

## Mayor Dill Questions Port Work If Federal Funds Not Granted

Ed Richards, member of the State Ports Authority, which met yesterday at Morehead City, said that things would have to "slow up" at Morehead City if federal matching funds do not come through for the port program there.

John M. Reeves, chairman of the SPA, commented that Morehead City would not be overlooked, as far as expansion is concerned, if federal funds are not approved.

Mr. Richards said that things look good and "we're optimistic" about receiving federal funds. The comments came in answer to a question by mayor George Dill, Morehead City. He asked, "What happens if we don't get the federal supplement?"

Morehead City is eligible for "accelerated public works funds" because it is in a depressed area, according to federal authorities. The entire expansion program at Morehead City port—and the port

budget for the next two years—is based on the assumption that the federal government will come through with \$1,225,000.

Total to be spent at Morehead City, including federal funds, is \$2,660,000.

James W. Davis, state ports director, told SPA members yesterday that plans are being drawn for the Morehead City improvements and he hopes state and federal funds will be available by July 1.

He believes bids can be asked for in about two months. Dock extension, two transit sheds, two warehouses and other smaller improvements are being planned at Morehead City.

Mr. Davis and Mr. Richards reported on their recent appearance before the joint appropriations committee at Raleigh. Mr. Richards termed the reception "good."

Mr. Davis explained to the committee that if the two state ports

had in operation now the facilities that would have been built with funds from a \$13 million port bond issue in 1961, all would be operating at full capacity.

"We are in the ridiculous position of having to turn down cargoes of cotton, woodpulp and newsprint which should be moving through North Carolina ports," the director remarked.

He also reported that he and Mr. Richards met recently with state highway officials and plans for the Morehead City bridge will permit passage by train and truck beneath the bridge from the present port area, should it become necessary to use Marsh Island in the future.

Mr. Richards said, "The state highway commission has done exactly as they promised to do."

When the state refused to move the bridge farther upstream to permit expansion of the port, it was agreed that provision would be made for access to land that is now north of the port area (Marsh Island).

The SPA went on record again in favor of a high level bridge at Wilmington. Mr. Davis was directed to appear at an Army Engineers' hearing to state the SPA's position.

Cooper D. Cass, SPA member heading a committee to spearhead development of the Southport port project, reported on progress there. Operation of a state marina, which would accommodate fishing vessels and other craft, is proposed. Mr. Cass was authorized to have an appraisal made of private lands proposed as the marina site and to take a six-month option on about 50 acres which has been offered to the SPA for \$9,000 by the town of Southport.

Part of the 50 acres front 2,400 feet on the inland waterway.

The authority approved construction of a shelter for longshoremen. The building would permit the men to escape bad weather when they are waiting to load or unload a ship. Shelter cannot be taken in warehouse or transit sheds, which are always tightly closed. Furthermore, no smoking is permitted in those buildings, Mr. Davis said.

Cost of the shelter will probably be less than \$3,000, he estimated. The building will be heated. Similar heated quarters will be recommended at Wilmington when a new building goes up there. Because of the different type of operation at Wilmington, longshoremen there already have buildings where they can go in bad weather.

Erection of a garage for stevedore equipment at Morehead City was approved, rental for the building.

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## Court Order Sends Longshoremen At Two State Ports Back to Work

### News-Times Wins Award



Aaron E. Fussell, left, chairman of public relations, North Carolina Education association, and H. L. Joslyn, Carteret superintendent of schools hold the certificate presented to THE NEWS-TIMES Thursday night at the NCEA convention at Asheville. (Photo courtesy Asheville Citizen-Times.)

## Strike Followed Change In Line-Handling Jobs

Under court order, longshoremen at Wilmington went back to work Saturday night. The order, which restrains longshoremen at Morehead City and Wilmington from continuing a strike which started Friday morning, meant that loading and unloading of ships at Wilmington was resumed Saturday night. The court order was obtained by stevedoring firms.

