

Sea, Wind, Salt Spray Spell Death for Shackleford Banks

By RUTH PEELING

Law requires that cattle, sheep, goats and pigs shall be removed from the outer banks of North Carolina. The livestock are supposed to be off Core Banks by now. Next in line is Shackleford.

But persons who think that removal of livestock will automatically assure the restoration of the banks may be mistaken.

Judging from what was seen on a trip to Shackleford Tuesday, the greatest sinners are the sea, wind and salt spray. Remove the animals without also pushing back the sea, and the deadly erosion of the outer banks will continue.

Core Banks is more deeply eroded than Shackleford. Things are in such bad shape there that every blade of grass eaten by livestock meant a push closer to the precipice of total destruction. In fact, at this point, even a seed eaten by a bird on Core Banks is a step toward total disappearance of Core Banks.

Some folks contend that all the vegetation on Shackleford is being eaten by the animals there. That all the dead trees and low shrubs are the result of animals' gnawing on them.

Explain then, why in a wooded glade, we saw grass two to three inches high, and cedars and live oaks of good size. Animals frequented the glade. There was evidence of that everywhere. (Somebody could go over there and start a fertilizer factory).

The glade was in a deep ravine behind a high dune. The dune formed a natural protection from the incisor-like wind and killing salt spray. As we moved up out of the glade to the tops of the dunes, the dead, weather-beaten cedars again dominated the scene.

One can only theorize that at one time these dead cedars were far from the sea's edge. Between them and the poisonous salt spray were dunes. But storm after storm cut away the dunes, tides flowed in where they had never been before—and claimed the trees.

If wind and salt spray are the big culprits on Shackleford and Core Banks, why then is Bogue Banks not in a similar state? It would be, except

1. Man regularly inhabits Bogue Banks. He is attempting, if he's wise, to prevent the erosion—at Fort Macon and where cottages stand.

2. Bogue Banks is differently situated along the coast. Core and Shackleford take the brunt of swift currents and high winds. Bogue lies back, more in an east-west direction, protected from a direct attack by the elements.

Unless we are very careful, in another hundred years Bogue Banks will be in the same precarious position as Shackleford.

Where are the large pine forests on Bogue Banks? Situated a good distance from the sea. Unless the scrub vegetation has been bulldozed down by ignorant property owners, the scrub growth survives closer to the ocean, but no large trees can withstand the steady wind that bears the life-stealing salt landward.

Perhaps there exists a documented survey giving the land area of the outer banks in 1850 or prior. If so, we don't know of it, but would be willing to bet that the width of the banks many years ago was much greater than it is today.

There are different theories as to how to save the outer banks. After the visit to Shackleford Wednesday, I go along with Conrad Wirth, national parks director. Mr. Wirth says a two-story high barrier of sand must be built to keep the sea from smashing into the Hatteras Seashore National Park.

Others have recommended jetties and groins jutting out into the ocean.

It could well be that both are

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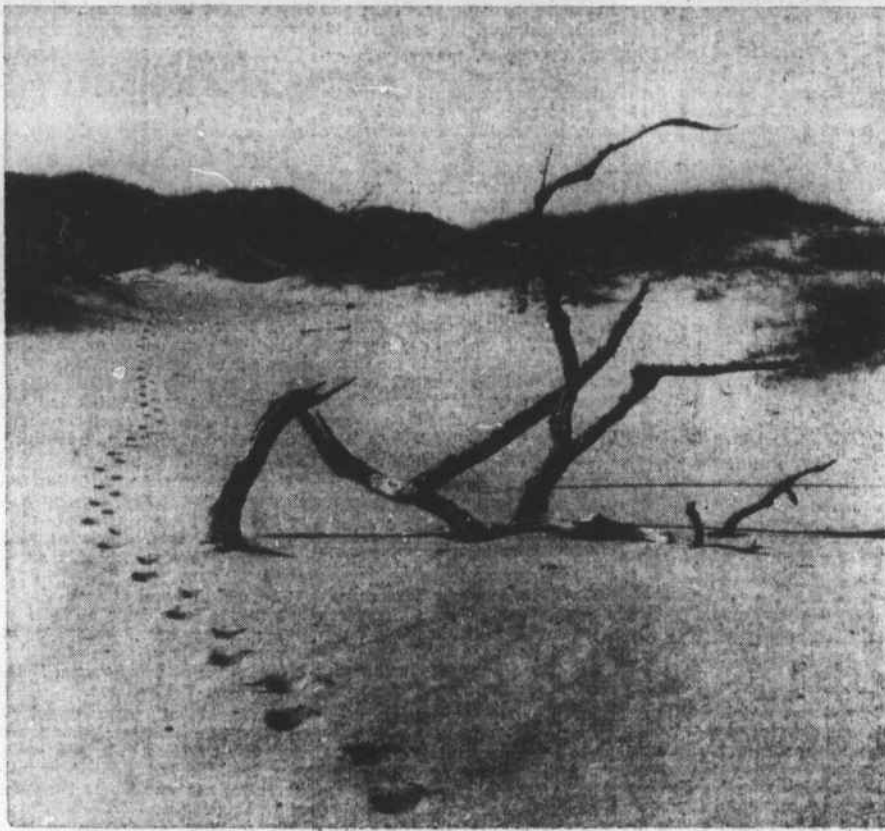
Zoning Official Assumes Office

