

Fire Strikes Western Auto Store

The Western Auto Associate store in Morehead City was practically a total loss after an early-morning fire yesterday—destroyed a storage room and its contents and burned into the ceiling of the display area in the front of the store.

Otis Jones, owner, said he didn't think there was much salvageable merchandise. He was unable to give a dollars and cents estimate of the loss. Smoke damage was extremely heavy.

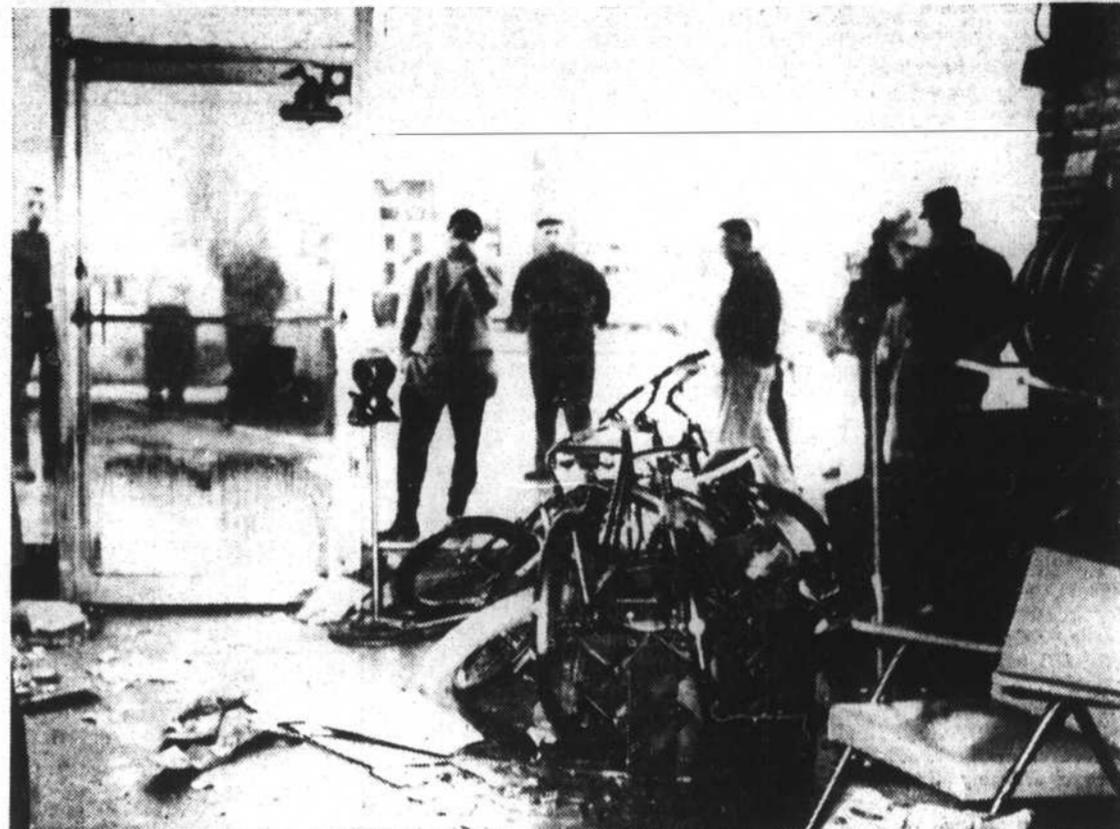
The fire was discovered by employees in Dora Durette, next door to Western Auto. They smelled smoke but couldn't locate the fire, so Holden Ballou, owner and manager, called the Morehead City fire department.

Firemen said they got the call about 8:15 a.m. They believe the fire started around an overhead fluorescent light fixture in the storage room, left burning at night. Two pump trucks from the downtown station extinguished the blaze and kept it from spreading to Dora Durette or Cooperative Savings and Loan, which adjoin Western Auto.

Heat from the flames cracked the two big plate glass windows at the front of the store. Firemen broke them out to help get rid of smoke so that they could get inside. The heat was so intense that toys and other merchandise on the shelves melted.

Mr. Jones said yesterday he planned to have the windows replaced yesterday afternoon and that electricians were to inspect the wiring to be sure it was safe to have lights turned back on.

He said he planned to see exactly how much damage there was and begin the cleanup in order to get the store back in operation as soon as possible. The loss was covered by insurance, the owner said.



From the street, spectators look through glass-less windows into the interior of the Western Auto store.