An ultimatum was handed, at a meeting Thursday afternoon at Wilmington, to state ports officials by the union. It requested that the longshoremen be permitted to tie up ships and loose lines as in the past and that a meeting be arranged for a later date.

The ultimatum was rejected and the meeting, which was attended by both Morehead City and Wilmington union officials, ended in five minutes.

The written ultimatum differed from an earlier verbal request in that South Carolina port longshoremen were not mentioned and the "mediators" proposed were identified as "state and federal." Neither did the written ultimatum say that New York ILA representatives would be present at the proposed meeting.

Following the verbal request, which was made last Wednesday morning at Morehead City, union representatives were informed that the state reserved the right to establish its own practices and that legally it could not agree to such negotiations, and that the State would not accept such ultimatums.

Morehead City longshoremen worked the Oakville, which was in port Sunday. The Oakville and the Skive were in Wilmington port yesterday.

Two ships are due at Morehead City today. The Letitia Lykes will load tobacco for Egypt. The Nopal Verde is due in with a cargo of fish meal.

The African Groves will take on a cargo of dried milk Wednesday and the American Chief will load tobacco for northern Europe that day.

On Friday the Erlangen will be loading a cargo of tobacco for northern Europe. The Lexa Maersk will pick up a cargo of tobacco for Bangkok Sunday.

Without the restraining order, none of these ships could be handled. The business they would generate would be lost and could possibly affect their schedule at North Carolina ports in the future, stevedores point out.

There was no picketing at Morehead City. Actually, no time was lost in shipping operations at Morehead City except last Tuesday when longshoremen refused to work the Herland, a ship that came in with a cargo of fish meal.

Late Tuesday, longshoremen did go back to work, pending a meeting Wednesday morning with port officials. The agent for the Herland said the work stoppage delayed the ship about a day.

The walkout Friday involved 375 members of ILA Local 1426 at Wilmington and about 150 ILA members at Morehead City, Local 1807.

The dispute arose last month when Morehead City longshoremen asked permission to do all line-handling at Morehead City and all cargo checking. Up to that time, they had been handling lines only after-hours.

State ports director James W. Davis said that about eight years ago after-hour line-handling was permitted by verbal, not contract agreement.

He said, "This permissive action was taken at the suggestion of the ILA local at Morehead City in order to hold together a core of experienced longshoremen during the time when Morehead City was struggling to develop as a port and did not have much cargo handling for the longshoremen."

"It was felt, at that time, that by providing these few extra jobs that the border-line longshoremen might remain available because of this additional work to handle cargo at the time ships would call at the port."

"It was clearly made known to the union, at that time, that this was not a contractual agreement and that the state retained the right to stipulate, at any time, employment practices."

Mr. Davis said reasons for rejecting present union requests are the following:

1. The reason for originally permitting longshore labor to handle lines during off hours no longer exists, since tonnage through Morehead City has increased by over 100 per cent.
2. That this permissive action on the part of the ports authority was not being utilized by the union for the purpose intended, which was to make more jobs for the border-line longshoremen, but was being

(See STRIKE, Pg. 3)

## Potomac Trial Ends Friday At New Bern

### ● Court Probes For Cause of Disaster

### ● Decision Expected In Six Months

A two-week trial to determine issues in a \$10 million admiralty case ended Friday afternoon in federal court at New Bern.

The trial centered around the exploding and burning of the tanker, Potomac, in Morehead City harbor Sept. 26, 1961.

At the conclusion of the proceedings, judge Walter E. Hoffman, Norfolk, Va., predicted a decision in the case would be forthcoming in about six months.

After transcripts of the trial are made and final briefs filed, final argument will be heard either in New Bern or Norfolk, according to judge Hoffman.

The United States, owner of the USNS Potomac and its contract operators, Marine Transport Lines, petitioned for limitation of and exoneration from liability.

Aviation Fuel Terminals, Inc., Morehead City, is alleged by the government and Marine Transport Lines to have committed negligence acts that contributed to damages sustained in the disaster.

Aviation Fuel Terminals contends and claims that its damages total approximately \$140,000 for loss of dock facilities.

