

Town Considers Plan To Widen Front Street

Beaufort commissioners consented to consider widening two blocks of Front street when they met Monday night at the town hall.

The request was made by J. O. Barbour Jr., president of the Beaufort Merchants association. Mayor W. H. Potter suggested that the association present its proposal in writing and the board will investigate.

The merchants propose widening Front street 6 feet between Turner and Queen, 3 feet on either side. The width of sidewalks would thus be reduced.

Mr. Barbour said that traffic conditions in the two blocks, now, are hazardous. The cost of the work would be shared by the town

and individual Front street merchants.

Gray Hassell, engineer, estimated the cost at \$2 1/2 per lineal foot, or a conservative total of \$4,000. Commissioner Davir Farrow raised the question of moving water lines and light poles to effect the widening.

Mr. Barbour said the merchants association would get signatures from merchants who would agree to pay half the cost of the materials needed. Between Turner and Orange he suggested elimination of angle parking on the south side of Front.

Earl Mason, manager of Waterfront Esso, asked the town's permission to do away with parking

spaces in front of the station. He said the station would bear the cost of removing the curbing to make a continuous driveway along the front of the station.

The board agreed to consider his request.

Owners of the Hancock Park sewage system appeared and presented the figure of \$6,600 as their sale price on the system. C. R. Wheatly, town attorney, William Roy Hamilton and commissioner Farrow were appointed to confer with a committee of sewer owners next week to work out a purchase arrangement.

Purchase, if effected, would be a step toward annexation of the

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To be at Williston



Hargrove Bowles Jr., above, director of the Department of Conservation and Development, will be the speaker at the greater Morehead City chamber of commerce clambake at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 3, at Williston.

Tickets will be on sale throughout the county next week at \$2 each. The chamber's distinguished citizen's award for 1960 will be presented, as well as several travel promotion awards, announces J. A. DuBois, chamber manager.

Hospital Board, Architect To Confer Tuesday Night

Johnny Waters Pleads Not Guilty to Murder

- Three Found Guilty In Drink-Box Thefts
- Two Appeal Decisions In Court Monday

Probable cause was found Monday in Morehead City recorder's court in the case against Johnny Edward Waters, charged with second-degree murder. Waters was ordered bound over to the next term of superior court and placed under \$5,000 bond. He pleaded not guilty to the charge of killing Beatrice Mitchell.

Three Cherry Point defendants, Billy Gary Waddell, Francis Robert Smith and Michael John Dikin, were convicted on four separate charges of stealing money from drink machines and possession of stolen property.

The three were charged with stealing money from drink machines at the Dixie Barber shop, the City newsstand and Sound Esso station. For the Dixie barber shop theft, each defendant was given six months in jail suspended on payment of \$50 and court costs and two years' good behavior.

On each of the other charges, each defendant drew six-month sentences suspended on payment of costs and two years' good behavior.

Two defendants appealed. Evie

See COURT, Page 6

Hearing on Drum Inlet Begins at 10

Army engineers will conduct a hearing on improvement of Drum inlet at 10 a.m. today at the courthouse, Beaufort.

Testimony justifying deepening of the channel should be presented in writing, although oral argument will be heard. Boatmen who use the inlet have been invited to fill in the necessary forms and present them to J. A. DuBois, manager of the channel, or to Clayton Fulcher Jr., Atlantic, prior to this morning's hearing.

Testimony to be presented by Mr. Fulcher stresses the value of a new scallops industry that could be established if Drum inlet were opened so that boats could make quick runs from the scallop beds in Raleigh Bay to shucking houses on the mainland.

County Board, Trustees Lay Organization Plans

George Watts Carr, architect for the proposed county hospital, will meet with the hospital board of trustees at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday to discuss preliminary drawings for the hospital.

The meeting date was set Tuesday night at the courthouse when county commissioners and the trustees adopted a plan of procedure on hospital construction and administration.

Luther Hamilton Jr., county attorney, explained that the pending hospital suit was filed after Mr. Carr had been employed and the county is already obligated to him as far as preliminary planning goes.

Monetary obligations beyond that point would not be advisable, he said, until the courts render a decision. Moses Howard, chairman of the board, said that if the county gets a green light on hospital construction, much time will be saved if the hospital board, building committee and other details are lined up.

