

County OK's New North River Bridge

Present Highway 70 Bridge Will Remain

A new bridge will be built across North River north of the present bridge. County commissioners approved plans for the bridge and the approaches to it at their meeting yesterday in the courthouse.

The plans and map were presented by J. L. Phillips, assistant division engineer, State Highway and Public Works Commission.

The new highway will be about four miles long. The bridge will span North River at a narrow point expected to be immune to storms. The present Highway 70 North River bridge will continue in use.

The west approach to the new bridge will leave the foot of the Laurel Road. The east approach will leave Highway 70 at Bettie.

Shortens Distance

It is estimated that persons from down east who work at Cherry Point will save at least four miles by using the new route. It will also provide access to the down east area in case the present bridge washes out as it has twice within the past year and a half.

The state has already moved equipment to the site and work is expected to begin very soon.

Three other road matters were brought to the attention of the board.

A. W. Jones and E. Neal Jones presented a petition asking that 150 yards of the T. C. Davis Road, Marshallberg, be put on the county highway system. The board approved and forwarded the petition to the State Highway Department.

Dr. L. J. Dupree, Cedar Point, asked that the road fronting the inland waterway at Cedar Point be filled in and rebuilt. Dr. Dupree said that hurricanes have washed the roadbed away and that some residents can get to their homes only by driving over private property.

Of the 25 houses located on the road, 16 are occupied by permanent residents. The road runs between Odell Smith's yacht basin and Guthrie's Beach, about a quarter of a mile long.

Funds Requested

Gray Hassell, consulting engineer for the county, said that Civil Defense has been asked for funds to rebuild the road. Mr. Hassell also said that the county's Civil Defense applications have been returned twice because the fund request was "too much."

"We've trimmed the request down every way we could," Mr. Hassell told the county board, "and we'll mail it back for the third time this week." The Cedar Point project will be included.

Mr. Hassell added that Governor Hodges and Civil Defense officials are concerned over the two million dollars allotted to North Carolina for hurricane damage as compared

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Cutter Stands By Ship in Distress

Since Saturday night the Coast Guard cutter Agassiz has been standing by a distressed victory ship, the SS Marvin C. McIntyre about eight miles from Frying Pan Lightship.

The McIntyre was being towed by the tug, Fort Moultrie, when the line evidently parted and the McIntyre radioed Fort Macon Coast Guard Station for aid Saturday afternoon.

The Agassiz, under command of Lt. (jg) Lester Willis, left Fort Macon at 9:57 p.m. Saturday.

Fort Macon's information on details of the McIntyre's plight were meager. Eight or nine persons are reported to be aboard the victory ship.

The tug was apparently taking the McIntyre into Cape Lookout Light to escape the high winds when the two parted. The tug has returned to Wilmington.

Fort Macon Coast Guard Station reported yesterday that even Frying Pan Lightship has moved slightly off station.

Harry Venters Joins Farm Staff

Under a federal program designed to assist states in increasing farm income, Harry Venters of Onslow County has joined the county farm office staff.

Mr. Venters will be paid by the federal government and will act as assistant to the county agent, R. M. Williams. Mr. Williams said that Mr. Venters does not replace Al Newsome, former assistant agent and will not handle 4-H work. That will be taken over by Mr. Williams.

Mr. Venters has a bachelor's degree in agronomy and is a graduate of State College. He has farmed in both Onslow and Craven Counties and will start work here Jan. 15.

Mr. Williams said that the county may not have anyone to replace Mr. Newsome until the end of the summer.

New Committee to Work On Seafood Packaging Plan

A second progress report on possibilities of developing seafood processing plants led to establishment of a new committee at the Conservation and Development Board meeting at Raleigh Friday.

A committee, named by the chairman of the commerce and industry committee, Robert M. Hanes, will work with a committee named by Cecil Morris, commercial fisheries committee chairman. Its duty will be to consult with and offer information to fish dealers interested in packaging seafood.

The progress report, which led to the joint committee idea, was presented by W. A. Ellison Jr., former director of the Institute of Fisheries Research. Mr. Ellison was appointed last year to make a survey of the state's seafood processing potential. He submitted his first report last September.

