

THE INDEPENDENT

TEN PAGES
IN TWO SECTIONS
THIS WEEK

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BRIDGE CELEBRATION A MONUMENTAL SUCCESS

Accomplished in a Big Way Everything An Event of This Kind Should Be Designed To Accomplish

A Gates County Prize Winner



MRS. F. LESLIE PIERCE of Sunbury, winner of the second prize in the contest recently conducted by the Federal monument to be erected on Kill Devil Hill, is one of the most enterprising and most popular young matrons of Gates County. Mrs. Pierce won the second prize for the name, "The Wright Aero Light." She came over to Elizabeth City Saturday night and claimed her prize, wearing a beautiful ladies model Hamilton bracelet watch in place of the girl's size Elgin which had been advertised. The picture of Mrs. Pierce is from a photo by Hamilton of Suffolk.

The Chowan River Bridge celebration participated in by the counties of the Albemarle region at Edenton Wednesday, July 20 was the most successful celebration ever staged in the modern history of the section. My words are deliberately chosen.

While to some a celebration of this kind is just another word for a big picnic and a meeting of neighbors and its success measured by the size of the crowds, the real worth of the event is to be measured by the favorable publicity it secures and the impression made upon the political powers that have to sit respectfully in at the festivities. Now let's see what Mayor Wiggins of Edenton and his committee accomplished.

Here was a new and important link in a great State Highway and a national highway as well, opened to the public for the first time. The Chowan River Bridge was designed not only to unite the counties North and South of Albemarle Sound in one great territory and put the counties North of the Sound directly on the State's great highway system; it was conceived and designed first of all as an important link in a truly Atlantic Coastal Highway extending all the way from Montreal, Canada to Key West, Fla.

Before Chowan River Bridge was built, Atlantic Coastal Highway traffic never came near the coastal plains of North Carolina until it reached Wilmington via Richmond and Weldon. There was no way to route tourists thru the coastal towns of North Carolina and the Hampton Roads cities of Virginia, because traffic had to make a wide detour miles away from the coast to get away from the unbridged waters of the Albemarle Sound and Chowan River.

Now They Can Come By the Coast

The Chowan River Bridge changes all this, diverting Southbound traffic from Richmond and Petersburg thru Norfolk, Elizabeth City, Hertford, Edenton, Washington, New Bern and Morehead City, and thence to Wilmington. Northbound traffic that formerly left the coast at Wilmington and took an inland course to Richmond and Fredericksburg may now follow the coast all the way from Wilmington to Norfolk. The true importance of Chowan River Bridge is probably not so apparent to the general public here in Northeastern North Carolina today as it was to Dick Job Walter Cohen and a few others who first dreamed of it.

Now let's see what the Chowan River Bridge Celebration at Edenton did this week. Here was the bridge, open to the public and ready to serve a great public need. Its value to the region depends upon the use that is made of it. Every automobile that rolls thru a region leaves ten dollars a day in its trail. The number of dollars tourist travel brings into a section depends upon the number of tourists. The number of tourists depends in the main upon the advertising a region gets. The Chowan River Bridge Celebration may be conservatively estimated to have given many hundred thousands dollars worth of effective advertising to the new bridge and the cities it serves. The attention of millions of newspaper readers in several states has been directed to the new bridge and the Albemarle Region, thru hundreds of columns of newspaper publicity, during the past few weeks, thanks largely to the effective work of Ralph Pool, chairman of the publicity committee.

It brought thousands of visitors to Edenton who will continue to spread the news of the great bridge and the new Atlantic Coastal Highway route. And it brought newspaper photographers and motion picture camera men whose pictures on moving picture screens and in newspapers and automobile and tourist publications will reach millions during the next few weeks. "The Virginia Dare Trail" But that is only one measure of the success of the celebration at Edenton. Another measure of its success is to be taken in the impression made upon State officials and (Continued on Page Four)

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HOW KILL DEVIL AND KITTY HAWK GOT THEIR NAME



COMMODORE W. J. TATE

A rich, rare and racy local flavor all its own attaches to the latest version of the origin of the names of Kill Devil Hill and Kitty Hawk, as given by W. J. Tate, veteran light-keeper of the Carolina coast who lives at Coinjock, Currituck County. The naming of these unique spots, date so far back into Indian lore and the days of beachcombing that they are legends, but they carry a plausible ring that makes them doubly interesting.