The trustees approved the name, Carteret Memorial hospital, in their meeting this week and named Edward (Bud) Dixon, temporary chairman. It is expected that a permanent chairman and building committee will be selected this coming Tuesday night when the trustees meet at the courthouse with Mr. Carr.

The board of trustees consists of 12 members. They will be appointed for terms of five years, with the exception of the present board, whose terms have been defined, so that in the future there will not be a complete turnover of personnel at one time.

Named to serve five-year terms, beginning with this past Tuesday, April 11, are Mr. Dixon, William T. Davies, both of Morehead City; Charles Harris, Marshallberg, and Mrs. Clayton Fulcher Jr., Atlantic.

Serving four-year terms will be Gerald Hill and Charles King, Beaufort; Roger Jones, Broad Creek, and John L. Crump, Morehead City.

Three-year terms will be served by James H. Potter III, Albert Chappell, Beaufort; Mrs. Nellie C. Garner, Newport, and W. L. Derickson, Morehead City.

Appointment of trustees is vested in the county board of commissioners, whose chairman, Moses Howard, is an ex-officio member of the board with full voting privileges. Five members of the board will constitute a quorum.

It was suggested that a trustee who misses six consecutive meetings be automatically dropped from the board. Mr. Crump suggested that this number be reduced to three. No decision was made and the matter was left open for future amendment.

The resolution stipulates that three of the trustees shall be named to the building committee, with Mr. Howard as ex-officio member of the committee. If this is not done within 10 days after April 11, the county commissioners will appoint a building committee.

When the question was raised as to the number on the building committee, Mr. Howard said that three was suggested by the Medical Care commission and Mr. Carr, and no more than five. The building com-

mittee will discuss the proposed regulations Thursday, April 27, 2 p.m. at the courthouse in Beaufort. The planning commission has called this meeting so that the regulations may be understood and molded to conform to requirements in this county.

Attending the planning commission meeting Monday night in the REA building, Morehead City, besides Mr. Barbour and Mr. Turner, were planning commissioners L. J. Dupree, chairman; Dr. W. L. Woodard, Cecil Morris, C. H. Locke, Mrs. E. H. Piper, Milton Coyle and W. C. Carleton. On the subdivision committee are Charles C. King, A. D. Fulford and W. B. Chalk. Through commission efforts, a county building code is now in effect.

Subdivision regulations have been very valuable in areas where land development is occurring due to retirement of older people, opening of recreational areas adjacent to recently built lakes, and along the Atlantic seaboard with its expanding facilities for boating and fishing.

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Edgar Willis Sent to Roads For Year; Lawyer Appeals

When Judge Lambert Morris in county court Tuesday ordered that Edgar Willis, Straits, serve a year on the roads for violating a suspended sentence of Dec. 29, 1959, Willis, through his attorney, Claud Wheatly, gave notice of appeal. Bond of \$500 was posted by the defendant.

A drunk driving case against Willis was continued for two weeks. In county court Dec. 29, 1959, Willis was found guilty of being drunk, disorderly, damaging personal property and trespassing. He was sentenced to a year on the roads, suspended if he left the county in 24 hours and stayed away for three years unless his mother became seriously ill. Then the judge said that he could return to visit her "for a short duration."

Willis was also ordered to pay a fine of \$150, of which \$35 was to go to the prosecuting witness for damage to a pair of seat covers.

When the body of Agatha Ballou was found in Willis's barn Feb. 13, 1961, the state held him on suspicion of murder, for attempted suicide, and for violating the sentence of Dec. 29, 1959. Willis told members of the sheriff's department that he had been living in the barn with the Ballou woman.

Mr. Wheatly said the words "short duration" in the Dec. 29 judgment were indefinite.

Solicitor Wiley Taylor Jr., observed, "Short duration doesn't mean living in the county six months apparently in an adulterous relationship with a woman."

Deputy sheriff Bobby Bell, on the witness stand, described the Willis barn lot as he found it the morning of Feb. 13. He said there was a double bed, curtained off around three sides, with an oil heater on the side not curtained. There was a kitchen table, chairs, small stove, chest of drawers, various other items of furniture and clothing for a man and woman.