Evidence during the trial disclosed that the port sea suction valve (a 14-inch valve below the Potomac's water line) was open and locked in open position the afternoon of Sept. 26, which allowed jet plane gasoline to flow directly into the water. This was alleged as the immediate cause of the fire and explosion.

Claims have been filed in the cause by crewmen who were injured and by families of two crewmen who died in the disaster.

Among Carteret residents who testified at the hearing were Rufus Guthrie, Clifton Nelson, Leon Clifton, William James Lewis, Mack O'Neal, L. G. Lewis, William Mauli; G. L. Bennett, A. T. Piner, Wayne Sowers, Lester G. Murphy, Howard Fulcher, L. B. Willis and Thomas H. Sewell.

Beaufort attorney C. R. Wheatly Jr., representing Aviation Fuel Terminals, was one of several lawyers involved in the hearing, which opened Monday, March 11.

## Driver Cited After Accident

Ronald Ira Borowick, Cherry Point, was charged with passing a car without sounding his horn resulting in an accident. Borowick's 1959 Chevrolet convertible and a 1952 Buick were involved in a collision Saturday night.

The accident occurred at 8:40 p.m., two miles east of Beaufort on highway 101. No one was injured.

State trooper J. W. Sykes, who investigated, said that Royce Potter, route 1 Beaufort, was driving the Buick towards Beaufort. Riding with him was his father, I. W. Potter.

Potter signaled a left turn into a private drive but as he started to turn, Borowick, who was following him, pulled out to pass. Potter cut the Buick back to the right in an effort to avoid the collision, but the right front of the Chevrolet struck the side of the Buick.

Trooper Sykes estimated damage to the Buick at \$350 and to the Chevrolet at \$500.

Group to Meet  
The Rosary Altar Society of St. Eibert's Catholic church will meet at St. Eibert's school tomorrow night at 7:30. All members are asked to attend.

## Numerous Forest Fires Occur During Weekend

Dry weather caused serious outbreak of forest fires in the county over the weekend.

Fire-fighting personnel from Craven and Carteret counties fought two blazes at Adams Creek and a third at Merrimon Saturday. Three plows were in service, making fire lanes to check the flames, and the plane at New Bern was called in to help give directions to fire-fighters.

Mrs. Vernon Lewis, spotter in the fire tower at Otway, said 16 signs of smoke were checked Saturday. She added that the land is extremely dry and persons planning to burn should be extremely cautious.

Permits must be obtained if anyone plans to burn between midnight and 4 p.m. If dry weather continues, it is possible that burning permits will be denied.

Between 75 and 80 acres of North Carolina Pulp land at Merrimon burned Saturday. Some timber on the Georgina Yeatman farm, Open Grounds, was also lost. International Paper Co. suffered loss of two tracts at Adams Creek.

A fire at North River was allowed to burn because it was in marshland and was checked by the river. Fire-fighting stopped when all fires were under control at 6 p.m. Saturday.

But shortly after noon Sunday another fire broke out on the Laurel road. Fire then broke out at Stacy. A plow being used at Stacy broke and to control a third fire that started at Williston a plow had

to be brought in from New Bern. Another fire occurred at Stacy Monday morning when a trash fire got out of control.

Since the first of March, through last Friday, 27 fires occurred in the county. Of those, the fires in the open grounds and on Brown's Island across the Straits were controlled burning.

Nine were wild fires, three at Sea Level, two at Otway, one each at Mill Creek, on highway 24, Adams Creek and Williston. Timber of International Paper Co. was threatened at Williston.

Persons who burn between midnight and 4 p.m. are subject to a \$50 fine or 30 days in jail.

It is believed that many of the recent fires were set or were caused by lighted cigarettes tossed out windows.

### Driver Cited Following Saturday Night Crash

Robert Stockman, Cherry Point, was charged with driving too fast for conditions after his 1961 Pontiac left the Lake road on a curve Saturday night. The car ended up in a field but did not turn over.

Neither Stockman nor two passengers with him were injured. Damage to the car was estimated at \$150 by state trooper W. E. Pickard.

