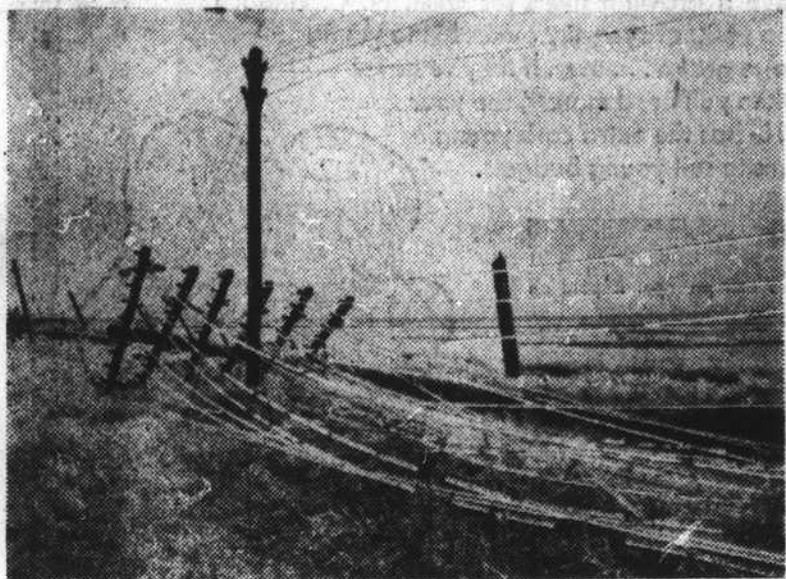


Heavy Ice Hits Lines, Cuts Services

14 Years Ago Two Ice Storms Created Hardships in County



This picture was taken on the Beaufort-Morehead causeway Saturday, Jan. 31, 1948. The top half of the power pole is lying across the B&M railroad tracks. The falling pole cut telegraph wires on the pole that's still upright.

The intense cold of Wednesday, followed by freezing rain, sleet and snow of Thursday and Friday was almost like a page out of January and February 1948 in Carteret.

The entire nation was gripped in sub-freezing weather, suffering under a shortage of fuel oil. Carteret was no exception. In Morehead City the Jaycees set up an emergency fuel oil committee. Jaycees themselves delivered fuel oil in 10-gallon lots to homes where the need was critical. Commercial trucks were too busy. One firm was making no deliveries unless the home tank was less than a fifth full.

People were asked to make their oil last longer by using fire places and coal grates.

On top of this, an ice storm struck Friday, Jan. 30. The power went off in Beaufort at 11:10 p.m. that night and was not restored until 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1. Water, therefore, could not be pumped into the town water tank and salt-water was turned into the lines so that there would be water for fire-fighting in case fire broke out.

People got drinking water from artesian wells. School was limited to half-day sessions because of the lack of water. On Thursday, Feb. 5, Dr. N. T. Ennett, health officer, said the water was still contaminated, even though fresh water had been turned back in the lines. Persons were warned to boil drinking water unless they had typhoid fever shots.

In Morehead City mayor George Dill declared a state of emergency for 24 hours because live wires, snapped under weight of the ice, were lying on the ground throughout town. Mail deliveries throughout the state were off schedule. Western union lines here were down. The only contact with the rest of the world was by highway patrol radio and ship-to-shore radio.

Then on Sunday, Feb. 8, another ice storm hit. Schools closed Wednesday, Feb. 11. Sections of Beaufort were still without electricity because of the previous storm. Utility wires snapped under ice and wind.

High winds sent the ice-coated 274-foot transmission tower at WMBL on Radio island toppling to the ground Monday, Feb. 9. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

Carolina Telephone Co. and Tide Water Power Co. estimated their damage in this county alone at a total of \$100,000.

School bus drivers will attend a lunch at noon Wednesday at the recreation center, Morehead City.



It was pretty to look at Saturday. Sun shining through the ice decked every tree with diamonds.



Ice covered many of the small creeks in the county Friday and Saturday. This is a view of Calico creek looking toward the cemetery and east from the bridge. Snow can be seen along the shoreline.