"It was maybe more than a hundred years or more ago that the hill from which the Wrights flew the world's first successful airplane got its name," said Capt. Tate who was a visitor here this week. "This famous spot was long noted for the number of luckless ships that (Continued on Page Four)

Flying to Hill to Meet First Flight Observers

Assistant Secretary of the Navy Will Land at Kitty Hawk Friday Morning On Inspection Trip

CHOWAN BRIDGE MONEY MAKER AT VERY START

And Movement Is Already Under Way To Make It Toll Free Forever

The eyes of the nation will turn toward Kill Devil Hill again today when Assistant Secretary of the Navy Warner will pay a visit by airplane to the little group of Coast Guard friends who saw Wilbur and Orville Wright launch their gliders into space and everlasting fame more than 20 years ago.

Secretary Warner is scheduled to alight in Kitty Hawk Bay at 11 o'clock today, according to a long distance message sent Thursday from headquarters to Commander Price of the Seventh Coast Guard District at this city. He is a member of the commission to determine with the Secretaries of War and Commerce, a type of memorial for the first airplane flight and the purpose of his visit is to view the scene and to talk with those who knew the Wrights intimately and saw their flights.

The five living witnesses the Assistant Secretary is making the trip to chat with are: A. D. Etheridge, A. W. Drinkwater and J. T. Daniels of Manteo; W. S. Dough of Kill Devil Station, and Johnny Moore of Nags Head. Keeper W. K. Lewark of Kill Devil Station will entertain the party today.

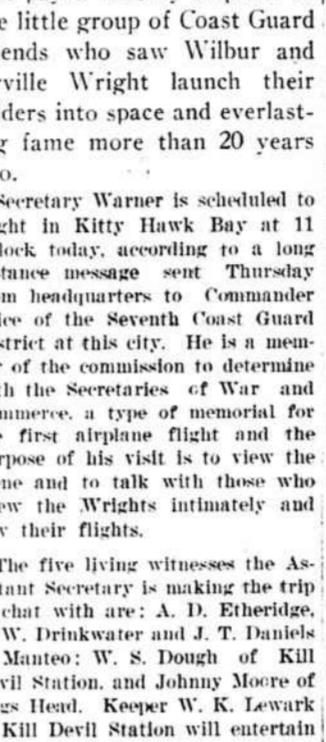
Perhaps this little band of well-wishers may have ideas of what they think would be a good memorial to their friends the Wrights. At least they will be consulted. Commander Price has sent word to them all to be present, and urging a large attendance of the people in the coast country to be on hand to show their interest.

A large delegation of Elizabeth City people is expected to journey to Point Harbor early Friday morning to witness the arrival of the Assistant Secretary. Commander Price and other members of local Coast Guard Headquarters will go down.

SEEK TO CANCEL LEASE WITH WM. FOOR CROWD

Elizabeth City Hotel Corporation Starts Action Charging Breach of Contract, Against Lessees of Virginia Dare Hotel

Youth No Handicap For Sarah



MISS SARAH SAWYER, 17 years old, one of the youngest of all the workers for The Independent's 1927 summer vacation trips was the winner of the bonus of 20,000 votes for the best work done by any worker in the campaign last week. Miss Sawyer turned up a total of 48,000 votes by her work last week and with the bonus of 20,000 votes is now well on her way toward earning her choice of one of the wonderful vacation trips offered by this newspaper. Zoeller photo.

An action charging breach of contract and seeking a cancellation of the lease and contract for the operation of the Virginia Dare Hotel was started in the Superior Court of Pasquotank County this week by summons served upon W. T. Bovard, Southern District Manager of the Associated Hotels, Inc., at the instance of the board of directors of the Elizabeth City Hotel Corp. -- --

The Associated Hotels, Inc. successors to the Wm. Foor Hotel Corp. were the lessees of the Virginia Dare Hotel. In consideration of a long time lease given them by the hotel corporation, the lessees were to have put up a bond in the sum of \$50,000 as a guarantee of their good faith.