Stockman was headed toward Newport from Cherry Point when the accident occurred.

## Charles McNeill Reports on 'Go East' Mission to New York City

Charles McNeill, assistant operations manager, Morehead City state port, who is also chairman of the industry committee, county chamber of commerce, was a member of the North Carolina industrial mission to New York last week.

He reports on the trip in the article which follows:

The mission was made up of 100 men from 40 counties in Eastern North Carolina whose mission was to induce industry to consider Eastern North Carolina in their future expansion plans. Dr. John Costabile from Wilson acted as chairman under the guidance of the Department of Commerce and Industry.

Governor Sanford met the group at the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh Monday afternoon, congratulating the mission on its efforts with an inspiring pep talk. Members of the press were present and Frank Daniels Jr., business manager, News and Observer, flew with the group from Raleigh.

A short briefing at the Waldorf Astoria by Russ Hanson was held after arriving there about 9 p.m. Monday. Teams of two were set up and prospect cards passed out. Visits were made, starting Tuesday morning with instructions to stress only Eastern North Carolina as a region. No individual "pitch" was made on any particular locality.

My ten calls were made with J. I. Thomas of Dunn. All of our prospects were in the Empire State

building. Even though no appointments were made in advance, we were cordially received and much interest was shown. Groundwork for these industrial missions had been made by previous industry caravans under former governor Hodges and recent visits such as the North Carolina Day held a few weeks ago.

With few exceptions all visits were quite successful.

Tuesday, March 19, a luncheon was held at the Waldorf at which an announcement was made to refer all port-related industries to the North Carolina State Ports Authority for needed information. I was asked my questions by individuals in our group and great interest was shown in our efforts to assist in this program.

Charles McCullers was master of ceremonies and the main speaker was the Honorable L. H. Fountain, Congressman, second district of

North Carolina. He was introduced by Frank Daniels.

Invited guests included top executives from about 25 of our largest corporations. Congressman Fountain made a dynamic address, the text of which appeared in several leading newspapers. I was delighted to have the opportunity to talk with representatives from Texas Gulf Sulphur, Union Carbide, American Synthetic Rubber Co., W. R. Grace & Company and several others at the luncheon.

North Carolina State Ports Authority booklets and brochures were given to each guest and each prospect called on. Special packets of North Carolina information were made up by Vernon Morton of the Wilson Industrial Council under the guidance of commercial and industry officials.

Clifton Daniels of the New York Times was also present and made comments at the luncheon.

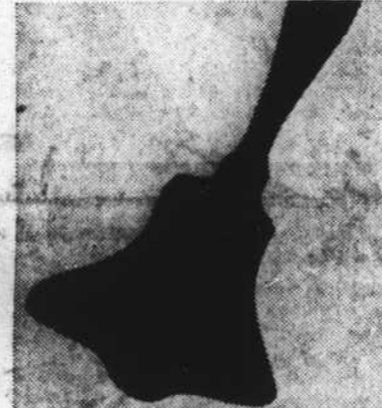
Positive interest was shown by several companies I called on in regard to our ports. One firm immediately saw a possible savings for their firm in exporting their product through either Morehead City or Wilmington.

Following a call to American Synthetic Rubber Co. I paid a visit to our new SPA office with Lou Larcombe. Needless to say, I was quite proud of our New York office located in the heart of the shipping business. Time did not permit calls with Mr. Larcombe on several firms that have been exporting through Morehead City for a number of years.

We departed New York 4 p.m. Wednesday for Raleigh.

To sum up this mission, all participants and prospects agreed the efforts were certainly worthwhile, the actual value of which can only be determined by time.

Fire Truck Arrives  
Morehead City's new fire truck arrived Friday. The truck will be put in service after it undergoes fire underwriter tests. Morehead City firefighters were told at their board meeting Thursday night at the city hall.



In addition to the certificate, THE NEWS-TIMES received "for distinguished service in the interpretation of education" in 1962 a school bell.