Crab Potential

In an interview Saturday, Mr. Ellison said there is splendid opportunity to expand and diversify crab production in North Carolina. "This natural resource," he commented, "is practically untapped."

Mr. Ellison said he is also optimistic about the possibilities of preparing breaded shrimp for market. He mentioned Carteret, Pamlico, Beaufort, Hyde and possibly

Liquor Store Sales Amount to \$69,213.65

Sales at county liquor stores last month amounted to \$69,213.65. Volume, by stores, was as follows: Beaufort \$27,724, Morehead City \$32,273, and Newport \$9,216.65.

Sales tax was \$6,888.41 and net profit \$8,745.32. Dividends were paid as follows: Beaufort \$1,520, Morehead City Hospital \$1,768.40, Newport \$503.31, and the county, \$3,794.71.

Total sales in November were \$51,808. December sales in 1954 were \$63,893.30.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar			
HIGH	Tuesday, Jan. 10	LOW	
8:31 a.m.		12:10 a.m.	
6:56 p.m.		12:52 p.m.	
Wednesday, Jan. 11			
7:12 a.m.		12:55 a.m.	
7:38 p.m.		1:37 p.m.	
Thursday, Jan. 12			
7:50 a.m.		1:40 a.m.	
8:17 p.m.		2:19 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 13			
8:26 a.m.		2:21 a.m.	
8:54 p.m.		2:57 p.m.	

Two Hunters Ask Case to be Taken To Higher Court

Motorists Convicted, Jail-Breaker Sentenced In County Court

Monroe Taylor and Bill Warren appealed to Superior Court after they were fined \$250 and half costs each by Judge Lambert R. Morris in County Recorder's Court Thursday for violation of hunting laws. Bond was set at \$350 each. Their gun and flashlight were confiscated.

Ganes Thomas Chapman, charged with driving drunk, waived hearing and his case was bound over to Superior Court under \$150 bond.

A. J. Williams was sentenced to six months on the roads for breaking jail Dec. 23. Williams also faces an assault charge in Superior Court.

Alvin Hodge was sentenced to three consecutive terms of 60 days each on the roads for public drunkenness and failing to comply with former court orders.

Fines Paid

Fines of \$25 and costs were assessed against John Henry Pritchett and Willie Brown Lawrence, no operator's license and careless and reckless driving; Lloyd Fillingame and Oma Stokes Walters, careless and reckless driving.

Fines of \$10 and costs were levied against Alonzo Jones Jr., speeding; Mabel Anderson Mills, passing at an intersection resulting in an accident, and Ernest Barrett, public drunkenness.

Mitchell Wethington, charged with non-support, was assessed costs and must pay \$10 each week for the support of his minor children or serve six months on the roads.

Horace Jones was assessed costs on each of three charges of public drunkenness and forcible trespass. He was given a six-month suspended sentence on each charge on condition that he be on good behavior for one year on each count.

Bonds were forfeited by Rocky Porter, two charges of issuing bad checks; Johnny Mason Long, no operator's license, and Theron Davis McCain, speeding.

Costs Levied

Costs were assessed against Curtis Josey, speeding resulting in an accident and driving on wrong side of road; and Blanche Morton Springle, failing to yield right of way.

Mary Sue Bruce Ratliffe, failing to yield right-of-way resulting in an accident, and William Claud Gillikin, careless and reckless driving.

Two charges of no operator's license and a charge of careless and reckless driving against Ervan E. Hanessey and a charge of careless and reckless driving resulting in an accident against Charles Lester Pake were left open for future prosecution.

Cases against the following were continued: L. E. Gillikin, Selby Anderson Fulcher, Elijah Carter Jr., Jack Gillikin, John Carlton Gaskill, Hugh Whaley, Robert Adams, H. L. Lynch, Arthur Loh, Willie Gray, William Donald Malloy.

Ross Good, John Daniel Martin, David Henry Parker, Walter Joyner, Freddie Gaston Smith, John J. Jordan, Alexander Sermons, Katherine Winegar, Rufus Fajr Jr., Albert Foster, Manly Rogers Willis and Phillip Ray Fulcher.

