

Teachers Up in Arms Over 9.1 Raise

Carteret Group Endorses Proposal for Outdoor Drama

A long-range program designed to establish an outdoor drama production in or near Beaufort was approved Monday night at a meeting of the Carteret County Historical Drama Association.

Representatives from all sections of the county met for a buffet supper at the home of Mrs. G. W. Duncan, Queen Street, Beaufort.

Advantages in staging a drama similar to The Lost Colony and Unto These Hills were outlined by Glenn Adair, president of the Beaufort Chamber of Commerce, Jim Wheatley, Dr. W. L. Woodard and Norwood Young.

Gives Report
Mrs. Charles Hassell, who has conducted research on the project, reported on two pre-organizational meetings. Mrs. Hassell has been in contact with the drama department of the University of North Carolina and through Samuel Selden, head of the department, has obtained information on procedure for establishing an organization to sponsor the production.

Mr. Adair commented on the cultural value of an outdoor drama. Dr. Woodard pointed out the economic advantages gained by Dare County through its Lost Colony, and Mr. Young remarked that opening of the seashore highway would bring a new mass of tourists to this county.

Mr. Wheatley stated that the project has a tremendous potential. A successful drama would mean that hotels and motels would be built to provide lodging for drama audiences; better roads, too, he said, would follow the tourist trade.

Boost to Economy
Mr. Wheatley remarked that success of the drama would improve the economy of the entire county. It is estimated that the payroll to those involved in drama production would be between fifty and sixty thousand dollars a summer.

See DRAMA, Page 4

Beer, Cigarettes Taken at Grill

The sheriff's office is investigating a break-in at Lettie's Place (the former Airport Grill), west of Morehead City. Sheriff Hugh Salter said that three cases of beer and a quantity of cigarettes were stolen there Wednesday night. The thief broke into the juke box and took all the change in the machine.

Deputy Bobby Bell was assigned to the case Thursday morning. The sheriff also reports that he and Deputy Sheriff Bruce Edwards drove to Norfolk Tuesday to pick up Ralph Arnold, who is wanted for violation of parole. He was put on parole after serving part of a sentence for breaking and entering the Snack Grill on Highway 101. Arnold is now in jail here.

Two other prisoners in the Norfolk jail are wanted in this county for questioning in a power saw theft at Newport. Bobby and Alton Waddell have been in the jail since they were apprehended in Norfolk by Sheriff Salter and an SBI agent Dec. 8.

The sheriff was unable to bring them back on his trip because they refused to waive extradition. Extradition papers were filed on the pair Dec. 18, but the papers have not come through yet. When the papers come back, the two men will be brought back here for trial.

Conifer Recovers Lightship Anchor, Gets Commendation

The Coast Guard buoy tender Conifer has received an official commendation from district headquarters in Norfolk for a job well done in its recovery of the Diamond Shoals lightship anchor Monday morning.

The lightship informed the Conifer late Saturday night that her anchor chain had parted. A 50 to 60 mile-an-hour gale was blowing when the chain parted, and the lightship had drifted about 20 miles off her position.

The Conifer, commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Arthur K. Sheppard, Morehead City, left Fort Macon at mid-night Saturday. She arrived at Diamond Shoals in time to begin dragging for the anchor shortly after 8 a.m. Sunday.

The commander of the lightship, Chief Warrant Bos'n Dolly Fulcher of Stacy, had returned his vessel to its position and gave the Conifer his exact location when the anchor chain had parted.

Bankers Finance Farm Course



Photo by R. M. Williams

Terry Garner, left, and Billy Simmons receive a check from J. R. Sanders, Carteret County key banker. The check is financing the farmer short course the two boys are now enrolled in at State College.

Mr. Garner is the son of Mrs. Jesse Garner, Newport, and Mr. Simmons is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Simmons, Newport.

Walter Wetherington, Stella, who was originally scheduled to take the course, could not go because of business commitments. Mr. Simmons took his place.

