

County Menhaden Factories Report Average Fishing Year

Manager Gives Finance Report On Chamber

- Morehead Chamber Board Studies Survey
- Membership Meeting Will Be in February

Joe DuBois, manager of the Morehead City Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting of the board of directors Monday night, reported that the chamber ended 1958 with a balance of \$341.

Most of this amount was from persons who paid their 1959 dues early.

Mr. DuBois also reported on the results of a survey conducted by the chamber. Of the persons returning questionnaires, 80 per cent think the town needs a convention hall; 70 per cent would buy stock in a corporation organized to build such a hall; 50 per cent would contribute toward equipping the recreation building for convention use.

Seventy-two per cent want an outdoor sign at Bridgeton directing tourists to take US 70 to Morehead City; 75 per cent want a sign on US 17 directing traffic to the coast; 98 per cent want more advertising to attract retired couples.

Ninety-two per cent want to continue publication of a complete central coastal brochure; 86 per cent want a quarterly chamber news bulletin; 50 per cent want semi-annual chamber meetings.

Twenty-five per cent want monthly chamber meetings; and 75 per cent want a host school (to teach waiters, clerks, etc. how to deal with tourists) to be held in Morehead City in April.

Mr. DuBois was instructed to make arrangements for having the host school.

President J. M. Davis appointed a committee of Shelby Freeman, Mr. DuBois and himself to plan a membership meeting for February for an open discussion of securing adequate convention facilities and bringing in more industries.

George McNeill asked if there was a way in which the chamber could aid in reducing the Morehead City Centennial debt. The board members agreed that this is a worthy cause and expressed the hope that the chamber might be able to contribute later.

Directors attending were Mr. Freeman, Mr. McNeill, S. A. Chalk Jr., W. B. Chalk, Walter Morris, Bud Dixon, Dr. Russell Outlaw, Dick Parker, and Edgar Swann.

Pastors Proceed With Revival Plan

County ministers voted Monday to invite Bobby Jackson, South Carolina evangelist, to come to the county to discuss a proposed county-wide revival. The Rev. W. R. Hales, pastor of the Free Will Baptist Church, Beaufort, was appointed to make plans for the conference with Mr. Jackson.

The Rev. Virgil Moore, pastor of Camp Glenn Methodist Church, was asked to investigate the possibility of obtaining the motion picture, The Life of Albert Schweitzer, for showing in the county.

The Rev. Al Daniel, pastor of the Wildwood Presbyterian Church, was appointed to represent the ministers' association at the meeting of the North Carolina Council of Churches at Duke University Jan. 27 and 28.

The program was presented by the president, the Rev. John Cline, pastor of Ann Street Methodist Church, who spoke on church members who fail to attend.

The opening prayer was given by Dr. L. J. Carrick, interim pastor at the First Baptist Church, Morehead City, and the closing prayer was given by the Rev. Ralph Fleming, pastor of St. James Methodist Church, Newport.

Ministers attending for the first time were the Rev. M. O. Sears, pastor of the Missionary Baptist Church, Newport, and Mr. Moore.

Beaufort Motorists May Get Tags at Town Hall

Chief of police Guy Springle reminds owners of cars in Beaufort that town auto tags are now available at the town hall.

Operators of the five menhaden factories in the county generally agreed that the 1958 fishing season was fair but far from spectacular. Their opinion of the weather for fishing varied from "about normal" to "worse than usual."

The most optimistic report was made by Wesley Willis, manager of Standard Products Co., Lennoxville Road. Mr. Willis said that the past season was as good as any of the three seasons they have been in operation. He said they caught a third more fish this year than last.

The three seasons included 1956, generally regarded as the best in many years. Mr. Willis pointed out that 1956 was the first year Standard Products Co. had fished here and the company had more boats here this year.

Mr. Willis announced that the company was studying plans to enlarge the present plant during the summer months.

W. H. Potter, owner of Beaufort Fisheries, says there was only one week of weather bad enough to keep his boats tied up. While he said the season just ended was better than 1957, neither of these years came close to 1956 in his opinion.