477 Families Apply for Food

Since federal food has been distributed in the county, 477 applications for it have been received by the welfare department. Not all of those have been approved, however, Miss Georgie Hughes, welfare superintendent, reports. Friday was the last day for applying for the food to be distributed this month.

In the December distribution 376 families were given surplus commodities.

Miss Hughes expressed appreciation to the Curb Market women for their cooperation in letting the market be used as a distribution point in November and December. The recreation building, Morehead City, is tentatively scheduled as the distribution point this month. The date has not been set.

Membership Totals 333 County Farm Bureau membership for the current year stands at 333, according to C. N. Stroud, membership chairman. The goal was 400.

Today's the Day To Ask for Surplus Federal Goods

Today is the day the government's "giving equipment away." A representative of the State Civil Defense office will be at the courthouse, Beaufort, all day today to take applications from farmers and businessmen who want to buy surplus government property.

The government is selling this property for 10 per cent of cost. Buyers will pay for the cost of shipping it from the federal warehouse to this county.

The Civil Defense representative will be in the courtroom on the second floor of the courthouse. He will have a catalog describing the type of equipment available. The property is being offered to farmers and businessmen who suffered damage to equipment or property in the 1955 storms.

Lions Obtain \$575 for Lung

Alvah N. Willis, president of the Lions Club, announced at the weekly meeting Thursday night that \$575 has been collected toward purchase of an iron lung.

Mr. Willis stated that this amount was "a drop in the bucket," in relation to the amount that is needed.

He said persons interested in contributing to the project should make their checks payable to Carteret County Iron Lung Project, c/o Lions Club, Morehead City, N. C.

More money is to be raised through the talent show to be presented Feb. 16 at Morehead City and Feb. 17 at Beaufort. Ads for the program are now being sold.

Owens Frederick reported that seals are still being sold. Proceeds are for the sight-saving projects sponsored by the Lions Club. He asks those who haven't sent in their donations for the seals to do so at once.

Four members of the New Bern Lions Club were guests at the meeting.

The Gloucester Community Club will meet at 7:30 tonight with Miss Georgia Whitehurst.

Army Unit Will Meet at New Legion Building

The Army Reserve Unit, captained by T. H. McQuaid, which had formerly been meeting over the Joe House drug store, Beaufort, has leased the new American Legion building, Lennoxville Road, for a five-year period.

The signing of the contract was announced at the meeting of Carteret Post No. 99 Friday night. The building may also be rented by individuals, civic and church organizations.

David Hill, Beaufort, is in charge of rentals. For private parties the charge is \$10 nightly. Church and civic organizations will be charged \$5 nightly.

A clean-up deposit will also be required. If the building is left in good condition, the deposit will be refunded.

Building trustees for the next five years will be William Norris Jr., commander of the post, C. L. Beam and Mr. Hill.

It was announced that the O. C. Buck exposition will play on the midway of the Carteret fair Oct. 22-28 of this year. The fair is sponsored by the Legion post. The Buck shows played at the New Bern fair last year.

Plans were also discussed for weekly community dances at the Legion building. Ray Cummins met with the Legionnaires and said that arrangements could be made to have them broadcast. Band leaders are being interviewed this week.

The post decided that steps should be taken to have a law officer on hand to see that there would be no drinking on the premises during the dances.

Members of the dance committee are Jimmy Range, Mr. Hill and Ben Merrill.

It was suggested that Mayor George Dill, Morehead City, and Mayor Clifford Lewis, Beaufort, be guests of honor at the first dance.

This is Coffee Day; Crutch Pins Net \$748

Sale of Blue Crutch pins got the March of Dimes off to a flying start Saturday. Miss Alida Willis, campaign director, said proceeds amounted to \$748.38. Figures from the Davis post were not available at press time.

Legion posts in the county sold the pins. When Beaufort's supply gave out, pins given to the Newport post were taken to Beaufort.

Beaufort's total was \$412.30 and Morehead City's total was \$336.08.

Members of Carteret Post No. 99 who conducted the sale on Front Street, Beaufort, were William Norris Jr., commander of the post, Nick Simpson, James Jarman, Harry Edwards, Earl Jones, David Hill, Ben Merrill, C. L. Beam, T. E. Kelly and David Mullin.

