

State Official Sounds Note Of Hope, Warning Friday

- W. E. Easterling Visits Morehead
- Board Discusses Fiscal Affairs

W. E. Easterling, secretary of the Local Government commission, brought a word of hope—and warning Friday night when he met with the Morehead City town commissioners at the municipal building.

"You'll go a long way to liquidating your debt," Mr. Easterling told the commissioners, "if you stick to your 60 cents set aside for debt service in your present tax rate."

He emphasized the "if" part of his statement.

Mr. Easterling was invited to confer with the town fathers relative to a deficit of over \$300,000 that has piled up in recent years.

The deficit could jeopardize the paying off of city bonds when they come due in 1973, according to Josiah Bailey, auditor who has been engaged to audit the town books for 1959-60.

Commissioners, to meet current operating expenses of the town, have "borrowed" in the past from the money levied to pay off the bonded debt. The tax rate is 60 cents for "debt service," \$1 for general operating expenses, 10 cents for the recreation commission and 5 cents for the city hospital, making a total of \$1.75.

The "borrowed" funds have not been replaced.

The commissioners had dinner with Mr. Easterling and his assistant, Cliff Moore, at the Rex restaurant, prior to the meeting at the town hall. Mr. Easterling is with the state agency whose duty is to assist towns in floating bonds and keep them from incurring debts from which they would be helpless to rescue themselves.

Attending the meeting, in addition to the commissioners, were Mr. Bailey, CPA; Mrs. Blanda McLohan, town treasurer; George McNeill, town attorney; and John Lashley, clerk.

Mr. Easterling asked Mr. Easterling when the \$300,000 deficit could be made up if the town board con-

Late Capt. John Smith Was Born on Hog Island

By F. C. SALISBURY

As one of the oldest citizens of the county, the late Capt. John Smith, whose death occurred in Morehead City last week, could vividly recall the early days when the settlement of Lupton on Hog Island, across the bay by that name from Cedar Island, was one of the principal fishing villages in the county.

It was in this settlement at the southeast point of the island, which in later years bore the name of one of its first settlers, that Captain John was born in 1875, the son of Edwin and Mary Gaskill Smith. He was one of three boys and two girls of the family.

Both his grandfather, Biddle Smith, and his great grandfather, William Gaskill, were early settlers of the Portsmouth township which embraced Hog and Cedar Islands up until 1914 when the Cedar Island township was established from that of Portsmouth.

When Captain John was 3 years old, the family moved off the island, returning some nine years later to spend their remaining days there and to be buried in the Lupton cemetery.

As a young man of 20, Captain John ran the mail boat from Beaufort to Lupton and Cedar Island three times a week for several years. He also was engaged in operating a boat line to New Bern which offered a good market for seafoods.

Following his marriage, Captain

See CAPT. JOHN, Page 7

Hedrick Street, Beaufort, Widened to Two Lanes

Hedrick Street in Beaufort, between Cedar and Pine streets, has been widened.

The street was formerly wide enough for only one vehicle. The power company recently moved poles, making it possible to widen the street to two lanes, according to Ronald Earl Mason, town clerk.

Hundreds View 64 Exhibits At Science Fair

Hundreds of students and adults flocked to the Morehead City gym Friday afternoon and night to view exhibits on display at the school's annual science fair.

Sixty-four exhibits, dealing with science—from jet propulsion to the anatomy of a cat—made up this year's fair.

Awards were presented students for their projects in five categories: classroom exhibits, senior biological division, senior physical division and junior biological and physical divisions.

Judging the exhibits were Dr. Austin B. Williams and Dr. William E. Fahy of the Institute of Fisheries Research, UNC, and Dr. Winona Vernberg of Duke Marine Laboratory.

The first place ribbon in the classroom projects division went to the fifth grade students of Mrs. Evelyn Morton for their exhibit on magnetism. Second place was awarded Mrs. Rachel Fulcher's fifth grade for their volcanoes of Hawaii exhibit. Mrs. Lois Sherrill's fifth grade students were awarded third for their exhibit of a balanced aquarium.

In the senior biological division, first place was awarded to John Crowe, eleventh grade student, for his exhibit on experiments in simple Mendelian genetics. An exhibit demonstrating a differential white blood cell count by ninth grader Sharon Anne Conway was the second place winner. Third place went to Carolyn Meiggs and Shirley Frederick for their exhibit on the anatomy of a cat.

Winners in the senior physical

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Limit on Shrimp Imports Asked By Rep. Lennon

- Tariff Commission Opens Hearing
- Louisiana Supports Setting of Quotas

Rep. Alton Lennon has requested the US Tariff commission to put import quotas on shrimp entering this country.