Beaufort Fisheries is the only plant that is in operation on a "year-round" basis. Mr. Potter says his boats will fish all of this week then tie up until the first of May.

The summer fishing season extends from May through October. Last summer was not particularly good fishing, Mr. Potter declared. He estimated catches to be about 25 per cent of normal inside and about 50 per cent of normal outside.

"I have never seen one fishing season yet that I was satisfied with!" Mr. Potter concluded.

The Fish Meal Co., West Beaufort, is the largest operation in the county. Plant manager Al Biermann estimates that catches this winter were about 15 per cent above those of 1957 and five per cent under the catches brought in during 1956.

Mr. Biermann says the weather was "fair" and that there seemed to be good numbers of fish in the schools.

George Wallace, owner of Wallace Fisheries, Morehead City, agreed that there were plenty of fish. "Our airplane spotters, as well as the boat captains, said that there were plenty of good-size fish. The weather didn't permit us to get as many of them as we could have under more favorable circumstances," he said.

Mr. Wallace estimated this winter's catch at 60 per cent of the catch for 1956. He said it was about five per cent above 1957.

R. W. Taylor of R. W. Taylor Co. said his factory processed about the same number of fish this winter that it did last season. He said that his boats brought in slightly above half of what they landed in 1956.

Mr. Taylor agreed that there were plenty of fish this season. "We just couldn't get to the fish. The weather was worse than average, in my opinion," he said.

Full-time maintenance crews are already on the job at all the factories. Already it is time to begin getting the equipment ready for next winter's rush.



Capt. Carl Bunch, Morehead City policeman, examines the dent in a fender of the 1947 DeSoto that collided with a bicycle ridden by Michael Scott Monday afternoon. The accident occurred in the 1200 block of Evans Street. Michael, 8, was improving at the Morehead City Hospital yesterday. He had a brain concussion and skull fracture. The car was driven by Charles Johnson, Morehead City, who has been charged with driving with defective equipment.

Phone Fighters Receive Refund

- Treasurer Gives Report on Costs
- \$6.55 Returned From Amount Sent by Paper

John D. Wilson, treasurer of the East Carolina Phone Fight committee, yesterday returned \$6.55 to THE NEWS-TIMES as its portion of the refund to those who helped finance the 1958 fight against Carolina Telephone's proposed higher rates.

Since this money does not belong to the newspaper, but to those who contributed to the fight, THE NEWS-TIMES proposes to donate it to the March of Dimes. The total contributed by newspaper readers to the campaign against higher rates was \$85.45.

Mr. Wilson's letter accompanying the refund check, follows:

Carteret County News-Times Morehead City, N. C.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find a check for your pro-rata share of the unused portion of funds donated by cities, counties and individuals to fight telephone rate increases. Cash receipts of \$8,437.39 were shown in an audit of the Treasurer's records. After expenditures for attorneys and rate expert's fees and other necessities there remains a balance of \$648.30. This amounts to a refund of one and one-half cents for each twenty cents contributed.

This fight was well worthwhile, though hoped-for results were not achieved, for the wide response indicated throughout the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company service area was an excellent cross-section of public opinion. Such a demonstration cannot be ignored indefinitely.

"I feel that I can speak for every member of the East Carolina Phone Fight Committee and say that your support was most gratifying. Let me thank you for the privilege of working with the Committee in this public service program. With very best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
John D. Wilson, Treasurer

Temperature Drops To Low for Winter

The mercury dipped to 18 early Tuesday morning, low mark for the winter. Weather observer Stamey Davis points out that in December of last winter the temperature dropped to 16.

The mercury began to get back to normal Wednesday, when it recorded a high of 55. Warm, cloudy weather was reported for yesterday. Maximum and minimum temperatures and wind direction since Monday follow:

	Max.	Min.	Wind
Monday	31	24	NW
Tuesday	37	16	NW
Wednesday	55	30	SW

Morehead City Goes Back to \$1 Town Auto Tag Rate; \$2 Illegal

Dollar Donation Will Be Accepted for Firemen Suits

Morehead City town commissioners raised the tag rate when firemen requested four "hot papa" suits so they could fight fires more effectively. There was no money in the budget to meet cost of the suits.