Repair Crews to Continue Working This Week

Winter struck the county with a vengeance Thursday. A drop to 15 degrees above zero early Thursday morning was followed Friday night with an inch of snow. Power and telephone lines went down and heating plants went off.

Ice was the big trouble-maker. Rainfall Friday totaled .83 of an inch. The rain froze, putting a coating of ice an inch thick on wires, weeds, bushes, trees — everything outdoors.

Utility lines snapped under the weight of the ice. Perhaps the only thing that prevented the situation from being a duplicate of 1948 ice storms was the absence of high wind.

Power crews are expected to be working all this week, mending lines, according to George Stovall, manager of Carolina Power and Light Co. here, and W. C. Carlton, manager of the Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corp.

L. A. Daniels, Morehead City manager of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph, said extra crews brought in to work on phone lines will be here this week. As of yesterday, lots of local phones were still out, Mr. Daniels said, but all toll lines had been restored.

The circuit into Marshallberg was restored Friday night and the one to Atlantic Sunday night.

All utility managers reported conditions down east "terrible," so far as line problems go. Because of the wide open spaces, repair crews worked under conditions that only a polar bear could enjoy.

Where people depended on electricity to operate heating plants, they had to turn to open fire places, move in with neighbors who had heat, and some went to hotels and motels.

Mr. Stovall estimated that by 6 p.m. Sunday night all Carolina Power and light customers had power. If any didn't, he said his office didn't know about it. He announced that there would be periodic interruptions for short intervals throughout the next two weeks while crews are getting things back to normal.

Carolina Power had a total of 77 men on the job and 19 extra pieces of equipment. Crews under contract and five CP&L crews from Wilmington, Jacksonville and New Bern moved into the county Friday. Mr. Stovall said this county was hit harder than any other in the CP&L area.

Crewmen on the trucks from other areas said driving conditions were so hazardous, they had to creep.

CP&L's major breakdown was on the line down east. It went out at 12:15 p.m. Friday. Repairs were worked through Friday night. They had the line up twice and it came down. Power was restored to Atlantic at 6:33 p.m. Saturday, according to power company records.

Mr. Stovall said CP&L lines are designed to take a quarter-inch of ice in an "8-pound wind." The ice was three times heavier than that. Things would have been much worse had there been wind. He said tree limbs crashing over lines would have added to the trouble.

CP&L had to interrupt service themselves frequently to get automobiles out from under live wires and rescue people in cars. Fortunately, none of the major transmission lines, feeding power into this area, went down.

Tide Table

Tides at Beaufort Bar

HIGH	Tuesday, Jan. 16	LOW
4:52 a.m.	11:17 a.m.	
5:18 p.m.	11:27 p.m.	
Wednesday, Jan. 17		
5:47 a.m.	12:08 a.m.	
6:14 p.m.		
Thursday, Jan. 18		
6:37 a.m.	12:16 a.m.	
7:03 p.m.	12:58 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 19		
7:22 a.m.	1:03 a.m.	
7:48 p.m.	1:44 p.m.	

Luther Hamilton Plans Return To State Senate

Sen. Luther Hamilton, Morehead City, will seek re-election to the state senate, subject to the primary in May.

Senator Hamilton, who has served during the past three legislatures, announced his intention yesterday to seek re-nomination. "I'm going on in," the senator remarked. "You know we have a great deal at stake in this neck of the woods." He said he didn't want to seem presumptuous but "I do know what's going on better than a lot of people who don't live here."

He said he would expend every effort in the Senate to do what's best for Morehead City, Carteret county, the seventh senatorial district and the state.

The senator, who for many years was a superior court judge and served in the legislature early in his political career, said there is a possibility that he might change his mind about running. But as of yesterday, he doubted that there would be any likelihood of his pulling out of the race.

Thomas J. White, Kinston, the other senator from the 7th district, announced his intention last week of seeking re-nomination. Both candidates are Democrats.

Rites Conducted For R. W. Safrit

The funeral service for Robert William Safrit Sr., 85, Beaufort, was conducted in the Ann Street Methodist church at 2 p.m. Sunday by the Rev. Dwight L. Fouts, pastor. Mr. Safrit, who had been in ill health, died Saturday at his home.