The tariff commission opened a hearing in Washington Wednesday to determine whether shrimp imports are causing serious injury to the United States shrimp industry. The commission will make a report to the House ways and means committee which has been asked to conduct hearings on a bill which would establish quotas on shrimp imports.

Congressman Lennon's statement follows:

"The continued increase in the import volume of shrimp has driven down the market price of this product more than thirty per cent, I understand. I am certain the facts presented to the Commission by the shrimp industry during the current hearings will adequately indicate the problems confronting our domestic producers and the necessity for curbing imports of shrimp.

"The proposed import quotas are fair and would permit an orderly and progressive increase in imports from foreign countries. No country would be penalized below its present shrimp imports to this country. Such a program is calculated to protect domestic producers while promoting growth and stability in the world shrimp market.

"It is imperative that we now protect our own shrimp industry and its productive efforts, and I trust the Commission will give ut-

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Pilings Driven For New Bridge

Although weather has not been favorable, work is progressing on the new bridge across Calico Creek. Concrete pilings are now being driven for the new bridge, which will be the same height as the structure being replaced.

Work is under way now in Craven county on construction of 2.14 miles of dual lane from Cherry Point to a point near the Carteret-Craven line. A three-span bridge will go across Slocum creek, located behind Dick Parker Motors.

The dual lane project is expected to be finished by November 1960, according to Jack Burruss, resident engineer with the State Highway commission.

Letting of contracts for the dual lane highway from NC 24 and highway 70 into Morehead City is scheduled for the spring of 1961.

Paving of the approaches to the North River bridge has been completed. Shoulders are now being built up and that work is scheduled for completion by the end of this week, weather permitting.

Mr. Burruss estimates that it will take about a week to do the paving planned by the state in the town of Beaufort. This work was started yesterday.

Band Will Play Today at Yacht Launching at 10

The Morehead City high school band will play at the launching of a fiberglass pleasure yacht at 10 this morning at Cannon Boat Works, west of Morehead City, announces J. A. DuBois, manager of the Morehead City chamber of commerce.

Mr. DuBois says that Governor Hodges is scheduled to be flown here for the ceremony in a plane owned by the Hatteras Yacht Co., High Point, builder of the yacht. He will speak at the launching.

The local committee working with the boat launching firm consists of Bob Slater, Larry Cannon, David Lindsay and Mr. DuBois. They cordially invite everyone to turn out for the affair.

Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	LOW
Tuesday, March 22	
3:57 a.m.	10:35 a.m.
4:35 p.m.	10:55 p.m.
Wednesday, March 23	
5:03 a.m.	11:29 a.m.
5:27 p.m.	11:50 p.m.
Thursday, March 24	
6:02 a.m.	12:20 a.m.
6:30 p.m.	
Friday, March 25	
6:52 a.m.	12:42 a.m.
7:17 p.m.	1:08 p.m.

Beach Town Board Buys Building Paid Off Year Earlier Than Planned

Atlantic Beach Aldermen, in Session Saturday Afternoon at the town hall, voted to buy the town hall from the Atlantic Beach Improvement corp.

The cost of the building, plus 6 per cent interest for two years will be paid in \$20,400 cash and a 60-day note for \$1,100 without interest.

In this way the total cost, \$21,500, will be paid a year earlier than had been originally proposed. The proposal was accepted by directors of the Atlantic Beach Improvement corp. in a meeting immediately following the town board meeting.

The town officials and the corporation directors, most of them the same individuals, were pleased with the transaction.

The town officials formed a private corporation Feb. 24, 1958 so that they could build a town hall without putting the town in debt. The directors are A. B. Cooper, W. L. Derricksen, M. G. Coyle, R. A. Barefoot, Dr. Edward Bizzell, A. F. Fleming and E. J. McFeters. All except Mr. McFeters are town officials.

The seven put up \$1,400, sold 115 shares of stock at \$100 per share to 63 stockholders and borrowed \$10,000 from the bank. The town officially occupied the town hall, which includes a fire station, police station and store space on June 1, 1958.

A three-year lease purchase agreement was made between the town and the directors of the improvement corporation. The town paid the corporation \$50 a month rent and set aside revenue from the ABC store, which occupied the store space, to pay off the capital investment in the building.

M. G. Coyle, clerk, reports that on deposit now is \$20,158.41 in the fund. By using ABC funds for the next two months the purchase of the building can be made and stock held by shareholders redeemed. The improvement corporation set May 14, 1960 as the date for buying in the stock. Stockholders are asked to mail their certificates in by that date.

The directors were not sure whether they would dissolve the corporation. They felt that even though everyone had been paid back their full investment plus interest, the corporation may want to undertake other municipal improvements in the future.