The school bell is 6 inches high, is engraved and is of heavy brass (silhouette above).

THE NEWS-TIMES was one of six newspapers throughout the state honored for its service to education at the NCEA convention. H. L. Joslyn, county school superintendent, who accepted the award on behalf of the newspaper, said yesterday, "I'm very proud of THE NEWS-TIMES."

The newspaper expresses its appreciation to Mr. Joslyn for accepting the award, since members of its staff were unable to be in Asheville for the occasion.

## Marine Officer to Speak At VFW Auxiliary Dinner

Lt. Col. Harry C. Dees, USMC, Cherry Point, will be the guest speaker for the VFW Ladies Auxiliary awards dinner Friday night at the post home, highway 101. The dinner will start at 7:30. Post commander William T. McKay Jr. will introduce the speaker.

The awards dinner is being given to honor winners of the auxiliary's essay contest. Subject of the essay is What I Can Do for My Country. Honored with the first, second and third place winners will be their principals, teacher advisors and parents. Names of winners will be announced at the dinner.

Judges for the contest were Luther Hamilton Jr., Miss Ruth Peeling and H. L. Joslyn. Also present will be the fourth district auxiliary president, Mrs. Ervin Lupton of Morehead City, and the fourth district post commander, Cecil Peterson of Beaufort.

The awards will be presented by the auxiliary president, Mrs. Frank Nance, and senior vice-president, Mrs. Betty Geiges, who is essay chairman.

## Morehead City Officials Get Ready for May Town Election

Morehead City town commissioners agreed Thursday night at the town hall to have a special meeting to appoint the registrar and judge for the election Tuesday, May 7. The board passed a resolution to take all the other necessary steps in connection with the election — opening of registration books, setting of dates for filing by candidates and setting of challenge day.

Relative to a request to permit a town at the edge of the town limits to tap in to the town sewer, the board reiterated its policy of not offering town services beyond the town limits.

A question of speeding through town alleys was referred to the police commissioner and his committee for study. Deposit of garbage and trash at the town dump was discussed. Placing a gate at the dump was authorized.

The board discussed at length the problem of access to sewer lines where private property owners refuse cooperation in permitting a line to cross their lot. The matter was referred to mayor George Dill, the town attorney, George McNeill, and by Ray Hall, town supervisor.

Mr. Hall reported on loading zones in the business section. The matter had been brought up at the February meeting. Mr. Hall said there are three loading zones. No action was taken on continuing or discontinuing the use of them by three businesses, Adams Furni-

ture, Morehead Floral Co. or Seamon's Nursery, pending further investigation.

Commissioner Jerry Willis also suggested that the free parking places in front of the Dr. L. J. Norris office be checked on.

Traffic around churches on Sunday mornings was discussed. It was suggested that church-goers not park on the wrong side of the street against the traffic.

Commissioners were appointed to ask the various ministers to request cooperation of their congregations on that point to prevent complication of an already hazardous traffic situation.

Dr. Russell Outlaw, commissioner, presented a list of ways in which the Jaycees would like the town to cooperate in keeping the waterfront clean.

### Tide Table

Tides at Beaufort Bar			
HIGH	Tuesday, March 26	LOW	
8:54 a.m.		2:53 a.m.	
9:17 p.m.		3:14 p.m.	
Wednesday, March 27			
9:45 a.m.		3:41 a.m.	
10:09 p.m.		3:59 p.m.	
Thursday, March 28			
10:40 a.m.		4:28 a.m.	
11:05 p.m.		4:44 p.m.	
Friday, March 29			
11:37 a.m.		5:20 a.m.	
11:59 p.m.		5:34 p.m.	

### Beaufort Police Report Three Citations Sunday

Beaufort police arrested Tommy Merrill Sunday on a charge of public drunkenness and resisting arrest. Merrill was placed under a \$500 bond.

Henry Taylor was cited for exceeding 35 in a 35 mph zone.

Bill Otis was arrested for public drunkenness and placed under a \$25 bond. All arrests occurred Sunday, according to chief of police Guy Springle.