The deputy said Willis told him that he (Willis) and Aggie, the woman found dead in the bed, lived in the barn and part of the time they lived at the home of Willis's sister, Josephine. The deputy said Willis's mother also lives with Josephine.

He judged that the barn "was about a block from" the sister's house.

When Mr. Wheatly questioned deputy Bell about Willis's mother's condition, the officer said that members of Willis's family asked

officers not to say anything about finding the body in the barn to Willis's mother until a doctor was present.

Mrs. Eunice Lewis, Otway, sister of Willis, testified that she lived two or three miles from the barn where Willis apparently made his home.

She claimed she didn't know how long Willis had been in or out of the county since Dec. 29, 1959. She said that "Edgar and Aggie lived at Mama's," one sleeping in one room and the other in another. They would "stay at the barn occasionally," she said, but she didn't know how long.

Edgar, she testified, came to the county this past winter. Mr. Taylor asked if Willis was not involved in an auto accident in Morehead City in August 1960. Mrs. Lewis said she didn't know.

She admitted that Edgar had been in the county three weeks, then changed the time to "at least two weeks" to take care of his mother because no other members of the family could do so.

Mr. Wheatly contended that Willis came back to the county because his mother was "at the point of death."

Jaycees Elect Paul Cordova

Paul Cordova, Morehead City, was elected Monday night as president of the Morehead City Jaycees, succeeding Clifton Lynch. Other officers elected are internal vice-president Tommy Ballou and external vice-president Bill Munden.

Lou Williams was voted in as treasurer and Joe Beam will fill the office of secretary. Five new members of the board of directors are Horace Willis, Walter Willis, Gordon Willis, John Edwards, and Dick Spears.

Plans for the 12th quarterly board meeting, to be held April 22-23 at the Billmore Motor hotel, were discussed. The club announced that the Hi-Liters, a Kinston musical group, have been contracted for the Saturday night dance at the affair.

The club also announced that Jaycees will provide rides to the registrar's house for those who do not have transportation. Rides may be obtained by contacting Charles Willis at Hill's clothing store or Arthur Taylor at Dill's funeral home. New registration of Morehead City voters is now under way.

Work was soon under way, clearing the land about the fort, digging out the moat, repairing the two-story hospital building standing some distance away, and the officers' quarters.

At the time of the occupation of the fort there were only four cannon mounted on the barbette, where there were transverse for twenty-one guns. The seventeen unmounted cannon were lying on the dock of the Life Saving station. Captain Pender was assigned the job of overseeing the making of the carriages and mounting of these guns.

Later when the fort was garrisoned by the 1st Artillery, with Captain Pender in command of Co. G., the twenty-one guns became known as Pender's Battery.



Paul Cordova ... new president

Board Studies Court Reports

As of March 31, Morehead City recorder's court funds amounted to \$2,030.48, according to the report given town commissioners at their recent meeting. Also presented was a financial statement for the first quarter.

Total income for the quarter was \$6,531.62. Disbursed in the first three months of the year was \$4,644.15. The balance was insufficient to pay the county \$2,330.50 due in fines and forfeitures, leaving a deficit of \$300.02.

The board had decided that at the end of March an appraisal would be made to determine whether the court should be continued. At the April 4 meeting, it was voted to continue the court, but monthly reports are to be made, with a review at the end of each quarter, and if deficits are continual, the court will be discontinued, the board decided.

Cash receipts in March amounted to \$2,227 and disbursements \$1,211.33. Salaries paid to officers amounted to \$662.75; fees paid to policemen for Monday court duty \$107.

Total cash receipts for the first three months were \$5,450.55. Paid to the county board of education for the fourth quarter of 1960 was \$1,313.50.

A total of 216 cases were handled by the court from Jan. 1 through March 31. One hundred twenty-six arrests were made by Morehead City police officers.

100 Years Ago Today, Josiah Pender Seized Fort Macon for Confederacy

By F. C. SALISBURY

In the chronology of Civil War events, today, April 14, marks the 100th anniversary of the seizing of Fort Macon by Captain Josiah S. Pender and members of the Home Guards of Beaufort.