A native of Cabarrus county, he moved to Beaufort 31 years ago and founded what is now the Safrit Lumber Co. He formerly lived in Concord and Mt. Gilead.

Mr. Safrit was a veteran of the Spanish-American War, a member of the Ann Street Methodist church, a Mason and a Shriner. He was married to the late Mrs. Ila Jane Goodman Safrit.

Surviving are three sons, Robert W. Jr. and Leonard, Beaufort, Merlin, Dallas, Tex.; three daughters, Mrs. Lucille S. Smith and Mrs. Betty Jane S. Merrill, Beaufort, and Mrs. Arlene S. Moore, Mt. Gilead; one brother, Clarence Safrit, Troy; two sisters, Mrs. Grace Lippard and Mrs. Mary S. Casper, Concord, and fifteen grandchildren. Burial was at 2 p.m. yesterday in the Sharon cemetery, Mt. Gilead.

Fire Threatens Joslyn Home

The home of county school superintendent H. L. Joslyn, 2806 Evans St., Morehead City, was damaged considerably Friday night, due to a fire.

The blaze apparently started between the walls of the Joslyn home when an electrical short occurred during a power failure. Mr. Joslyn said. Firemen had to tear down two walls in the house to get to the blaze.

Mr. Joslyn discovered the fire after he noticed a loud buzzing inside the walls, following the outage.

The alarm was turned in at 10:10 p.m. Firemen from the Morehead City fire station were on the scene for an hour. Mr. Joslyn reported Saturday morning that the loss was covered by insurance.

Meeting Cancelled

Because of the icy weather, the Atlantic Beach town board meeting, scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, was postponed until this coming Friday. The board meets at the town hall.

Gloucester Store Fire Loss Set At \$25,000

Bill Pigott and Miss Florence Pigott, who operated the J. S. Pigott General Merchandise store at Gloucester, estimate that \$25,000 would be needed to rebuild the store and stock it as it was when fire destroyed it Thursday afternoon.

The Pigotts said yesterday that they expect to rebuild. Bill discovered the fire around the flue in the store Thursday, soon after 1 p.m. and tried to get it out himself. But by the time he got to the source of the fire, then to his hose, he discovered that the electric pump had frozen and he had no water.

A Morehead City fire truck and the Marshallberg fire truck went to the scene, but the store was almost destroyed by the time they got there.

The Beaufort rescue ambulance also went to the fire. In it were Harry Gaskill, N. E. Gaskill and Tom Hewitt. Using Marshallberg equipment, they helped put out the remaining flames.

As of July this year, the store would have been in the same building in its same location for fifty years.

Dumbo to Play At Schools Friday

The Walt Disney movie, Dumbo, the story of a flying elephant, will be shown for children in Beaufort and Morehead City Friday.

The film is in color and is being sponsored by the Beaufort-Morehead branch of the American Association of University Women.

The movie will be shown at 3:30 p.m. in the Morehead City school auditorium and at 7:30 p.m. in the Beaufort school auditorium.

Admission will be 25 cents for children and 50 cents for adults. Dumbo is a full-length feature film. Proceeds will go to the AAUW fund for establishing fellowships for women students.

Motorist Cited After Accident

Mrs. Carol W. Dennis, Charlotte, was charged with passing at an intersection at 6 a.m. Monday following an accident on highway 24 two miles east of Swansboro.

State trooper W. J. Smith Jr. said Mrs. Dennis, in a 1955 Ford, attempted to pass a 1960 Dodge, driven by Thomas L. Hilburn, USMC, New River, as Hilburn was making a left turn.

No one was hurt. Damage to the Dodge was estimated at \$200 and to the Ford \$100.

Gloucester Store Blazes



Pigott's store at Gloucester was a raging "bonfire" Thursday afternoon. The loss is estimated at \$25,000.

Southern Defends Lower Grain Rate Proposals Before ICC in Washington

In hearings before the Interstate Commerce commission, under way in Washington, Southern Railway is defending its proposal to slash grain rates. Southern operates the railroad, the Atlantic and East Carolina, which serves the state port at Morehead City.