News-Times Photos by McComb

Sugar Ship Clears Customs At Morehead

A 110-foot Canadian freighter, which delivered 10,000 bags of sugar to Washington, N. C., cleared customs Friday at Morehead City.

The freighter arrived here from Mexico and continued its trip to Washington via the inland waterway. On its return trip it will also pass through Morehead City to pick up clearing papers.

The sugar, a million pounds, was imported by Howard Harris, manager of the Pamlico Warehouse, who said the freighter is the first with a foreign flag to dock in the Pamlico river in almost 50 years. Mr. Harris said he was interested in importing sugar from Cuba, but the Castro regime blocked those plans. Ships drawing more than a small amount of water cannot negotiate the Pamlico river, which has an 11-foot channel.

All ships calling at Morehead City as the first port of entry from a foreign country fly the yellow quarantine flag until cleared here by US Customs, US Immigration, US Public Health Service and the US Department of Agriculture.



At the rear of the store, fire chief Lindsey Guthrie, right, directs removal of furniture so that firemen can work more efficiently. Mart Bell, fireman, is carrying out the table. Fire is believed to have started around a light fixture.

Heart Campaign Will End Soon

Only five more days remain in the heart fund campaign, announces Mrs. Philip Ball, chairman of the county heart council. She asks folks to mail donations to Mrs. James Evers of Morehead City, treasurer, or to her.

Omitted Tuesday from the list of restaurants taking part in coffee day today was the Morehead City Drug Co. Mrs. John Seaton has volunteered to assist in the heart Sunday canvass since Tuesday.

Diane Davis, Donna Guthrie and Margaret Mann will take part in tag day in downtown Morehead City tomorrow. Working with them will be Mrs. Gordon Day and Mrs. David Menden.

Mrs. Bill Singleton is in charge of the coin containers in business establishments. If a container needs replacing or emptying, persons are asked to contact Mrs. Singleton or Mrs. S. A. Horton.

Peniel Lowery Appeals Six-Month Jail Sentence

Peniel Lowery, Morehead City, was convicted of assault with a deadly weapon Monday in Morehead City recorder's court and sentenced to six months in jail. Lowery was accused of inflicting serious injury to Needham Wiley with a knife. It was the defendant's fifth such offense within a 12-month period.

Lowery was also given an additional 30 days for violation of the term of a suspended sentence of Nov. 30, 1960. Judge Herbert Phillips ordered that the two sentences run concurrently. Lowery appealed and his case was transferred to the next term of Superior Court. His bond was set at \$500.

The knife incident occurred Saturday night in front of Dudley's, Morehead City. Patrolmen E. D. O'Neal Jr. and Seldon Sherwood of the police department saw Lowery and Wiley tussling on the ground while they were patrolling in the police car.

They broke up the fight and took both men to the hospital. Wiley was treated for a gash on his forehead above his eyes. Patrolman Sherwood said the fight followed an argument over \$3.

Another defendant, Willie Moore Harkley, Morehead City, appealed a 30-day suspended jail sentence on a simple assault conviction. Harkley was convicted of hitting William A. Jones with his fists and was given 30 days, suspended on one year's good behavior and payment of court costs.

The case was transferred to superior court and the defendant placed in the county jail in lieu of

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Tide Table

Tides at the Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Friday, Feb. 24	LOW
3:43 a.m.	10:20 a.m.	
4:15 p.m.	10:32 p.m.	
Saturday, Feb. 25		
4:41 a.m.	11:12 a.m.	
5:13 p.m.	11:22 p.m.	
Sunday, Feb. 26		
6:21 a.m.	12:09 a.m.	
6:50 p.m.	12:44 p.m.	
Monday, Feb. 27		
7:03 a.m.	12:55 a.m.	
7:29 p.m.	1:26 p.m.	
Tuesday, Feb. 28		
7:41 a.m.	1:37 a.m.	
8:05 p.m.	2:06 p.m.	

Cutter Called Out
The CGC Chilula left yesterday to assist a fishing vessel believed disabled between Cape Lookout and Cape Hatteras, according to Coast Guard officers at Fort Macon. The Chilula was expected to return late yesterday.

Three Fined For Assaulting Newport Coach

Roy Dennis Jr., Billy Hill and Joe Howard, Newport, were given suspended jail sentences in county court Tuesday for assaulting George Peacock, Newport basketball coach. Each was fined \$25 and one-third court costs, to be paid in 60 days.

The 30-day jail sentences were suspended only on condition that the youths remain on good behavior for a year.

A charge of using profane language was dismissed. Also dismissed was a charge against Dennis of attempting to run over Mr. Peacock with his car.