When news was received of the fall of Fort Sumter, after thirty-four hours of bombardment, Captain Pender with a detail of Home Guards rowed over to Fort Macon, demanding from Sgt. William Alexander, who was in charge, the keys to the fort in the name of the Confederate States of America.

This act on the part of Pender was on his own, a day before Governor Ellis ordered the occupation by state militia of Forts Caswell, Johnston and Macon, also the seizure of the United Arsenal at Fayetteville and the United States Mint at Charlotte.

Captain Pender was one of the first citizens of Carteret to sense the approaching danger of conflict, also realizing the unpreparedness of the military units of the state. He fully realized the importance of the fort, guarding the channel to the recently completed wharf at Morehead City, the

terminal of one of the main railroad lines of the state.

It was with this thought in mind and the possibility of armed resistance, that during the fall and winter of the preceding year, he organized and trained a militia which became known as the Home Guards of Beaufort.

Fort Macon was one of nine forts along the seaboard of the southern states of which Gen. Winfield Scott said: "A corporal's guard could snatch any of them." This prediction proved true in the case of Fort Macon.

Not aware of the fact that Fort Macon was in the hands of the Home Guards when he issued the order of seizure on April 15, Governor Ellis ordered Captain M. D. Craton and his company of Goldsboro Rifles to proceed to Fort Macon and seize it. This unit of 80 Wayne county men, headed by Captains Craton and J. B. Whitaker left Goldsboro on April 15 by rail for Morehead City.

To aid in cleaning up the fort, following the arrival of the Goldsboro Rifles, a working force of slaves and free Negroes, under the command of H. T. Guion of New

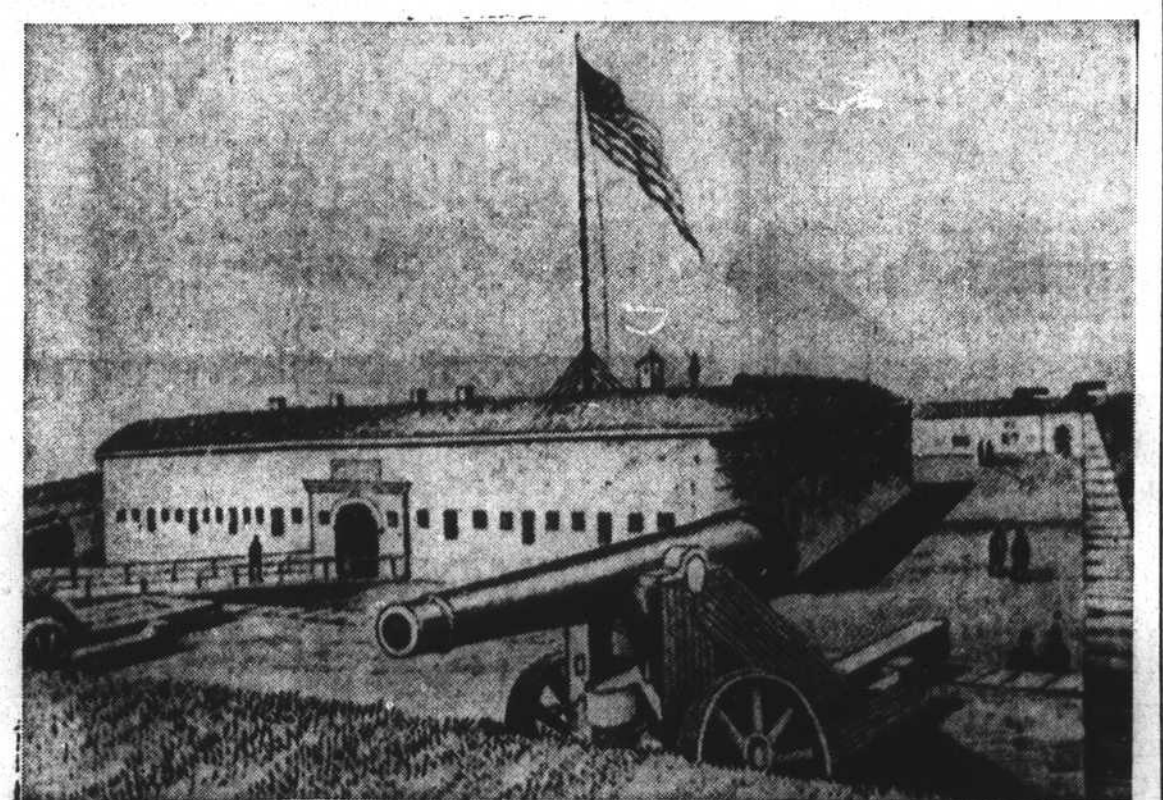
Bern, arrived on the 18th loaded with supplies donated by people of that town. The supplies for the fort were loaded on the George S. Hardy at the Morehead City wharf.