They have never entered into the bond and have insisted that they would not give bond until they took over the hotel completely finished. In other words, the directors of the hotel have been rushing construction on the Virginia Dare with no assurance that they would have a manager when the hotel opened. The stockholders had to be protected. The hotel will be completed on August 25, say the contractors. The furniture and carpet men and decorators will go in immediately and the hotel will be ready for opening on or about Sept. 15th. And the opening of the hotel is not going to be delayed. The hotel corporation has in hand applications from numerous hotel managers.

The complaint against the Associated Hotels, Inc., has not been filed, attorneys Ehringhaus & Hall for the hotel corporation asking until August 6 to file their complaint. The nature of the complaint is barely indicated in their affidavit asking for time.

But there is a lot behind this action of the directors of Elizabeth City's proud new hotel. When they leased the property to Wm. Foor Hotel Operating Corp. about a year ago it was upon representations that the Foor people were high class and expert hotel operators. The concern had only begun at that time to operate a chain of fine hotels in Pennsylvania, Virginia, North and South Carolina and Florida.

But the directors of the Virginia Dare Hotel have learned something about these chain hotel corporations within the past year. They have seen hotel after hotel wrecked in the hands of chain operators. They have seen a break between the Wm. Foor people and Morehead Villa Hotel at Morehead City. They have seen a break between the same crowd and the Washington Duke Hotel in Durham.

These chain operators have nothing at stake. They take hotels that communities have built, load them up with heavy expenses and when they get thru with them there is nothing left for the stockholders.

They not only put no money into the hotel to begin with, but actually have the nerve to try to eliminate competition in the matter of purchasing furniture and equipment, designating where everything shall be bought and taking to themselves handsome commissions on every purchase made for the hotel out of the stockholders' money. The directors of the Virginia Dare Hotel don't stand for that sort of business; they are determined that Elizabeth City's new community hotel shall be run at a profit to its stockholders and not as a plaything for non-resident lessees who have numerous high salaried officials to take care of. It is the purpose of the hotel company to employ its own manager and run its own hotel.

The action against the Associated Hotels, Inc. would have been started weeks ago but for the inability of the directors to catch an official of the leasing corporation in town. Pretending to have entered into a bona fide lease of the property they have studiously avoided coming to Elizabeth City at a time when their presence was demanded and it appears that they have taken no steps whatsoever in the matter of subletting any of the shop and store spaces on the hotel ground floor. Something had to be done and done quick or Elizabeth City was in a fair way to find itself with an empty hotel on its hands on the 15th of Sept.

GOVERNOR SMITH'S NORTH CAROLINA EAGLE WAS "100 PER CENT AMERICAN"

Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York has been obliged to dispose of the big bald eagle shipped him three weeks ago by Henry Ross of Fort Landing in Tyrrell County. This 100 per cent American bird wasn't very social with his Roman Catholic owner and snapped viciously at the Governor when he poked his finger inside the cage. The Governor sent the eagle to the zoo along with a pet coon that had chewed the leg of a bear cub. The unruly North Carolina eagle which lived a day at the zoo of the executive mansion of the Governor of New York had a wing spread of seven feet. It was shipped thru Elizabeth City July 1.

Eye strain are the greatest source of nerve waste of the body. Have your eyes examined by DR. J. D. HATHAWAY, Eye Sight Specialist.

ELIZABETH CITY FOLKS RICHEST IN WHOLE STATE

Division of Bank Resources and Taxable Wealth Would Give Every Person \$2,700

Elizabeth City suddenly discovers a new claim to greatness that most likely cannot be matched by any town in North Carolina. The per capita share of bank resources and taxable property as listed on the books would give every citizen from the cradle to the grave, a share of \$2,700.

Comparison of the last published statements of local banks shows Elizabeth City with bank resources of \$15,000,000 in round numbers. Fifteen million dollars is a lot of money for a town of 10,000 people to be able to show in bank resources. Added to the 12 million dollars in taxable property listed on the city's taxbooks and divided by 10,000, the number of inhabitants, it would show \$2,700 per capita.

There can be no question that the figures over estimate actual wealth of the town. Tax books never show more than three fourths of the value of the property that is listed. Much property is never listed for taxation. Everybody has been examined and all of these exceptions added together, would probably be equivalent to all the stock in local banks that is owned out of town.

Statements of the Elizabeth City banks will show resources of \$15,000,000, nearly 12 millions of this being owned by the National Bank Group, consisting of the First & Citizens National Bank with resources of \$4,250,000; the Virginia-Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank, with \$7,125,000; the Southern Trust Company with \$234,000, and the Atlantic Discount Corporation with \$100,000.