The four outfits, two for the downtown fire station and two for the West End station, protect firemen from heat, enabling them to go up to a wall of flame or through it. Cost of the suits will be \$580.

They had already been ordered before it was discovered Tuesday that the \$2 auto tag rate, which would have brought the town \$1,600 additional revenue, was illegal.

Firemen, of course, would be disappointed if they didn't get the suits — and there's no place from which the money can come. THE NEWS-TIMES suggests, therefore, that persons who would like to donate a dollar for the firemen's suits do so when they go to buy their town tags.

School Bond Vote Will be Feb. 28

County residents will go to the polls Saturday, Feb. 28, to vote on a \$2 1/4 million bond issue for new schools.

If persons are already registered to vote in a general election, they need not register again. If, however, persons have never voted in this county and have lived here long enough to be permitted to vote, they may register between Saturday, Jan. 31 and Saturday, Feb. 14.

On three Saturdays, Jan. 31, Feb. 7 and Feb. 14, the registration books will be open at the polling places in each community. On Saturday, Feb. 21, the right to vote of anyone registered may be challenged.

On weekdays other than the above-mentioned Saturdays, registrars can register persons at their homes. Names of citizens who want to vote cannot be taken over the phone, nor may the registrar take the name of the person if they happen to meet on the street. Registration books are open from 9 a.m. to sunset.

News-Times Discovers Error; Refund to be Made

Morehead City at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning went back to the \$1 rate for town auto tags. A check of the state laws by a NEWS-TIMES reporter Tuesday afternoon revealed that a rate of more than a dollar is illegal.

Less than 200 tags had been sold by Tuesday at 5 p.m., the fourth day of sale of the 1959 tags.

THE NEWS-TIMES on Tuesday phoned George McNeill, town attorney, who later verified the fact that the \$2 rate the town had been charging for tags was illegal.

Persons who have already bought their tags may go to the clerk's office in the municipal building and receive a refund of \$1.

The statute governing the rate for town auto tags is chapter 20-97: "... no county or municipality shall levy any license or privilege tax upon the use of any motor vehicle licensed by the state of North Carolina, except that cities and towns may levy not more than one dollar (\$1) per year upon any such vehicle resident therein ..."

The town board voted at its December meeting to raise the rate to \$2. Mayor George Dill said Tuesday that he was under the impression that the legislature had passed a law permitting the rate to go up.

He says that he now recalls that the bill was killed in committee. Towns which charge a higher rate—as some of them do—have to get a special law passed enabling them to do so.

What They're Saying About The Proposed Bond Issue

Between now and Feb. 28, date of the school bond referendum, many opinions will be expressed on the proposed school program. Below are listed the opinions seeming to prevail at present, both for and against, the bond issue.

There are other opinions, of course, but at the moment it seems that what one wants in the way of schools will determine largely

whether he's for or against the bond issue.

If consolidated schools are wanted, the only way to get two of them soon enough to alleviate overcrowded conditions is to borrow the money.

If people are satisfied with present small community high schools, a pay-as-you-go plan is feasible. If, however, a law is enacted by the

forthcoming legislature enabling the county to accumulate funds from year to year, a raise in the tax rate may mean that in about three or four years work could be done on a consolidated school somewhere in the county.

If a bond issue is approved, work can start on a new school immediately; education officials say, with the school opening its doors in 1961.