See BOARD, Page 2

Property Owner Makes Comment

Gene Smith, attorney representing Mrs. A. V. Pierson, owner of waterfront property between Queen and Pollock streets, Beaufort, has expressed disappointment that the town board did not see fit to include a proposition for public hearing which would permit erection of one-story buildings on the south side of Front street, should the area be rezoned.

Mrs. Pierson owns 231 feet of property in the block in question, approximately 60 per cent of the total block frontage, and was in favor of recommendations placed before the town board by the zoning commission, Mr. Smith said.

Those recommendations, for restricted commercial area, put a 16-foot maximum height on buildings on the south side of Front street in the area between Queen and Pollock.

"In the opinion of my client," Mr. Smith said, "the rezoning as proposed affords little opportunity for appreciation of property value."

The steaming method and the evaporator have helped cut overhead in many ways for Mr. Willis. Prior to 1952, the plant employed about 60 workers, but after the advent of steam the force was

Artists Will Visit Ocracoke

A group of Norfolk artists will paint and study for one week at Ocracoke in June.

The artists will be headed by J. Lindsey Ocheltree, director of the Ocheltree School of Art, Norfolk. Mr. Ocheltree is preparing a brochure which describes the island as a "paradise for students and artists."

He said the visit to Ocracoke is being planned by his students, but other artists in the Norfolk area had expressed interest in the project.

From June 12 to 19, the painters will live at the Wahab Village hotel, spend the days painting outdoor scenes and the nights doing figure studies and viewing instruction films.

He calls Ocracoke "a goldmine for artists."

Williston Seafood Co. Uses Steam to Process Clam Juice

By ELLEN BORDEAUX

The ocean clams discovered recently by the Fish and Wildlife Research vessel are giving a substantial boost to the economy of this area. Local boats dredge the clams, which are sold to a Williston firm, which hires county people to process them.

To date, the entire catch of ocean clams has been bought by Williston Brothers Seafood Co. of Williston, owned by Elmer Willis. The ten boats catching the clams unload at Beaufort each night and the clams are trucked to Williston.

Clam processing is a relatively simple operation. Since 1952, Mr. Willis has been using the steam method. Prior to that the clams were fresh shucked for shipment.

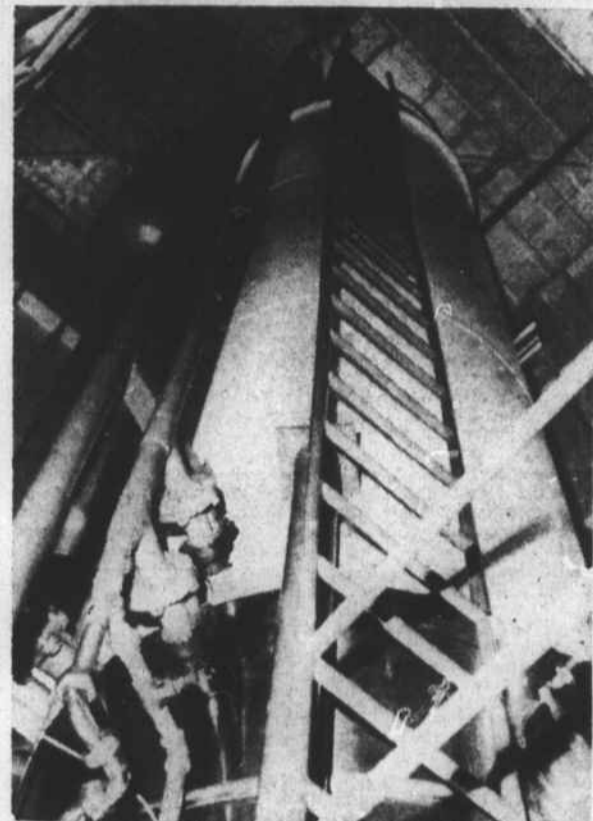
The clams are processed at Williston the day after the boats unload them. First they are washed thoroughly in several baths, then steamed until they open.

From the steam room they are taken by belt to the shucking tables, where women employees remove the meat from the shells.

Latest addition to the processing plant is an evaporator, the pride and joy of Mr. Willis. The evaporator reduces the clam juice on a 10 to 1 ratio. This means that if 10 gallons of juice are fed into the evaporator, one gallon of concentrated juice comes out. The water taken from the juice, Mr. Willis pointed out, is of the very softest sort.

A vacuum is maintained inside the evaporator and a pump is kept running during the entire operation to pump the juice over coils of varying temperatures. No solids are removed from the juice, only water.