According to testimony, the coach, who lives across the street from the school, went over to the school when he heard the school bell (the kind rung with a rope) being tolled. As he got on the grounds, a car started driving away.

In an attempt to mark the car so it could be identified later, the coach hurled his flashlight at it and struck it. The occupants, Dennis, Hill and Howard leaped out and proceeded to beat up Mr. Peacock.

Caps of two of Mr. Peacock's front teeth were reported to have been imbedded in the fist of one of his assailants. The coach testified that several hundred dollars would be required to repair the teeth.

The three claimed that someone else, whom they couldn't identify, had been ringing the school bell.

Residents of the town report that the school grounds and the building itself are a favorite hangout, at night, of youths who seem to be looking for trouble.

Other cases heard in county court will appear in Tuesday's paper.

Operetta Given

The third and fourth grades of Harkers Island school presented an operetta Friday night. Profit was small because of a small crowd.

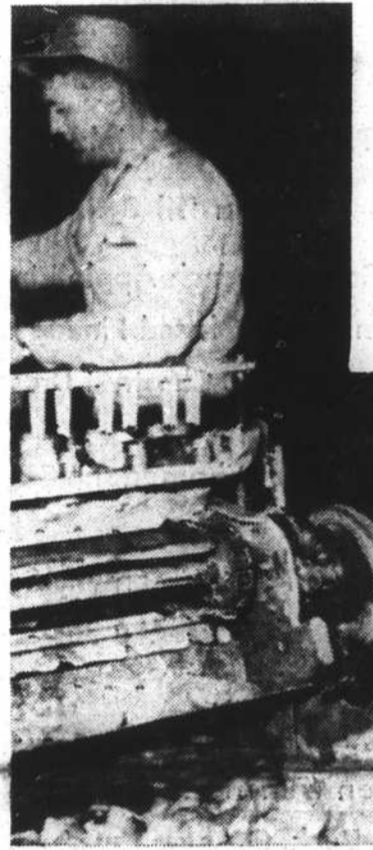
Farmers Plant Potatoes



Photos by R. M. Williams

Planting of Irish potatoes got under way last week throughout the eastern part of the county. The treatment to control fusarium seed piece decay and bacteria decay is shown here on the Kerney Merrill Jr. farm, highway 101.

In the other picture, a mechanical seed potato planter is shown in operation on the George Ball farm, Harlowe, which is now owned by Wallace Conner and Walter Temple. Cary Temple is operating the tractor.



YDC Officers Pass Resolutions On Education

- Second Tuesday Night Set for Club Meeting
- Committees Named Monday Noon

At an executive committee meeting of the Young Democrats club Monday noon at the Rex restaurant, Morehead City, resolutions were passed endorsing governor Sanford's education program, and advocating that the county board of education obtain title to the Morehead City hospital building as soon as possible and work toward establishment of a junior college.

The resolution on the governor's education program was presented by Miss Alida Willis, Morehead City, chairman of the legislation and education committee. Other members of that committee are Jack Barnes, Beaufort, and Rufus Butner, Morehead City.

Miss Willis will notify members of the state house of representatives and the senate of the committee's action.

The second Tuesday night of each month was set as the regular date of the YDC meeting. The next meeting will be at 8 Tuesday, March 14, in the courthouse, Beaufort. Unless otherwise specified, the courthouse will be the usual meeting place, according to Ronald Earl Mason, president of the YDC.

P. H. Geer Jr., Morehead City, was named chairman of the membership committee and Larry Howard, Newport, was named chairman of the registration and first voters committee.

Committee members will be named later.

Other committees are the following: program, Dr. Russell Outlaw, Luther Hamilton Jr., Morehead City, and Mrs. Albert Chappell, Beaufort.

Social, Glenn Willis Jr., Beaufort; Mrs. Champ Lewis, Morehead City, and Harry Fulcher, Atlantic.

Convention, Herbert Phillips III, Morehead City; Frank Langdale, Beaufort, and Joe Mason Jr., Atlantic. (The committee will extend a bid to the state YDC to meet in this county this year).

Teen-Dems, the Rev. R. A. Fleming Jr., Newport; Paul Cordova, Morehead City; Guy Smith Jr., Beaufort; C. H. Davis Jr., Davis; and Mrs. Joyce Gaskill, Atlantic.

Jefferson-Jackson Day, Wiley Taylor Jr., Mrs. T. H. Potter, Beaufort; Howard Mason, Wiregrass.