Mayor W. H. Potter, Beaufort, administered the oath of office to Mrs. Lockwood Phillips, new zoning commissioner, at a meeting of the zoning board Friday night in the office of J. P. Harris Jr.

Gilbert Potter, chairman of the commission, presided. He reported that pending advice from the town attorney, the commission probably will conduct a hearing on rezoning a section of Front street.

Attending the meeting, in addition to those mentioned were James H. Davis, Earl Mades, and Mr. Harris, zoning commissioners. Ralph Thomas was present in an ex-officio capacity. Originally a member of the commission, he has been declared ineligible to serve because he does not live in town.

Mr. Thomas is expected to remain on the commission if annexation plans go through.



So you think you're alone! Though Shackleford on a February day may seem bleak and lonely, you've got lots of unseen company as these tracks of sheep across a windswept dune prove.



Sneaking up over a high dune, we came across this group of white and black goats feeding in a little valley. Soon they discovered that humans were near and took off.



In the duck (DUKW) belonging to Bob Simpson, Ken Newsome and Owen Dall, we went to Shackleford Banks Tuesday. Bob is driving. Standing in the "cockpit" are Mr. Newsome, Joe DuBois, manager of the Morehead City chamber of commerce, Mrs. Bob Simpson, and Ruth Peeling.

(Photo by Tom Kellum)

Atlantic Beach Board Starts Street Improvement Program

Atlantic Beach aldermen decided Saturday morning at their meeting in the town hall to start a paving program that has as its object "almost all streets paved by 1961."

Cost will be met with funds on hand plus proceeds from the ABC store.

At present, ABC funds are being set aside to buy the town hall from the Atlantic Beach Improvement Corp., but M. G. Coyle, clerk, believes that the town can pay the \$20,000 plus the interest due on the building by April.

Funds that accumulate from the store thereafter will be applied to

the street paving. The board approved use of ABC funds up to \$5,000.

The first street improvement work will be the following:

- Charlotte Avenue from Salter Path Road to Atlantic boulevard—open for traffic and use a surface cover of 3 inches marl.

- Wilson Avenue from E. Boardwalk alley to Fort Macon road, 2 inches asphalt, 20-foot width.

- Raleigh Avenue from Salter Path Road to Atlantic boulevard with 2 inches asphalt, 20-foot width.

Estimated cost of the work is \$7,000. Of that, the town can pay

\$4,000 in cash. The contractor has agreed to wait until Sept. 1 for the balance. The board passed a resolution permitting setting aside ABC funds for the work, beginning July 1, 1960.

The second phase of street improving approved:

- Beaufort Avenue from E. Bogue Avenue to Fort Macon road marled to depth of 3 inches.

- Kinston Avenue from W. Bogue to W. Terminal marled to depth of 3 inches.

- All unpaved streets dragged and put in good condition.

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Beaufort Asks That Court Reject 'Petition of 200'

Demurrer Says It Does Not Show Annexation Hurtful

The town of Beaufort demurred Saturday to the request for court review of its annexation proceedings. A petition filed Wednesday by 200 property owners in the area asked that Judge W. J. Bundy sign a restraining order which would block annexation March 1.

The demurrer, filed by C. R. Wheatly Jr., attorney for the town, asks that the action be dismissed and that the petitioners, G. W. Huntley and others, pay court costs.

