

Odell Merrill Fills Position On Board of Commissioners

Governor Says Lack of Money Poses Problem

Emeritus Civic Club Gets Reply to Letter On Mosquito Control

Gov. Luther Hodges, in reply to a letter written him recently by the Emeritus Civic Club, Morehead City, said that money is not available to undertake a mosquito control program of the size carried out by the federal government in this state last fall.

The Emeritus Club requested the governor to support the start of an early spraying program to combat mosquitoes this summer.

The governor's reply follows:

February 28, 1956.

Mr. T. Bartlett Sage,
The Emeritus Civic Club,
Morehead City, N. C.
Dear Mr. Sage:

Thank you for your letter of February 22 regarding mosquito control. We are working to complete the study on this, and as I told many people from your section, I doubt if we will get the kind of work done on this project as we did last year because we received over \$200,000 from the Federal Government because of the infestation of mosquitoes caused by hurricanes. We do not have that kind of money now either locally or in the State, but I promise you we will do the best we can.

I am interested in the Emeritus Civic Club. Could you tell us a little bit about it, how it was organized, how many members, etc.? As you know, I announced publicly some months ago that I would like to see State-wide organizations of these clubs, and I would like to see the members offer themselves for service to their State and Local Governments.

Sincerely yours,
Luther H. Hodges

Odell Merrill, Beaufort, was sworn in as a county commissioner yesterday morning, succeeding E. H. Potter, Beaufort, who has resigned.

Commissioner Potter, who has been ill for some time, said in a letter to the board that he enjoyed serving as commissioner and extended best wishes to the board for their successful operation on behalf of the county.

Moses Howard, chairman of the board, expressed his regret at Mr. Potter's resignation, saying he was "an able man and highly respected."

The board requested the clerk, Irvin W. Davis, to write a letter to Mr. Potter thanking him for his service. Mr. Howard welcomed Commissioner Merrill and invited him "to speak up at any time."

Search of Shrimp In Deep Offshore Waters Begins

The first phase of exploration for deep-water shrimp in offshore waters south of Cape Hatteras got underway Wednesday when the M/V Pelican left Jacksonville, Fla.

The Pelican's first area of exploration is in the Cape Canaveral to St. Augustine waters. For the first two days the Pelican went through shakedown operations in shallow waters but from now on dragging will be confined to depths of 100 to 300 fathoms.

Gear to be used will be 40-foot flat trawls and 10-foot beam trawls.

The Pelican, a 74-foot steel hull shrimp trawler under charter from Gulf Caribbean Seafoods Inc., has been specially rigged for deep water trawling with the installation of a Hathaway winch holding 800 fathoms of warp, and stern davits.

The exploration for deep-water shrimp is a phase of the South Atlantic Fisheries Exploration Program financed by federal funds. The work is being carried out under supervision of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Exploration of the continental shelf (inside 100 fathoms) was recently begun by the Fish and Wildlife Service's M/V George M. Bowers.

Grades 1-8 Get Polio Vaccine In Craven County

Under the federal program for the administration of polio vaccine, all children through the eighth grade will receive inoculations in Craven County.

This information was reported this week by Mrs. John Tooley, Havelock, co-chairman of the Craven County March of Dimes.

She said the vaccine was being distributed in Craven County on the basis of 30 per cent to doctors and 70 per cent to the county health department. This is the reverse of the distribution arrangement in Carteret County.

Mrs. Tooley emphasized that the vaccinations are given under the federal program. March of Dimes personnel are interested in how the vaccine is distributed because March of Dimes funds financed research which brought discovery of the vaccine.

Mrs. Tooley told a NEWS-TIMES reporter, "I understand you're having trouble getting enough vaccine for the children in your county through the public health program." She expressed satisfaction with the procedure being followed in Craven County.

Co-chairman with Mrs. Tooley in the Craven County March of Dimes was Bill Flowers, New Bern.