The two boys were selected for the course on the basis of their outstanding record in 4-H club work. The course ends Feb. 22. It is sponsored by the North Carolina Bankers Association.

Ships Bound for Struck Ports May Dock Here

J. D. Holt, Morehead City port manager, said yesterday that due to the longshoremen's strike, it is possible that ships north of here may be diverted to Morehead City for unloading.

Longshoremen at Virginia ports northward went on strike Tuesday. Although a quick settlement was hoped for, no agreement had been reached by noon yesterday between the International Longshoremen's Association and shippers.

Sectional Agreement
Stevadores from Morehead City southward and along the Gulf coast, numbering 15,000, have reached contract agreements with local employers and therefore are not involved in the strike.

Mr. Holt said that it looked Wednesday as though one ship might be diverted here from New York, but the shipper decided to take a gamble and go on into New York on the chance that the strike would be settled.

Mr. Holt said a major part of the cargo was consigned to New York. Once a ship has docked at a struck port, it cannot pull out and re-dock at a port where longshoremen are in operation, Mr. Holt said. Ships can only be diverted while still at sea.

Morehead City longshoremen went on strike in November in a walkout that tied up the East and Gulf coasts. A Taft-Hartley injunction interrupted the strike Nov. 24.

Advance Movement
In other port activity: A few advance troops and gear in the Marine Caribbean maneuver are being loaded on LSD's at Morehead City. The major movement will start Tuesday, Feb. 26. The fish oil ship American Miller,

has been delayed again. It was originally scheduled to arrive Feb. 10. It is now expected next Friday. The fish oil will be exported to Rotterdam, Holland.

A barge of jet fuel was sent from Morehead City to Cherry Point yesterday.

Gloucester Club To Give Supper

To raise money to finish the community building, the Gloucester Community Club decided Tuesday night to have a ham supper Saturday, Feb. 23. The plates will be prepared to be taken home; "fixed to go," in other words.

Members of the supper committee are Miss Hilma Chadwick, Mrs. Walter Stewart, Mrs. Monroe Willis, and Mrs. Henry Chadwick. Mrs. H. D. MacFarlane is in charge of ticket sales.

Mrs. E. H. Piper, chairman of the landscape committee for the park, reported that dogwood would be planted. Club members will meet at the park at 2 p.m. tomorrow on a clean-up project.

The club met at the home of the president, Richard Whitehurst. Twenty-one attended. The meeting closed with a song fest with Mrs. Al Hubbard at the piano.

Doctors Meet
Dr. William Fahy was guest speaker at the monthly meeting of the County Medical Association at the Morehead City Hospital Monday night. Dr. Fahy, an authority on marine biology, spoke to the group on poisonous tropical fish.

Parade Group Begins Plans

Governor Hodges, Polly Bergen Will Appear In Centennial Event

Plans for the centennial jubilee parade were made Wednesday night when members of the parade committee met with chairman A. N. Willis at the recreation building, Morehead City. The parade is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, Aug. 10.

Mr. Willis and his committee voted to invite beer and soft drink companies to send their floats. They expect to obtain 20 floats from outside Morehead City, with local businesses adding more.

Gov. Luther Hodges and Polly Bergen head the list of dignitaries who have agreed to ride in the parade. Invitations have been extended to John M. Morehead III, grandson of the founder of Morehead City, and other famous personalities, including Bill Cullen and Andy Griffiths.

Bill Cullen is a member of the panel on the TV show, I've Got a Secret, and Andy Griffiths is famous for his recordings and his role in No Time for Sergeants, which was a Broadway hit and is now being filmed. Mr. Griffiths, a native of Mount Airy, N. C., is playing in the movie the same character he portrayed in the play.

The length of the parade, who will participate, and the route of the parade will be determined as plans develop, Mr. Willis said.