The town contends that the petition fails to show how any individual property owner would be hurt by becoming a part of the town. Reference is made to the law under which potential citizens may object to being taken into a town.

The town says the petition gives no location of any specific property in the to-be-annexed area, that it does not state specifically who may be affected by a fire hydrant's NOT being located at a certain point, that those who are complaining about no sewage proposal from the town are already served by sewage systems.

The demurrer further states that each petitioner is interested in his own property and has no interest, whatever, in what other property may be annexed, therefore all the petitioners could not be identically affected by annexation.

The demurrer points out that the petition makes no statement relative to the fact that all the petitioners have joint ownership in the to-be-annexed area.

A. H. James, clerk of court, reported yesterday that Judge Bundy has as yet taken no action, either on the petition or the demurrer.

Students Hurt In Auto Accident

Miss Portia Salter, route 1 Newport, injured in an auto accident Wednesday night, was discharged from the Morehead City hospital yesterday. Gerald Lovick, Morehead City, injured in the same accident, was discharged from the hospital Friday.

Miss Salter, Lovick, Nancy Duke and William David Ballou, all students at Morehead City high school, were in a 1960 Rambler which crashed into the rear of a stalled Marine truck at 10:30 Wednesday night on highway 24, six miles west of Morehead City.

Lovick was driving. Patrolman W. J. Smith, who investigated, said Lovick estimated his speed at 55 or 60 miles an hour when he crashed into the rear of the truck.

The truck was headed west and a wrecker from Camp Lejeune had just latched on to tow it when the accident occurred.

Lovick said he didn't see anyone flagging down traffic. His lower front teeth were knocked loose. Miss Duke suffered cuts on the chin and forehead and a bruised hip. Miss Salter was bruised and shaken up. Ballou was not injured.

They were taken to the hospital by a motorist, Vernon Cannon, route 1 Newport. Miss Duke was treated in the emergency room.

Operator of the wrecker was Donald C. Roland, Camp Lejeune. The truck was a 1953 Studebaker M35. It was not damaged. Damage to the car was estimated at \$600. No charges were filed.

Coast Guard Refloats Tug

A barge-pulling tug, the Maryland, joined the long list of vessels run aground by high winds and tides over the weekend as it struck bottom in Bogue Sound Sunday night and had to be refloated by Fort Macon Coast Guardsmen.

The Fort Macon station received a call at 6:20 Sunday night saying that the Baltimore-bound Maryland and its 197-foot barge was aground in the sound.

The Coast Guard 40-footer was dispatched to the scene and refloated the Maryland and its tow in a matter of minutes. The crew aboard the tug included seven men including the operator, S. D. Hubert. The tug and barge are owned by the Norfolk, Baltimore and Carolina Lines Co., Inc.

Engineers to Meet
The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Eastern North Carolina section, will meet at 6:30 tonight at the College Inn restaurant, highway 64, Raleigh.

Crowd Expected At Friday Meeting

Several hundred persons are expected at 7:30 Friday night in the Morehead City school auditorium at the Save Morehead City chamber of commerce meeting.

Five hundred fifty letters have gone to business and professional men throughout the county, inviting them to the meeting.

A. B. Cooper, chairman of the chamber finance committee, will preside. Mr. Cooper declares that it's time for the free-loaders to get off the backs of the few who have been bringing good business to the county, and start paying their share.

Bathers Were Frolicking In Surf Friday Morning

So you think it's cold?

M. G. Coyle, clerk at Atlantic Beach and A-1 beach booster, says folks were swimming in the surf near his ocean cottage Friday morning.

Friday really was a spring-like day. But Old Man Winter asserted himself Saturday with high winds and drenching rain.

Garage Burns



Firemen extinguished a fire that destroyed the contents of a garage at 1413 Shepard St. early Friday evening. The garage is owned by Mrs. G. C. Hedgepath and was used as a storage building for furniture, tools, garden and lawn equipment. Damage was also heavy to the garage itself. Cause of the fire was unknown.

J. M. Davis Jr., Richard Cummins Receive Highest Award in Scouting

James M. Davis
... Eagle ScoutRichard Cummins
... Eagle Scout

James M. Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Morton Davis, and Richard Cummins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cummings, both of Morehead City, received the Eagle award in Scouting at the Court of Honor Sunday night in the First Methodist church, Morehead City.