Through the development of new rail cars, Southern says it can cut the cost of transporting grain by an estimated two-thirds. It hopes that the reduced rates will lure the grain business back to the railroads by making it less attractive, price-wise, to ship by unregulated trucks.

that operate through brokers, are handling much of the grain. The brokers tell truck drivers, for a commission, where some grain can be picked up and returned to the general area from where the truck set out.

Southern says that thousands of little people, as opposed to big enterprises such as TVA and barge operators, are for the Southern program.

"We have had the active support of thousands of so-called 'little men,' — poultrymen and livestock raisers, cooperatives and small feed mills," the railways says. "Supporting Southern's proposal

also are the US Department of Agriculture, the Southern Governors' conference, the Southeastern Association of Railroad and Utilities commissioners, and virtually every farm and related organization. Among the latter are the National Grange, Farm Bureau Federation, state farm, commodity, poultry and livestock groups.

"Facts are facts," Southern said, "and the fact is that on Dec. 18 the Interstate Commerce commission had received nearly 3,000 petitions, letters and telegrams on Southern's proposal, of which over 90 per cent were favorable to Southern's rates."

David Warrick Heads Council

David Warrick, assistant agricultural agent, was elected president of the County Agricultural Workers council Thursday afternoon at the postoffice building, Beaufort.

Other officers elected were Mrs. Harry Mizelle, Newport, vice-president, and R. M. Williams, Beaufort, secretary.

Mrs. Floy Garner reported on a meeting at Raleigh where rural community and area development was discussed.

B. J. May read a letter from H. M. McNeill, area secretary, suggesting that reports of council meetings be forwarded to the area office.

I. M. Robbins, Farm and Home supervisor, reported on the Rural Area Development act passed by Congress early in 1961.

Mr. Robbins stated that 500 out of approximately 6,000 counties in the United States were taking advantage of this program to increase the income of low income families.

A list of men and women representing different types of businesses and organizations was made. They will be contacted and invited to a meeting Jan. 25 at the courthouse, Beaufort. There a number of out-of-county representatives will explain the aims and purposes of the program.

At the meeting, officers will be elected to assist with making a county survey to determine county needs. The proposed plan will be sent to Raleigh and Washington for approval.

Attending the meeting, in addition to those mentioned, were Maynard Owens, Mrs. Nancy Dunn, and Mrs. David Beveridge.



Stevie Buck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Buck, Frosty the Snowman, and Cecil Goodwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Goodwin, decorate THE NEWS-TIMES lawn. The boys built Frosty Saturday afternoon, using the inch snow-fall of Friday night. Stevie is a NEWS-TIMES carrier boy.

Newport Fire Chief Reports On Activities During 1961

C. A. Gould Jr., chief of the Newport fire department, has released the following report on activities of the Newport Fire department during the past year:

The Newport Fire department answered 31 fire alarms during the year Jan. 1, 1961 through Dec. 15, 1961. Of these, 18 were brush or woods fires, 9 structural fires, residential and commercial. Two were oil truck fires, 3 mutual aid calls, 2 to Morehead City, and 1 to MCAS, Cherry Point.

Of the 31 alarms, 7 were in the town, 3 grass fires, 1 oil tank

truck and 2 overheated oil furnaces in residential structures. One alarm was to the town water plant to extinguish gasoline fire caused by electrical spark while filling gasoline engine.

Property involved in town fires totals \$95,000. Of this, \$400 damage by fire was done. Total property saved in town was \$94,600.00.

There were 24 out-of-town fires, 15 woods fires, 6 structural fires, and 3 mutual aid calls. Property involved (not including mutual aid) totaled \$135,000. Property damaged in out-of-town fires total-

ed \$10,100. Total out-of-town property saved: \$124,900.

Property involved in the 31 alarms totaled \$230,000. Total property damaged by fire, \$10,500; total property saved, \$219,500.

During the year the fire department answered 31 emergency calls with the emergency ambulance. Twenty of these calls were for emergency illness and/or injuries where doctors recommended transportation by ambulance (not high-

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