• For the bond issue:

1. The only way to get two consolidated schools, the more desirable plan, is to borrow the money so that there will be enough funds to get the new schools up as soon as possible and thus do away with crowded conditions.
2. The Local Government Commission suggests that \$2 1/4 million in bonds NOT be marketed at once. Therefore, if at least \$1 million is obtained, work can be started on the badly needed school in the western part of the county.
3. If a bill is passed in the legislature to enable counties to accumulate money over the years to build schools, at least several years would have to pass and the tax rate more than doubled to accumulate enough money to put up a million dollar school building. If a bond issue passes, building of the west Carteret high school, at least, could begin.
4. Without consolidated schools, our children will continue to get sub-standard education, be limited in the courses they can take and find themselves way behind other boys and girls in college.
5. New consolidated schools will be built in such a manner that they can easily be added to when population growth demands adding classroom space.
6. The proposed plan calls for ear-marking a million dollars for the "west" high school and a million for the "east" high school, the remaining \$500,000 to be used to renovate the present buildings which would be used for primary and grammar grades.
7. The County Board of Education plans to operate the proposed new buildings, and the others, at the present 20 cents per hundred tax rate which people are already paying, plus the approximate \$100,000 schools get annually in fines and forfeitures from the courts.
9. Our Negro schools can be improved. They have been improved steadily in recent years and will continue to be. That is no issue.
10. No matter which way we go, repair schools piecemeal or consolidate, taxes will be raised. Two big consolidated schools, easily expandable, are the best buy for the money.
11. When public officials take office, they are charged with the duty of acting in the best interests of the people. It is not fair to demand of the board of education — although specific plans may be forthcoming — that they set down each tiny detail of the proposed program. No one knows what the tax rate will be. The figure, now mentioned as the rate, whether bond issue or not, is \$1.60 per hundred. But no one will really know until the bonds are sold and rate of interest set.
12. If we have better school facilities, we can attract the good teachers. Teachers will not accept jobs, at equal pay, in a crowded, run-down school if they can teach in a modern school where they are not crowded.

• Against the bond issue:

1. We don't need consolidated schools, and it would be better to raise taxes and use a couple hundred thousand dollars each year to improve our present school buildings.
2. To borrow \$2 1/4 million means that we would be paying out hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest — money that we could use here.
3. Everybody's living on borrowed money. The nation is in debt, everyone is in debt. Roger Babson, financial advisor, says, "The three hopes of America are our churches, our schools, and a desire to 'pay as you go'."
4. Our education is fine as it is. Boys and girls get "lost" in consolidated schools and taking a high school from a community impairs community growth. Besides, we have yet to see what "better courses" will be offered at a consolidated school.
5. If Morehead City School, where overcrowding is worst, consolidates with Newport and that school is built first, most of the \$2 1/4 million will probably go into that building.
6. It has been said that just 15 cents is necessary, over a number of years to pay off a school bond debt, but the cost of keeping up two new buildings and running buses to them will amount to something. Nobody has said yet how much more in taxes that will take.
7. If Newport does not want to consolidate with Morehead City, and the bond issue passes anyway, then the consolidated plan might not work, even though the majority vote is for a bond issue which would permit putting up consolidated schools.
8. We object to the theory that a bond issue is the only way to get the money for improving schools. If the bond issue doesn't pass, schools still need improving, and the county board has assured us that some means will be taken to effect that improvement.
9. We have yet to see what advantages will accrue to Negro schools if this bond issue passes. All we've heard is how the white schools will benefit.
10. On all points — sites, amount of money to be spent and where, courses of study to be offered, transportation, we get nothing but vague answers. We have to have something specific to vote on.
11. As for "improving" schools there is a lot more that could be done right now, in the present schools, such as teaching the kids how to read, spell and figure correctly. You don't need palaces to teach a child that.
12. Regardless of the type of schools, a teacher will usually go where the pay is higher.

Water Company Improves System In Two Towns

C. W. Williams, manager of Carolina Water Co., reports that water company crews have been busy making improvements to the Morehead City and Beaufort water systems.

In Morehead City, they have run a six-inch line between Arendell and Evans on 26th Street and have tied together six-inch lines on 12th and 13th Streets by running a line down Bay Street.

Another line on 17th Street will connect six-inch lines on Bridges and Arendell Streets. The company is waiting for a permit to go under the railroad tracks to complete the work.

Two new fire hydrants were installed in the Homes Drive section during November.

In Beaufort workmen have moved outside switches inside the pump-house to prevent their freezing. An eight-inch pipe that maintains the same water level as the outside aerator tank has been installed inside to accommodate the switches.