The steaming method and the evaporator have helped cut overhead in many ways for Mr. Willis. Prior to 1952, the plant employed about 60 workers, but after the advent of steam the force was



This odd-looking piece of machinery is the evaporator, which has done much to reduce the cost of processing clam juice. The evaporator reduces the juice on a 10 to 1 ratio.

cut to about 20 employees. Reductions in the number of gallons of juice resulted in lower cost for freight, freezing, cans, labor, handling, etc.

Mr. Willis has been in the clam processing business since 1939, when the company was started. He first shipped chowder clams in the shell to Baltimore, Md., where they were shucked for the Heinz folks. Shortly after, the company began sending cherrystone clams to Cleveland, Ohio, for clamcakes.

In 1947 the Willis company started dealing direct with Heinz, fresh shucking their chowder clams. This arrangement continued until steam was brought to the plant.

Early in 1959 Heinz agreed to the installation of equipment to evaporate the clam juice. In a normal day's steaming, Mr. Willis said, 1,500 gallons of juice are processed, netting 150 gallons of concentrate. Prior to 1959 he had to supply three gallons of juice for every gallon of meat. This increased production costs and made getting a profit rough.

This year Mr. Willis will supply Heinz with approximately 25,000 gallons of meat and 7,500 gallons of concentrated juice. This would have been 75,000 gallons under the old method.

For several years Mr. Willis

bought clams all along the coast from Massachusetts to Georgia. Since the discovery of beds of clams along our coast, hauling problems have been relieved somewhat.

So far, the processors have been able to keep pace with the boats, who get 40 to 80 bushels per day per boat. However, Mr. Willis said he didn't think he would be able to buy all the clams if more boats started working here.

Of the ocean clams, Mr. Willis said, "I feel that we have discovered something that will mean a lot to our fishermen for a long time to come."

Director Seeks Beauty Queens of All Years

Grayden Paul, director of Beaufort's forthcoming 251st anniversary celebration, is looking for beauty queens, yesteryear's and today's. In connection with the celebration, Mr. Paul is trying to contact every former Beaufort beauty queen.

Those who have not been contacted are asked to get in touch with Miss Bobbi Dennis at Paul Motor Co., or Mrs. David Beveridge at PA8-4732.



Mrs. Rena Finer, left, and Mrs. Cora Finer remove the meat from clams which have been steamed open.

Ground Broken for Postoffice



Photo by R. K. Montague

Wilbur V. Garner, mayor pro-tem of Newport, turns a spade of earth that marks beginning of construction on the town's new postoffice. Groundbreaking ceremonies took place Thursday afternoon.

Wilbur V. Garner, mayor pro-tem of Newport, turned the spade of earth Thursday afternoon that marked beginning of construction of Newport's new postoffice.

The new building is being built by Hardy-Harvey, Inc., Kinston, and will be rented by that firm to the postoffice department. J. B. Hardy, president of the firm, attended the groundbreaking ceremonies.

R. K. Montague, postmaster, call-

ed the erection of a new postoffice the beginning of a new era for the town. Plans for the postoffice, announced several months ago, were followed by announcement of a new sportswear factory in Newport.

"Who knows where we will go from here?" the postmaster asked.

He pointed out that the postoffice staff will be able to serve its customers much better in the new building than they have been able to in the present small building.

There were brief remarks by Mr. Garner and by Derryll Garner, chairman of the dedication committee.

The invocation was given by the Rev. R. L. Fleming Jr., pastor of St. James Methodist church, and the closing prayer by the Rev. Tom Roberts, pastor of the Church of Christ, Newport.

The groundbreaking took place on a cloudy, damp St. Patrick's day.

Scouts to Have Camporee At Race Track This Weekend

Carteret Boy Scouts will have a camporee Friday through Sunday at the Morehead City race track. Theme of the camporee will be Fifty Years of Scouting in America.

The theme will be carried out through displays and campfire programs.

Visitors are invited to the camp site Saturday. Visiting Cubs (Lions and Webelos) are asked to wear their uniforms.

The schedule for the camporee, released by George Stovall, camp-

ing and activities chairman, follows:

Friday
3 p.m.—Registration and assignment of camp sites.
5-7 p.m.—Supper hour
8-9:15 p.m.—Troop campfires

Saturday
7 a.m.—Reveille and breakfast
9-11 a.m.—Camporee Scoutcraft events

Sunday
11 a.m.-2 p.m.—Saturday lunch
4-5 p.m.—Retreat assembly
6-8 p.m.—Supper and clean up

8-9:30 p.m.—Campfire
9:45 p.m.—Tatoo
10 p.m.—Taps

Sunday
6:30 a.m.—Reveille and breakfast
8:30 a.m.—Religious service
9:30 a.m.—Strike camp
Presentation of ribbons will be made after final inspection of campsites.

Further information on the camporee may be obtained from Mr. Stovall or Dr. R. O. Barnum, district Scout commissioner.