On the return trip the boat brought Sergeant Alexander and his wife, with their personal belongings, to Morehead City where they took passage for their northern home.

Work was soon under way, clearing the land about the fort, digging out the moat, repairing the two-story hospital building standing some distance away, and the officers' quarters.

At the time of the occupation of the fort there were only four cannon mounted on the barbette, where there were transverse for twenty-one guns. The seventeen unmounted cannon were lying on the dock of the Life Saving station. Captain Pender was assigned the job of overseeing the making of the carriages and mounting of these guns.

Later when the fort was garrisoned by the 1st Artillery, with Captain Pender in command of Co. G., the twenty-one guns became known as Pender's Battery.



One of the few pictures showing the type of gun carriage, built and mounted on the transverse on the barbette at Fort Macon, under the direction of Captain Pender and his mechanics. The twenty-one transverse which served the cannon of Pender's Battery are one of today's attraction at the fort.

Assemblyman Comments on Bills Scheduled for Introduction Soon

D. G. Bell, Carteret's general assemblyman, reports that he has several local bills to introduce as soon as routine matters pertaining to the bills are straightened out.

One of the routine matters was formal approval by Beaufort town commissioners Monday night of a bill which would shorten the time required for voters to register.

Mr. Bell said the officials believe a shorter registration period would mean financial saving to the town.

Two bills, requested by Morehead City officials, deal with permissive closing of the Morehead City hospital by action of the board, placement of Morehead ABC funds, which now go to the hospital, back in the town's general fund, and doing away with the 5-cent levy now paid by Morehead City residents for hospital operation.

County commissioners, at the request of local attorneys, have asked that Mr. Bell introduce a bill which would increase costs of court \$1. The extra funds would be used to establish a law library in the courthouse.

Ironing out obstacles has prevented introduction as yet of the bills proposing adjustment in taxes

on fishing boats, Mr. Bell said. He expressed hope that things would be in line for putting the bills in the hopper soon.

Passed last week in the house was a mosquito control bill which gives Carteret and Pamlico county commissioners the same powers vested in boards of governors of mosquito control districts.

Planned for introduction this week was a bill requested by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. The bill gives the county control over garbage disposal and litter piles, vests county officials with the authority to allow private businessmen to establish garbage collection routes and charge reasonable rates.

The bill also permits the county to set up a garbage collection system, provided no private businessman does so, with the county permitted to charge fees for the garbage collection service.

Taxes Collected

County tax collections for March totaled \$44,875.89, according to E. O. Moore, tax collector. Percentage of the 1960 levy collected by March 31 was 84.88. Collected by E. L. Brinson, collector of delinquent personal property taxes, was \$207.34.

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Driver of Car Escapes Injury Wednesday

Guy Willis, Davis, escaped injury at 2:15 p.m. Wednesday when the 1960 Pontiac he was driving flipped over on its top on highway 70 a mile west of Davis.

Damage to the car was estimated at \$600 by patrolman W. E. Pickard, who investigated. The accident happened in a hard rain when Davis braked the car upon coming up behind another vehicle. He was alone at the time. No charges were preferred.

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Three Cases Heard at Beach

Three cases were heard in Atlantic Beach mayor's court Tuesday night.

David M. Street, Havelock, was charged with public drunkenness. Judgment was suspended on condition that he leave the beach as soon as his hours of employment at a business there, end.

Roger J. Ragsdale, Havelock, was found guilty of buying beer for a minor, Daniel Howard, Newport. Ragsdale paid costs and was restricted from the beach until Aug. 18. Howard, who was convicted of his second offense of drinking beer under age, was restricted from the beach until he is 18, which is Aug. 18. He paid costs.

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