Low Grain Freight Rates Will Go Into Effect Unless ICC Acts Today

Coroner's Jury Orders James Housman Held

Board Endorses State Rivers, Harbors Projects

In five minutes a coroner's jury decided Friday night that Sgt. James R. Housman, USMC, Newport, should be held for grand jury action. The jurors, after hearing testimony at an inquest in the Beaufort town hall, said that Housman's 4-week-old son died as the result of blows to the body.

The baby died in the Camp Lejeune Hospital Saturday, Feb. 25. Authorities say that death came as a result of the father's striking the baby because it was crying. The father is being held under \$5,000 bond.

Sergeant Housman, a lanky, blond youth, appeared at the inquest but did not testify. He seemed nervous, sitting slouched down in a seat beside SBI Agent John Edwards. During most of the testimony he rested his chin on his hand and looked at witnesses from under lowered eyelids.

District Solicitor Robert Rouse, Greenville, questioned witnesses. At the close of the inquest, Mr. Rouse asked Sergeant Housman if he had a lawyer. Housman shook his head.

"Do you want me to appoint one for you?" the solicitor asked.

Housman seemed to choke up and rubbed his hand over his eyes. When no answer was forthcoming, the solicitor said, "Well I think the state will just go ahead and appoint an attorney for him."

Sheriff Hugh Salter said yesterday that Housman was in the county jail. The sheriff proposes to ask that Housman be given a psychiatric examination.

The inquest was conducted in the courtroom of the town hall rather than at the courthouse because a Republican meeting was being held at the courthouse.

Chamber Event To Take Place At Captain Bill's

The spring membership banquet and ladies night of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce will be held at Captain Bill's new restaurant, Morehead City, Thursday, March 29 at 7 p.m.

Gov. Luther H. Hodges will be the featured speaker, and the Morehead City Rotary Club, the Morehead City Jaycees, the Morehead City Lions Club and the Emeritus Civic Club with their wives will attend in groups.

Some of the guests expected are William H. Saunders, director of Conservation and Development; John D. Larkins Jr., chairman of the State Democratic Committee; Maynard L. Hicks, highway commissioner; Col. R. L. Hill, district engineer, and Col. Richard Marr, director of State Ports Authority.

Space for the banquet is limited to 350 or 375 persons. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office in Morehead City.

Driver Escapes Injury Friday

Mrs. Ed Shields, Morehead City, miraculously escaped injury at 8:25 Friday morning when the car she was driving upset on the Fort Macon Road near the Club Colony Road intersection.

Mrs. Shields was returning from taking her husband to work at the Coast Guard Station when she lost control of the car and it upset. She was driving a convertible.

Sees Accident

Lt. Robert Davis, USCG, Morehead City, was approaching the Shields car and saw the accident. He said the car was not going fast. He described it as jumping once to one side and then to the other a few inches and then going off the road.

The lieutenant said the rear tires were smooth and they may have begun to spin, causing the driver to lose control. The car landed on its top.

Let It Go

Mrs. Shields said that when she felt it going, she didn't try to pull it back. She was trapped in the car and could not be gotten out until a wrecker arrived.

Lieutenant Davis went to the Texaco Service station at the intersection of the Fort Macon and beach roads to summon help.

New Rates Would Put Port On Par with Baltimore

New and lower grain freight rates from mid-west shipping points to Morehead City will go into effect tomorrow unless the Interstate Commerce Commission speaks out to the contrary today.

It is believed, however, that the ICC will let the rates stand, despite protests by certain eastern railroads, the Baltimore Association of Commerce and the Baltimore Chamber of Commerce.

The new rates, benefiting the Morehead port, were proposed by Southern Railway System and are backed by major export grain shippers, the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the North Carolina State Ports Authority.

While no accurate estimate can be made of the increased volume of export grain that might move through Morehead City, a spokesman for the Southern Railway System told THE NEWS-TIMES yesterday, "the fact that a major grain shipper is supporting the rate application before the commission certainly seems to indicate an interest in using the new rates."