Motorists Stand In Line for Tags

Long lines of motorists who waited until the last minute to buy state license tags have been forming this week at the installment loan department of the First-Citizens Bank, Morehead City. Tags are being sold at the loan department.

Today is the deadline for displaying 1956 license plates, and the motorists have a choice of standing in line or paying a fine in court. The fines range from one third court costs (\$7.25) for driving without a Morehead City tag to \$21.50 in county recorder's court for driving without a state tag.

Beaufort town clerk Dan Walker reported that only 276 town tags had been sold in Beaufort so far. That represents about 60 per cent of the cars owned by town residents, according to Mr. Walker.

In Morehead City, 950 of the city tags have been sold. Deadline for the city tags is the same as state tags.

A breakdown of state tag sales here shows: 4,320 auto tags, 684 private truck tags, 253 small trailer tags, 130 farm truck tags, 50 large trailer tags, and 9 motorcycle tags, a total of 5,446.

Yacht Returns To New Jersey

The Mary N. II, a yacht from which Mrs. Mary Ann Scales disappeared Saturday night at Ocracoke, left Ocracoke Wednesday afternoon, bound northward to New Jersey from whence it had come.

Aboard was Dr. James T. Dodge, Trenton, N. J. Mrs. Scales, his travelling companion and nurse for 12 years, mysteriously disappeared from the yacht while it was anchored north of the Coast Guard Station at Ocracoke.

The Coast Guard called off formal search for Mrs. Scales yesterday. She is believed to have drowned. Dr. Dodge says she may have been swept off the yacht while he was sleeping below.

Ben O'Neal, commanding officer of the Ocracoke Coast Guard Station, said yesterday that all fishermen in the area have been alerted to be on the lookout for the body. Although drowning victims sometimes float to the surface in three days, Mr. O'Neal said water temperatures can cause a variation in that time.

Dr. Dodge's wife, Mercersville, N. J., left her husband last May because of Mrs. Scales. Mrs. Scales' husband, Trenton, N. J., said he had filed suit for divorce on the grounds of desertion.

Centennial Headquarters
The white trailer parked in front of the Morehead City Drug Store is the official headquarters for the Centennial committee. The trailer will be lettered and decorated appropriately. The trailer has been lent to the committee by Warren Beck, Morehead City.

Teachers Protest

Morehead City teachers wasted no time Wednesday in getting letters of protest off to the governor and county representatives in the general assembly, and letters of approval to three representatives who have introduced a bill calling for a 20 per cent teacher pay raise. Twenty per cent is the amount the teachers are seeking.

All members of the Morehead City faculty have signed the following letter which was sent to both D. G. Bell, representative, and Luther Hamilton, state senator:

February 13, 1957

Honorable Luther Hamilton
North Carolina State Senate
Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Judge Hamilton:

The 38 teachers and principal of the Morehead City Graded School wish to register in the strongest manner possible our united disappointment, disapproval, and disgust at the recommendation of the Governor and Advisory Budget Commission concerning teacher salaries in North Carolina.

We urge you to use every resource at your command to defeat this recommendation and strive for an increase of not one whit less than the 19.31% recommended by the United Forces for Education. The nearly one million North Carolina school children involved can settle for no less. Any compromise below this amount will be an ignominious defeat in the battle for a truly enlightened and prosperous state.

We are counting on you to be counted on the right side of this issue.

Very sincerely,
T. L. Lee, Principal

February 13, 1957

Governor Luther Hodges
Raleigh
North Carolina

My dear Governor Hodges:

As a member of the faculty of the Morehead City Graded School, I strongly endorse the letter of my principal, Mr. T. Lenwood Lee, protesting a 9.1% raise for North Carolina's public school teachers.