The Savings Bank & Trust Company, the city's next oldest commercial bank, with resources that are growing with tremendous rapidity, shows nearly two million dollars. (Continued on Page Four)



THE BANK CLERK AND THE SODA JERKER

SMITH CAN BE NOMINATED, BUT—

"Do you reckon the Democrats are going to nominate and elect Al Smith President?" asked the Soda Jerker of the Bank Clerk.

"They may nominate him, but they'll never elect him," replied the Bank Clerk.

"Then you don't think he can overcome the prohibition vote and the anti-Roman Catholic sentiment throughout the country?" said the Soda Jerker.

"It isn't that," said the Bank Clerk. "The Democratic party owes too much to the Catholic vote of the country to knife Smith on account of his religion. The Democratic party of Cleveland and Wilson and Josephus Daniels has always been the Roman Catholic party in the United States and would have been as dead as Populism years ago but for Tammany and the Roman Catholic vote. One of the vagaries of politics is that after keeping a political party alive for decades, the Catholics get themselves sniped when they think they ought to be recognized."

"But if Smith is nominated, most of the religious opposition to him will resolve itself into a lot of pulp noise and when the votes are counted it will be found that he has carried the Solid South. This will be assured by putting a Southern man on the tail end of the ticket. There is already a strong boom for Moody Texas for the vice presidency."

"The prohibition vote need not be seriously feared. In spite of their vast numbers, the moonshiners and bootleggers are a hopeless minority; they would be the chief opponents of a wet candidate, because they want prohibition just as it is; to return the country to anything approximating an honest degree of wetness would destroy their business and deprive them of millions of dollars of illicit profits. A large majority of the electorate would vote for a wet candidate."

"Governor Smith has neither the Prohibitionist nor Protestant vote to fear. They are both one and the

same and their boasted legions are not altogether sincere and can not be depended upon by their leaders.

"The deadly opposition to Smith will come from the moneyed interests of the country who are in the saddle to-day and will spend millions lavishly to continue in the saddle, with Cal Coolidge posing for the populace to look at."

"Every big business man in New York City is a supporter of Al Smith for Governor of New York because an honest State government is advantageous to him and he doesn't care a hoot whether it is Republican or Democratic."

"But the same New York business man who would vote for Smith for Governor of his state and who does not take party lines seriously in his own state; this same New York business man has an inborn fear of and contempt for the Democratic party nationally. The nation's big business looks upon the Democratic party as a business wrecking organization of populistic, socialistic farmer and labor discontents. They will have none of it. And they will fear it and fight it harder under the leadership of a real leader like Smith than they would under the leadership of a less convincing personality."

"Smith could never be elected president; the moneyed interests of the country would see to that; they don't want a real man in the White House; they are satisfied with Coolidge who is servile, fettle and safe. Under Cal they can run the country to suit themselves so long as they keep Cal sufficiently entertained with his pet dogs and a squad of newspaper reporters and photographers."

(Why not get the book of the Bank Clerk and the Soda Jerker, a choice collection of their rich and racy arguments? 50 cents by mail.)

Our service is unexcelled in examining eyes and fitting glasses. DR. J. D. HATHAWAY, Eye Sight Specialist.

RUCKER & SHEELY CO. ANNOUNCE ANNUAL SALE

A shopping event of immense interest and the biggest store news from the city this week, is the Annual Mid-summer Sale of Rucker & Sheely Company now underway at "Elizabeth City's Best Store," as the slogan goes.

The mid-summer clearance of Rucker & Sheely Company is a popular event because it is really a clearance at clearance prices. The store doesn't advertise sales every week or two but when it does announce its few seasonal sales, they are met with a hearty response.

"Me and My Flapper Daughters," W. O. Saunders' latest published magazine article appears in the August issue of The American Magazine out this week.

Wardrobe and Certain Rewards for Ambitious Young Women

Earnings of as high as \$10.00 a day are possible for a number of ambitious young women in the Albemarle Counties during the next few weeks. It has been done and is being done by young women who know a good thing when they see it. The Independent's 1927 vacation trip campaign. No great fun, definite rewards and a good time ahead for workers. See or write W. O. Saunders, Himself.