Loyalty, Dr. John Gainey, Morehead City; Albert Chappell, Beaufort, and Prentiss Garner, Newport.

Attending the executive committee meeting were Mr. Mason, Mrs. Thelma Pittman, first vice-president; Garland Scruggs, second vice-president; Nelson Gillikin, secretary; Joe Beam, treasurer, and Miss Willis.

PTA Council Defers Election

Election of officers of the County PTA council was deferred at the council's recent meeting.

The nominating committee said it will have its report in April. H. L. Joslyn, county superintendent of schools, who is a member of the council, attended the meeting for the first time.

Each school was represented except Morehead City where the PTA was staging a womanless wedding. Harkers Island was represented for the first time. Delegates are Mrs. Nancy Wells and Mrs. Madge Guthrie. Others who attended from the Harkers Island PTA were Mrs. Julian Guthrie and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wade.

The next meeting will be at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 16, at Smyrna school.

Legislator Named to Six More Committees

D. G. Bell, Carteret's legislator in the general assembly, has been named to six more House committees.

They are veterans legislation, courts and judicial districts, public buildings and grounds, propositions and grievances, irrigation and drainage, and military affairs.

Property Owner Reveals Two Offers By Industry Wanting Water, Railway

Give-Aways Needed at Show

More literature, free souvenirs, fishing pier passes and items of that type are needed for the sportsmen's show in Charlotte, which will close Sunday. The show opened Tuesday.

Persons who cater to the travel trade should take these items to the chamber office in the Hotel Fort Macon immediately, announces J. A. DuBois, chamber manager. Any that are not used at Charlotte will be used at the Ohio Valley show in Cincinnati in March.

On duty at the Carteret booth in the Charlotte show are Charles Walton and Ralph Nichols. Others who have helped with the project are Ken Newsom, Don Coates and Mac Mizelle, who went to Charlotte yesterday.

Persons willing to go to Cincinnati to assist with the Carteret display there are asked to get in touch with Mr. DuBois.

Wreck Causes \$1,300 Damage

Damage totaling \$1,300 was caused at 4:15 p.m. Wednesday when one car ran into the rear of another on highway 70 two miles west of Newport.

A 1959 Buick, driven by William B. Winderberg, Cherry Point, plowed into the rear of a 1958 Pontiac driven by Pauline E. Caldwell, route 1 Newport.

According to highway patrolman J. W. Sykes, both cars were headed east. Miss Caldwell signaled to make a right turn into a private drive and slowed, as she did so the Buick struck the Pontiac. Winderberg told the patrolman that he had applied his brakes in an attempt to avoid the accident.

With Miss Caldwell was the owner of the Pontiac, Hugh H. Peterson, USMC. Damage to the car was estimated at \$800. Damage to the Buick was estimated at \$500.

Winderberg was charged with following too closely.

Two industrial firms requiring both rail and water shipping facilities at their front and back doors have asked Mrs. K. W. Wright if she would sell them some of her several hundred acres of land fronting on the Newport river north of Beaufort.

This was revealed by Mrs. Wright Tuesday afternoon at a meeting in Beaufort town hall to discuss with two Department of Conservation and Development representatives the practicability of listing all of the farm area, lying between North and Newport rivers, with the department as "land available for industrial use."

The meeting was arranged by William H. Potter, Beaufort mayor. Those in attendance included most of the owners of the land, all of whom signified a willingness to sell their acreage to industry.

Mrs. Wright said that both industries which have approached her to buy would do so if (1) they could be assured that the proposed new bridge across Newport river would be placed north of her property, thereby not bottling up Morehead City harbor and (2) rail facilities could and would be extended to her land.

Turning to Mr. Potter, one of the prime instigators of the movement to locate industry north of Beaufort, she said:

"But you, Mr. Potter, want the new bridge to be placed just about where the present bridge is, thereby bottling up Morehead harbor and rendering useless for industrial purposes all of the area on the eastern shore of Newport river."

Quick to his feet, Mr. Potter said that he wished to differ with Mrs. Wright.

He said that it was his original proposal that both vehicular and rail traffic be routed across Russell's creek at the northerly extremity of the Newport river basin.

"Further," he added, "I have no recollection of ever seeing any of the faces of those at this meeting at the last highway commission bridge hearing at New Bern. That New Bern meeting was probably the last at which any of you could have presented facts to change the

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Fireman Checks Hydrant



Ronald Smith, Beaufort fire department engineer, tests a fire hydrant, one of the chores involved in running a town. For more about "townkeeping," see page 8 of this section.