The awards were presented by Joel Tyson, field executive, East Carolina Council, and climaxed the first full court of awards ever conducted in the county. All ranks in Scouting were conferred. The program ended the county observance of Boy Scout Week.

James, 14, is in the eighth grade at Camp Glenn school. Richard, 14, is a pupil in the eighth grade at St. Egbert's school.

Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Cummins were presented pins designating them as mothers of Eagle Scouts.

Receiving the Bronze Palm, a recognition for work beyond Eagle rating, were Bobby Sellers and Jimmy Ross.

The rating of Life Scout was conferred upon Claud Williams and Bennie Ketner of troop 371, Wildwood. Harry Salter, chairman of the district health and safety committee, made the presentation.

Star Scout awards were given by Dr. Robert Barnum, district commissioner, to Phillip V. Sellers, Bruce Golden, Robert Tyler, Steve Willis, Tommy Dickinson, Wayne Ketner and Louis Maggilo.

Cecil Sewell, chairman of the district leadership training committee, gave first class awards to Phillip Golden and Tommy Dickinson.

Second class awards were presented by Gordon C. Willis, chairman of the district advancement committee, to Kenneth Lewis, John Lee, Ray Ball, Donald Crowe, Alfred Chestnut, John Hohl, and Jimmie Forest.

Recognized as a tenderfoot, by Ethan S. Davis Jr., Scoutmaster of troop 130, was Jimmy Willis.

Fifty-three merit badges were presented by Robert B. Howard, chairman of the district finance committee, to Harry Williams, Tommy Dickinson, David Mufflen, Lewis S. Maggilo, Wayne Ketner, Bennie Ketner.

Billy McCabe, Leon Murdock, Claude Williams, Bruce Golden, Jimmy Ross, Robert Barts Jr., Gordy Eure, Robert McLean, John Hatcher, Phillip Van Sellers, Steve Willis and Robert Tyler.

Dr. D. J. Eure was in charge of the court of honor and presided.

Host troop was 130, sponsored by the Men's Club of the First Methodist church.

Three Attend Two-Day Session at Raleigh

A. H. James, juvenile court judge, Miss Georgie Hughes, welfare superintendent, and Carl Rhodes, case worker, attended a two-day meeting in Raleigh last week.

The session, which opened Wednesday, was conducted by the Department of Public Welfare in conjunction with state probation officers. Juvenile delinquency was the major subject discussed.

Smyrna Coach Proposes Summer Recreation

Winds Blow Ship Aground

Winds of almost 65 miles per hour and driving rain hampered efforts of the Coast Guard cutter Chilula to refloat the French vessel Tocansa Saturday. The Tocansa ran aground near berth 3 at the western side of the Morehead City turning basin about 8:20 a.m. Saturday, while trying to tie up at the state dock.

The Tocansa requested Coast Guard aid at 8:30 a.m. and by the time the Chilula had attached lines to it, the tide was falling. Several lines parted in the first effort to pull her off. She was blocking the inland waterway channel.

At 3:30 p.m. the Coast Guard tried again, exerting as much as 80,000 pounds of pull on the 475-foot ship. She came free at 4:20 p.m.

The Tocansa, whose home port was given as Dunkirk, is owned by the Compagnie de Transports Oceanique de Paris, France. Her captain is John Bertrand. She left yesterday morning with a cargo of tobacco for Bangkok.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Tuesday, Feb. 16	LOW
10:37 a.m.	4:31 a.m.	
11:06 p.m.	4:50 p.m.	
Wednesday, Feb. 17		
11:25 a.m.	5:11 a.m.	
11:56 p.m.	5:28 p.m.	
Thursday, Feb. 18		
12:17 a.m.	6:01 a.m.	
	6:16 p.m.	
Friday, Feb. 19		
12:51 a.m.	7:15 p.m.	
1:14 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	

Dr. Dennis Will Speak March 8 In Beaufort

Dr. Katherine Dennis, state supervisor of home economics education, Department of Public Instruction, will speak Tuesday, March 8, in Beaufort.

Dr. Dennis, a member of the Governor's Committee on Aging, has been invited here by the county committee on aging.

The committee, headed by Miss Grace Wilson, Beaufort, was formed several weeks ago. The purpose is to find and develop resources for more full living for senior citizens.

The county committee will meet at 1:15 p.m. today in the welfare office, courthouse annex.