Members of Morehead City Post No. 46 who conducted the sale on Arendell Street, Morehead City, were J. B. Rice, commander of the post, Mrs. J. B. Rice, Legion auxiliary president, Mrs. Colon Matthis and William Wade.

Persons who wish to contribute to the March of Dimes by mail should send their checks to Mrs. Clem Johnson, campaign treasurer, Box 651, Morehead City, N. C.

Port Calendar

USS Olmstead, USS Capricornus, USS Monrovia and LSDs Plymouth Rock and Ft. Snelling—Due today at state port as part of Marine movement.

M/V Patella—Shell tanker due Thursday at state port with a load of asphalt and fuel oil from Curacao for Trumbull Asphalt Company.

USS Mulpheus, USS Cambria, USS Ogtheorpe, LST 1156, and LSD San Marcos—Due Thursday at state port as part of Marine movement.

Esso Worcester—Arrived Saturday and left yesterday, morning after unloading a cargo of petroleum products for Standard Oil.

USNS Mission Los Angeles—Left yesterday morning after unloading a cargo of jet fuel at Aviation Fuel Terminal.

Flood Control Study Starts With Newport River Survey

Social Security Office Opens At New Bern

With Thursday's survey of the Newport River, an extensive study on flood prevention was launched.

B. F. Ingram, agriculture engineer with the Soil Conservation Service, Kinston, traveled the river with David Jones, soil conservationist; Howard Garner, conservation aide; Moses Howard, county board chairman; R. M. Williams, county farm agent; and Monroe Garner, skiff captain.

The party left the prison camp landing and went toward the oyster rock where the river widens. Then they returned toward the head of the river, crossed under the bridge at Highway 70 and went as far as possible before running aground.

After lunch, they went by car and viewed the river at points where it branches out south of Newport in the vicinity of the Nine-Foot Road.

To Take Soundings Mr. Jones and his aide will now continue the survey, measuring depth of water (especially on the mud flats), noting high water marks, width of stream and other factors which will help determine what type of flood control is feasible.

Mr. Jones said that they will have to call on the residents in the area for certain information. He estimates that this work will take at least a week.

To Compile Report Then this data will be sent to Mr. Ingram who will compile the "preliminary report." This will include a proposal for preventing flood of the river and an estimate on how much the project will cost.

Mr. Jones says the preliminary report should be ready by April 1.

New Employee Law in Effect

To explain the employment security law which now affects employers of four to seven workers, a representative will be in Morehead City Thursday, Jan. 26. Employers, lawyers, accountants, or others who may be interested, are invited.

The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. in the courtroom of the Morehead City Municipal Building.

Until the North Carolina General Assembly amended the state law to conform with the federal law, only employers of eight or more workers had to participate in the unemployment insurance program. The North Carolina amendment was made in 1955 and became effective the first of this year.

Although there are some exemptions, practically all persons employing four to seven persons come under the new amendment.

In addition to meetings scheduled throughout the state to explain the law, the Employment Security Commission is getting information to employers affected. Henry E. Kendall, chairman of the commission, said the failure of an employer to receive this information does not relieve him of responsibility in complying with the law.

Any employer may choose to come under the law regardless how many he employs.

News in a Nutshell

INTERNATIONAL MIDDLE EAST continues to boil as new riots flare in Jordan. Jordan is now without a government, a condition which causes a shaky situation in bordering nations as well as in the tiny state.

ALGERIAN nationalists lost no time in placing demands before the new French assembly. Algeria, now considered a part of France's African empire, wants recognition as a separate nation.

THE BATTLE between Formosa and the China mainland, which is carefully called anything but war, continues. Communist and Nationalist artillery batteries are slamming away at each other.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT EISENHOWER has returned to Washington from Key West and yesterday sent a message to Congress outlining a farm program which the Republicans hope will pull the farmer out of the doldrums.

VIRGINIA was the focal point of the nation's eyes yesterday as voters went to the polls to express their opinion on diverting public funds to "private" schools. The

measure is proposed to side-step the Supreme Court's integration ruling.

A&P CHAIN STORE president, Ralph W. Burger, says 1956 retail food prices should be about the same as in 1955. Food prices last year were 1.5 per cent lower than in 1954 and 4.8 per cent below the peak reached in 1952.