After 33 years of service as a first grade teacher, I am tossing in the sponge after this year, so my position in the matter is not too personal in its nature. However, out of many years of experience, I do know a great deal about the terrific pressures brought to bear on teachers by over-crowded classrooms, undisciplined children, demanding parents, an indifferent public, and lack of adequate income — a small salary received nine months of the year, with three remaining lean months during which, somehow, one must manage to live. I wonder how we have survived, and why we have been so patient.

But I do believe that the climate among teachers is changing. They will no longer be so patient. This was obvious at a faculty meeting in our school this afternoon and there must have been many such, when news of the niggardly 9.1% raise broke throughout the state.

I would not encourage any young person to enter the teaching field. This is particularly true in the case of young men, or even young women who have family responsibilities. How can any educated, ambitious young man expect to marry and be responsible for a family in these days of fantastically high living conditions on a teacher's meager earnings? Who can blame them for seeking greener pastures?

It seems to me the future of our schools looks dark indeed, for I do not believe the young men and women of this day, our potential teachers, will sacrifice themselves, as the old guard has done, to keep them going.

Very truly yours,
Mrs. Lucile Arthur Smith
Morehead City Graded School
Morehead City, N. C.

Following is Principal T. L. Lee's personal letter to the governor:

February 13, 1957

The Honorable Luther H. Hodges
Governor of North Carolina
Raleigh, North Carolina

Dear Governor Hodges:

Never have I seen teacher morale in as low a state as was evidenced in this school yesterday at the news of your and the Advisory Budget Commission's recommendation concerning teacher salaries.

As a harassed school principal — when it comes to finding teachers and operating a 39-teacher school sans clerical aid — I beseech you to reconsider this recommendation. A nine or ten percent raise will only drive prospective teachers farther from our classrooms, and those already there will join the exodus in increasing numbers.

I feel very strongly that the United Forces for Education's recommendation for salary increases is the bare minimum, and that the threat to our public education system in North Carolina posed by continued inadequate salaries is far greater even than integration or any other problem that faces us today. We simply cannot teach the youth without teachers.

Admittedly our state faces many grave problems, but not one single issue is more vital today than that of sal-

See LETTERS, Page 2

County teachers feel they were dealt a lethal blow this week when the state budget came out with only a 9.1 per cent pay increase for public school teachers. The North Carolina Education Board requested a 20 per cent increase.

When contacted yesterday, Lenwood Lee, principal of the Morehead City School, said, "We are protesting vigorously. I have never seen the teachers so upset over an issue. We have had two faculty meetings this week and letters are being written to our representatives at Raleigh. This is hitting us awfully hard."

Bruce Tarkington, principal of the Beaufort School, declared flatly that the proposed 9.1 per cent increase is inadequate. He said it will not solve the teacher shortage situation. Mr. Tarkington is legislative chairman for the county North Carolina Education unit.

'Disappointed'

He said, "We're disappointed and we can't understand it. The budget recommendation certainly does not bear out what Governor Hodges said at Wilmington." In a speech at Wilmington Governor Hodges said he had a keen interest in the public schools and was in favor of adequate salaries for teachers.

Referring to salary increases already given and those proposed for top state officials, Mr. Tarkington said, "If a man earning \$10,000 a year needs a 20 per cent increase I fail to see how a teacher making \$2,600 a year should have anything less than a 20 per cent raise."

E. B. Comer, principal of Newport School, said yesterday that he planned to send a telegram to Raleigh protesting the 9.1 per cent proposal. R. W. Davis and teachers at Camp Glenn School are also taking action.

Atlantic Acts

J. W. Johnson, principal of Atlantic School, said that members of the Atlantic faculty were writing

See ACTION TAKEN, Page 2

Beaufort School Tops, Per Pupil, In Polio Drive

Beaufort School again this year contributed the highest amount per pupil in the March of Dimes drive. According to Mrs. Clem Johnson, campaign treasurer, the school contributed 45.6 cents per pupil, or a total of \$42.74.

Camp Glenn and Atlantic Schools were tied with a 35-cent contribution per pupil.