The rates, requested by Southern Railway and its subsidiary, Monon Railroad, place Morehead City in equal position with Baltimore on handling grain from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, and Cincinnati, Ohio.

'Unequal Distance'

Karl J. Grimm, director of the traffic and transportation bureau of Baltimore's Association of Commerce, said Baltimore's protest is based on the unequal distance factor. He said the rates under which Southern wants to operate from Morehead City, because of the greater distances involved, would give Southern and Monon such low earnings on grain traffic that the rates would be unlawful under previous ICC rulings.

Baltimore interests say that Baltimore is 192 miles closer to grain centers in Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana than is Morehead City.

They say that earnings in shipments to Morehead City would be less than 5 mills per ton-mile and the protest petition contends that the ICC previously has ruled that earnings of 8.87 mills per ton-mile are insufficient.

Helen Delich, Maritime editor of the Baltimore Sun, in a recent by-line article, said, "Morehead City's interest in grain is particularly noteworthy since the small port does not have a major grain elevator — only what is referred to as a transfer elevator — at this time."

New Elevator?

"But if the grain freight charge is permitted to remain equal to Baltimore's, a new grain elevator is in the offing."

"Some grain circles speculate that if a large elevator is not built at Morehead City, one will be built at Norfolk. They seem to think there is a link between some grain interests of these two ports — a joining of hands to fight Baltimore on the handling of what is Baltimore's principal export item . . ."

"The Morehead City case means that Baltimore no longer has an advantage on grain freight costs to any point since the North Carolina tariff embraces the Central Freight Association Territory . . ."

Baltimore interests say that railroads serving north Atlantic ports have also filed protests with the ICC against the proposed grain freight rate into Morehead City. According to Corps of Engineers figures, Morehead City shipped over the inland waterway last year 857 tons of grain.

Baltimore is fighting to maintain its top spot in the grain exporting business. The city claims its port business is "already under potential dire threat" from the St. Lawrence Seaway which will furnish a waterway from the middle west to the Atlantic coast.

'Too Low' Bid Complicates Jail Building Program

Judgments Issued In Civil Cases

Another obstacle has arisen in plans to build a new county jail. According to information presented at the county board meeting yesterday by Robert Stephens, architect, W. C. Flowers, Beaufort, the contractor who submitted the low bid of \$59,840, said that he underbid by \$5,000.

Mr. Stephens pointed out that it could not be determined whether Mr. Flowers would reject the job until the contract is offered him.

Even if the contract were offered, Mr. Stephens said, the cost of building the jail, using all low bids, would be \$82,000 and that exceeds the amount available by \$12,000.

He said if \$10,000 more could be found somewhere, the work could probably be completed for \$80,000. The county auditor, James Potter, said there isn't \$10,000 available.

The county borrowed \$70,000 during the past year to put up the jail. Mr. Potter said, "We've got \$70,000 and that's all."

The architect said that either the \$10,000 would have to be found or plans for a smaller jail be drawn.

Commissioner Skinner Chalk suggested that the Flowers bid be accepted on building construction, but the Flowers bid on jail equipment be rejected.

It was agreed that the jail committee, consisting of Mr. Potter, Commissioner Harrell Taylor and Sheriff Hugh Salter meet at 10 Friday morning to make a decision.

When they arrive at a decision, they will present their recommendation to the county board at a call meeting within 30 days from the date the bids were opened.

Orchestra Will Play for Shrine Club Dinner Dance

Buddy Blair and His Orchestra will provide the music and floor show at the Carteret Shrine Club dinner dance Friday night at Captain Bill's Waterfront Restaurant, Morehead City.

The fried chicken dinner will be served from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. when dancing will start.

Sheriff Hugh Salter, Beaufort, president of the club, said all Master Masons are invited and each Shriner and Master Mason may bring a guest couple.