ALONZO C. EDWARDS, former State Farm Bureau president, will seek nomination as lieutenant governor in the spring primaries. Kidd Brewer, Raleigh insurance man and columnist for several North Carolina weeklies, is also expected to seek the nomination.

FAMOUS FOOTBALL Coach Jim Tatum, former mentor for Maryland's Terrapin Terrors, has accepted the coaching job at University of North Carolina. This change had been rumored for weeks. Tatum replaces George Barclay, whose contract at UNC ran out Dec. 31.

A \$300,000 FIRE destroyed a two-story building in Washington, N. C. Sunday. The building housed a department store and dentist's office.

Businessmen Ask Clarification On Revaluation

County Board Considers Reducing Debt Service Tax Rate to 60 Cents

Three Beaufort businessmen, Jack Neal, C. Z. Chappell and Leslie Moore, appeared before the county board yesterday to inquire about the property revaluation program.

The board also heard the opinion of Judge Luther Hamilton relative to reducing the amount of the tax levy which is earmarked for debt service.

Mr. Neal, Mr. Chappell and Mr. Moore inquired what the revaluation would mean. James Potter, county auditor, said that assessments under the new valuation will be 50 per cent of actual value. But no one knows what the assessments will be until final adjustments are made by the Board of Equalization.

Alvah Hamilton, county attorney, pointed out that although the valuation will go up, a tax rate reduction is planned.

The businessmen said lots of wild rumors have been flying around and they were interested in learning exactly what the situation is. Mr. Neal said he didn't want to pay any more taxes.

Judge Comments

Mr. Hamilton presented Judge Luther Hamilton to the board. Judge Hamilton negotiated with bondholders when the county debt was refinanced in 1937.

At present \$1.05 of the \$1.80 tax rate is earmarked for debt service. Mr. Potter explained that this more than covers the county's obligations in meeting interest on bonds plus retiring them.

The board considered reducing the debt service levy to 60 cents (a reduction of 45 cents) which would put the county tax rate down to \$1.35 per hundred rather than \$1.80.

Commissioner Skinner Chalk asked, since it was agreed in 1937 that a minimum of 90 cents be set aside for debt service, whether it would be breaking a contract with the bondholders to reduce the amount to 60 cents.

Judge Hamilton said that as long as the bondholders were getting their interest and the county was capable of meeting its obligations by setting aside only 60 cents, there would be no comeback.

He added that the best drawing card this county could have to attract business and industry would be a complete financial brochure on how the county has been meeting its debt and steadily reducing its tax rate. He said that at one time the county tax rate was \$2.15.

Of the 60 cents earmarked for debt service under the proposed system, 50 cents would retire school bonds issued in 1945, 1947 and 1951 and 10 cents would retire the courthouse and new jail bonds issued this year.

Valuation Estimated

With the revaluation, the estimated valuation of county property is hoped to be \$35 million as compared with the current valuation of slightly more than \$24 million.

Mr. Potter said that reduction of debt service from \$1.05 to 60 cents would reduce the debt service fund annually by \$105,000, but available in the fund would be \$210,000. (When the 90 cents agreement was made in 1937, that brought only \$90,000 total for debt service).

Mr. Potter pointed out that even with the 45-cent reduction the county debt could be repaid in 10 years rather than in 21 years under the present set-up.

He added that with the higher valuation and the lowered tax rate the overall increase in tax revenue to the county would be only \$38,461 or an increase over the present return of 9 per cent.

"That shows," Mr. Potter commented, "that no person could be seriously hurt by this revaluation, unless he hadn't been paying his fair share of the tax in the past."

Mr. Potter pointed out that the revaluation will also affect the towns and the county attorney, Mr. Hamilton, suggested that there be a joint meeting of the county and town governing boards.

The board took no final action on reducing the rate for bonded indebtedness pending further investigation as to the legality.

Phone Firm Improves Service at Lennoxville

To lighten party-line loads on Lennoxville Road, Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Co. is stringing extra cable there.

The work began before Christmas. After the project is completed, party lines will have fewer than 10 customers on them as is the case now.