Other schools contributed as follows: Smyrna, 30 cents per pupil; Salter Path, 32 cents; St. Egbert's, 31; Newport, 22; Morehead City, 18; Harkers Island, 13; Queen Street School, 13; W. S. King School, 9, and Stella, 9.

Beaufort kindergarten contributed 40 cents per pupil and the Morehead City kindergarten 19 cents per pupil.

Beaufort School has won the privilege of presenting a record player to its 1957 polio pal, 6-year-old Joyce Womble of Lillington. The same school also won a record player for its polio pal last year.

The total received from the schools, Mrs. Johnson reported, was \$1,620.82.

The campaign total as of yesterday was \$2,762.42. Some money in coin collectors is still to be counted.

Representatives Give Opinion on Proposal

Carteret's representatives at Raleigh showed mixed reaction toward the 9.1 per cent teacher pay raise proposal.

D. G. Bell, contacted at Raleigh yesterday, said he would like to see teachers paid more "if we can find the money."

State Senator Luther Hamilton declared, "In Core Sound language, I'm mad as hell over it." Senator Hamilton said, "I plan to do anything and everything to get this thing corrected. It's one of the grossest injustices possible."

Both Mr. Bell and Mr. Hamilton are on the appropriations committee in their respective houses. The

appointments were made Wednesday. The appropriations committees are important ones. Those serving on these committees have a direct voice in determining how state funds shall be spent.

Favors 20 Per Cent
Mr. Bell said he agrees that teachers should have a 20 per cent raise "and more if available." But he expressed doubt that there was the money to do it. He said, "In my opinion the sales tax would have to be increased or certain sales tax exemptions done away with."

He said he could see no way in which money for a 20 per cent increase could be "raised regularly." "What do the people want?" he continued, "a pay raise for teachers or more tax? I would like to hear what the people think."

It was pointed out to Mr. Bell that pay raises have been granted members of the Council of State and the budget has recommended pay hikes for many other state officials, including educators at colleges and universities.

Mr. Bell said, "Well, everybody needs more money. The higher-ups are getting a proportionate raise. It's easier to pick up about \$20,000."

Alumni Lobbyists
He pointed out that college alumni groups are powerful lobbyists and "they are going to see that they get theirs."

The 500-page budget recommendation came out Wednesday. Mr. Bell said that it was too early to make a statement on what might be done. "After we get to studying it, we might find that school teacher pay is most important, but it is conceivable that a majority of the appropriations are as important as raising teacher pay."

He concluded, "I don't believe the teachers will get a 20 per cent pay raise without some upward adjustment in the sales tax."

Senator Hamilton declared that the most important agency of the state "cannot be the least paid." He said that the school children are the state's future and without faith in that future, legislators and senators were wasting their time going to Raleigh.

Senator's Views
Senator Hamilton stated flatly, "I'm for the entire school program as outlined by Dr. Charles Carroll." Dr. Carroll is head of the State Department of Public Instruction.

He said that ever since he has been in Raleigh he has "button-holed" everybody and tried to convince them of his point of view.

When asked why top state officials were voted a pay raise right off the bat, Senator Hamilton replied, "That was psychology. We don't want to have them to start arguing economy when we ask for pay raises for the teachers."

Down East Lions Hear Talk by Grover Munden

Speaker at the Down East Lions Club Monday night at the Sea Level Inn was Grover Munden, Morehead City.

Mr. Munden was introduced by Ed Willard, program chairman. The topic of Mr. Munden's talk was starting a new business in a field of which you know nothing.

During the business session, the club voted \$20 to buy a pair of glasses for a girl in a nearby community.

Through 10 a.m. Monday, North Carolina highway deaths totaled 128 as compared with 103 killed up to that time in 1956.

Mrs. Roy Idleburg, Morehead City, is the former Ruth Gray Guthrie, not Ruth Gray Garner as stated in Tuesday's paper.