The affair is informal. Proceeds will go to the Crippled Children's Hospital.

Tickets may be obtained at the sheriff's office in the courthouse, from any Shriner, or reservations may be made with Captain Bill. President Salter asks that all reservations be made by tomorrow.

Republicans Meet Friday

Republicans throughout the nation swung into action last Wednesday, the minute they knew Ike was willing to run. Carteret County Republicans were no exception. Stalwarts of the GOP gathered in the courthouse Friday night to draft plans for coming political battles.

They decided that the Republican Executive Committee shall meet Saturday, March 17, to nominate candidates for county office and to set the date for a county Republican Convention in April.

Members appointed to the county executive committee were Elmo Wade, Williston, Delmas Lewis, Marshallberg; W. A. Mace, Beaufort; Luther Smith, Atlantic; Carl Willis, Harkers Island; A. L. Wilson, Newport; and Elmer Willis, Davis.

Luther Smith was elected to the state executive committee. Plans to name candidates for the offices of county representative to the legislature, coroner and surveyor were deferred, pending action by the executive committee in March.

Robert K. Montague, chairman of the Republican committee, presided. He appointed a committee to meet with him to nominate a new chairman. Committee members are Elmer Willis, Davis; Clarence Lewis, Stacy; Leland Peterson, John Miller and Richard Smith, all of Beaufort.

Speaker at the meeting was Deems Clifton, Clinton, a member of the state legislature in 1947. He was introduced by Claud R. Wheatly Jr., Beaufort.

Osborne Davis served as secretary. Approximately 30 persons attended.

Driver Cited After Wreck

William R. Cole, Cove City, has been charged with driving drunk and hit and run by Carlton Garner, assistant police chief of Beaufort.

Cole, driving a 1955 Studebaker, struck a 1948 Chevrolet owned by Mathew Owens. The Owens car was parked in front of Mr. Owens' home at 125 Ann St. at 10:15 p.m. Saturday night.

After striking the Owens vehicle Cole continued west and was apprehended near Machine and Supply Co. on the west side of the Beaufort Bridge.

Damage was estimated at between \$500 and \$600 to the Owens vehicle. No estimate was made of damage on Cole's car.

Firemen to Meet At Davis Tonight

Members of the Down East Fire Department will meet at 7:30 tonight at the community building, Davis. Plans to meet tonight and the first Tuesday of each month were made at a recent meeting of the board of directors.

Walter Mason, Atlantic, has been named chief of the fire department. Other officers are Ralph Gaskill, assistant chief; Elmo Gaskill, captain; Robert Goodwin, lieutenant; and Joe Mason, secretary-treasurer.

Assistants to the chief in the various communities will be Aldrich Daniels, Sea Level; Doity Gaskill, Stacy; Elbert Pittman, Davis; and Monroe Gaskill, Cedar Island.

Clayton Fulcher Jr. was appointed presiding officer for the fire department meetings.

Drivers will be William R. Willis, Al Jones, Gary Morris and Harry B. Fulcher. The Rev. T. H. Swafford was named first aid assistant.

Town Summer Recreation Program to Open June 4

Fred Lewis, chairman of the Morehead City recreation program, has announced that the summer program will open Monday, June 4.

Mr. Lewis said:

"The following program will be submitted for approval at the next meeting of the recreation commission:

"White: Mrs. Mammie Taylor (ages 6, 7, 8, and 9 mornings and ages 10 up afterwards), Mr. Ralph Wade (band mornings and out-of-door activities afterwards), Mr. Fred G. Lewis, director and, indoor activities mornings and afterwards, Rodney Nelson, assistant in all activities.

"Colored: John Richard Thompson, director and (a lady assistant to be employed).

"The entire program will include activities that have been used during the past summers. These will include band, badminton, table tennis, carpet golf, shuffle board, archery, tennis, volley-ball, basketball, soft-ball, croquet, horse shoes, various jumps in pit, table games, reading centers, and children's games directed by Mrs. Taylor.

