut off at Atlantic Beach Thursday night because Mayor A. B. Cooper said the beach area was being evacuated and nobody would be around to spread an alarm if fire broke out.

The power company had five tree crews in operation, two radio-equipped service trucks and a line truck.

Before the storm became serious, CP&L asked if White Ice Cream and Milk Co. and Maola could bring in dry ice for use in home freezers. The dairies complied.

At Havelock the power was off in Slocum Village 12 hours and power flow was interrupted several times in Hancock Village. Both power and phone lines were down.

Water was over the highway at the intersection of Highways 101 and 70 at Havelock right after the storm. Streets were flooded because the sewers couldn't carry the water away fast enough.

Because CP&L radio was out, REA radio facilities were used by both power companies at Havelock.

In charge of CP&L repairs there was Guy Lawrence.

Water 2 feet deep was reported in the CP&L office, New Bern.

Mr. Stovall commended his crews for the fine job they did and expressed appreciation to power customers for their patience and consideration while repairs were being made.

## Connie Brings 12 Inches Rain

Hurricane Connie unleashed a total of 12.43 inches of rain from 5 o'clock Wednesday afternoon through 5 o'clock Friday afternoon, according to E. Stamey Davis, weather observer.

The high temperature for the week was registered Monday, 90.5 degrees, and a low of 70 degrees was registered on both Thursday and Saturday.

The temperatures for the week as well as wind directions are as follows:

	Max.	Min.	Winds
Monday	90.5	78	E
Tuesday	87	78	ENE
Wednesday	86	78	NNE
Thursday	83	70	ESE
Friday	79	71	SW
Saturday	88	70	SSW
Sunday	89	78	ENE

## 500 Seek Refuge in Sturdy Buildings During Big Blow

An estimated 500 persons took refuge in the Atlantic School, Beaufort courthouse and the Morehead City Municipal Building during the height of Connie. Schools and churches in various communities throughout the county also sheltered folks from the storm.

J. D. Potter, who was delegated by the Red Cross to look after refugees at the courthouse, estimated the number there at 75. Cots were provided from Cherry Point and food was supplied through the Red Cross.

In charge of refugees at the Atlantic School were J. W. Johnson, principal, and Kelly Robinson, janitor. Refugees took their own food with them and slept at the school.

Students from Duke Marine Laboratory and several families were sheltered at Beaufort School. B. E. Tarkington, principal, and Mrs. Tarkington were in charge.

At Cedar Island the T at the Cedar Island Fishing Pier was taken off by wind and high water and one boat sank, but otherwise damage at Cedar Island was negligible.

By Saturday morning the island was still without electricity however.

Folks at the east end of the island went to homes at the west end to escape high water.

Among the evacuees who made their home at the Municipal Building from Wednesday afternoon until late Friday were six families from Salter Path. Many Salter Pathers went to Cherry Point to escape high water and wind.

Others at the building included persons from many other parts of the county who have cottages at the beach, including a man and his family from Waynesboro, Pa. Scouts Grouped

A group of 11 Sea Scouts from Plymouth, en route to Wilmington, as well as their skipper Dr. Alban Papineau, and Mate Jewel Hardison made their headquarters

## Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Tuesday, Aug. 16	LOW
6:52 a.m.		12:45 a.m.
7:13 p.m.		12:57 p.m.
HIGH	Wednesday, Aug. 17	LOW
7:41 a.m.		1:36 a.m.
8:01 p.m.		1:50 p.m.
HIGH	Thursday, Aug. 18	LOW
8:29 a.m.		2:23 a.m.
8:48 p.m.		2:39 p.m.
HIGH	Friday, Aug. 19	LOW
9:17 a.m.		3:07 a.m.
9:34 p.m.		3:25 p.m.