Mr. Williams says that he has ordered material with which to connect the old well to the aerator. The water from the old well, when aerated, is free of odor and taste.

By having both wells connected to the water system, Mr. Williams predicts even better water service for Beaufort, especially in case of emergencies such as fire or storms.

Tax Collections Last Month Total \$32,911.74

County tax collections for December totaled \$32,911.74. E. O. Moore, county tax collector, told county commissioners Monday.

Collected in December on the 1958 levy was \$29,784.57, on 1957 and prior levies \$2,539.92, and on business privilege licenses \$587.25. Percentage of the 1958 levy collected to date is 60.45.

E. L. Brinson, deputy collector of delinquent personal property taxes, collected \$163.51.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar	
HIGH	LOW
Friday, Jan. 9	
8:13 a.m.	2:00 a.m.
8:40 p.m.	2:39 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 10	
9:01 a.m.	2:48 a.m.
9:30 p.m.	3:24 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 11	
9:49 a.m.	3:34 a.m.
10:22 p.m.	4:07 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 12	
10:37 a.m.	4:18 a.m.
11:12 p.m.	4:49 p.m.

Rotarian David Jones announced that Grayden Paul will be in charge of next week's program. Mr. Paul will present a movie on the March of Dimes.

Two Towns Get Site Proposals For 'West' School

School committees of Newport and Morehead City and members of the Citizens Committees for Better Schools of those towns met Wednesday night in the county board of education office to hear suggestions of four possible locations of the future consolidated school between Morehead City and Newport.

No decision was made. The representatives from each town were asked to meet soon, then make a report of their choice to the board of education, which will make the purchase. It is believed that this will be done within the next week or two.

H. L. Joslyn, county superintendent of schools, said that owners of the four sites have given assurance that they would sell the property. The sites range in size from 30 to 100 acres. Three sites are located between highways 24 and 70 and one is on highway 70.

Finding sites was handled by a committee from the board of education, George R. Wallace, Morehead City, and W. B. Allen, Newport. The school committees and better schools committees thanked Mr. Wallace and Mr. Allen for their work.

It was suggested that the townspeople concerned either decide what they want of the four sites or propose something else. The purchase price for the site is not in hand. If the bond issue is approved, the money will come from the bond sale.

The board of education already owns a plot of ground northwest of Morehead City, on which it was proposed several years ago that a new Morehead City School be built.

This plot was purchased from R. R. Barbour with the agreement that should it not be used for school purposes, the land would go back to Mr. Barbour at the same price for which the board of education bought it. Mr. Joslyn said the price was in the neighborhood of \$4,000.

As for the site for the consolidated school east of Beaufort, Mr. Joslyn said that something definite there is expected to develop soon.

Eubanks Photo Studio Robbed

Ten dollars in cash and \$462.95 in camera equipment was stolen from the Eubanks Studio, Beaufort, sometime Tuesday night.

Chief of police Guy Springle said that the studio was entered through a back door on which the hook was tripped. Then the inner door was pried open with a file that was lying in the place.

Stolen, in addition to the cash which was in the cash register, was a 16 mm. movie camera valued at \$200, four Polaroid cameras valued at \$199, a flash attachment valued at \$14.95, two Starflex outfits worth \$15 and Pony outfit worth \$34.

Roy Eubanks, owner and operator of the studio, discovered the theft when he opened for business Wednesday morning.

W. H. Potter Gives Program at Rotary Meeting Tuesday

W. H. Potter discussed some of the opportunities for this area in its water resources at the Beaufort Rotary Club meeting Tuesday night. The club met at the Scout building.

Mr. Potter, the guest of Gerald Hill, discussed points ranging from the dredging of Ocracoke Inlet to the re-routing of railroad traffic across Newport River and Beaufort Channel.

Rotarian David Jones announced that Grayden Paul will be in charge of next week's program. Mr. Paul will present a movie on the March of Dimes.

Visitors at Tuesday's meeting were George Dill, W. B. Chalk and Bud Dixon of Morehead City and Mayor C. T. Lewis, Dan Walker and William Roy Hamilton of Beaufort.