"The junior band will receive instruction mornings and the senior band on Wednesday evenings. Several out-of-door concerts will be given during the summer.

"As in the past, contests in all activities will be held and prizes given to the winners."

Director Announces Stage Crew for Night Must Fall

Ed Walston, director of the Carteret Community Theatre play, Night Must Fall, this week announced members of the stage crew.

They are Rosalind Coley, stage manager; Tressa Vickers, properties manager; Floyd Stewart, scenery; James Lucas, lighting; Walton Hamilton, sound effects, and Haddie Hamilton and Carolyn James, prompters.

The play will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday in the Morehead City School auditorium. Profit will go to the play sponsor, the Morehead City Woman's Club.

Tickets are now being sold by members of the club. They may also be bought at the door.

Two Cars Collide Friday at Morehead

A 1952 Ford driven by Anderson Henderson, Morehead City, collided with a 1948 Chevrolet driven by Gladys Cox Willis, Beaufort, at 9th and Evans Streets in Morehead City at 1:10 p.m. Friday, police report.

Henderson reported that he was going west on Evans when the Willis vehicle came out of 9th Street headed north and he was unable to stop.

Damage of \$150 to the left bumper and fender of the Henderson vehicle and \$75 damage to the right fender of the Willis car was estimated by Sgt. Joe Smith, who investigated the collision.

Smyrna PTA Raises \$257 At Seafood Supper

The Smyrna PTA raised approximately \$257.50 at a seafood supper and square dance Saturday night at the school building.

Following the seafood supper, which was served in the school cafeteria, a square dance was held. Music was furnished by Laurie Willis, Hilton Willis, Cecil Willis, all of Williston, and Charles Davis of Harkers Island.

The money will be used for improvements in the school lunchroom.

Driver Hurt When Car Turns Over Sunday Night

Ross Goode, Harlowe, was admitted to the Morehead City Hospital Sunday night, after the car he was driving turned over on Highway 101 two miles south of Harlowe.

The car, a 1950 Ford, was demolished, according to State Highway Patrolman W. E. Pickard. Goode was headed toward Beaufort and failed to make a curve. He was taken to the hospital in Bell's ambulance.

Charges against Goode are pending.

Insuror Makes Suggestion

At the recent meeting of the Morehead City Town Board, H. S. Gibbs Jr. of the firm, Chalk and Gibbs, recommended that the town's mobile equipment, trucks and garbage packers, be better equipped.

He commented that several minor accidents during the past year could have been avoided if trucks had had all necessary parts working.

Ted Garner, police commissioner, said he would ask the police chief to inspect town equipment regularly.

Mr. Gibbs, also representing the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce, requested the town to pay its share of advertising with the General Outdoor Advertising Co. Bills had been accumulating, he said, for Morehead City ads on billboards west of here.

The town board said it was no longer obligated to pay any portion of the bill since a resolution was adopted when the current budget was made, stating that the town would no longer participate in advertising programs.

Mayor George Dill said such participation by the town was illegal anyway.

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AAUW to Meet

The Beaufort-Morehead branch of the American Association of University Women will meet at 8 Friday night in the civic center, Morehead City.

Clinic Saturday

The orthopedic clinic will be held at the Morehead City Hospital annex from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Saturday.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	LOW
Tuesday, March 6	
3:29 a.m.	9:54 a.m.
3:52 p.m.	10:02 p.m.
Wednesday, March 7	
4:26 a.m.	10:48 a.m.
4:48 p.m.	10:37 p.m.
Thursday, March 8	
5:17 a.m.	11:35 a.m.
5:38 p.m.	11:46 p.m.
Friday, March 9	
6:03 a.m.	
6:24 p.m.	12:18 p.m.

Tonnage Up

Commercial tonnage on the inland waterway was up 113,000 tons in 1955 from 1954.