

# THE DARE COUNTY TIMES

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## Roanoke Island And "Lost Colony" Ready For The Multitudes

By July 3, Everything Will Be Ready for the 44 Performances of the Play; Roanoke Islanders Have Bought Numerous Bathtubs et cetera, To Take Care of the Throngs Expected to See The Show This Summer

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL

Through months of Spring when Roanoke Island became the joy of manufacturers of bath tubs and the feasting ground of anybody who knows one plumber's tool from another and could tinker a tub into position, two winners of Pulitzer prizes have tinkered the vehicle that brought these phenomena to the Island and both plumber and dramatist enter now into the final week of their labor before Paul Green's "The Lost Colony" opens a week hence.

Written and produced as a part of Roanoke Island's celebration of the 350th anniversary of the beginning of English speaking civilization in America—"The Lost Colony," before it was half way through its schedule of 42 performances had become an institution—and the first thing most of the 65,000 people who came here to see it demanded when they arrived, was a bath.

Surrounded as it is by wide tranquil inland waters and within three miles of the entire Atlantic Ocean, and people wholly by fishermen, Roanoke Island was not especially bath-tub-conscious. Of course they knew a bath tub when they saw one. There were a dozen or so specimens of that form of the plumber's art on the Island, but they were not entirely adequate when as many as 3,000 people appear on The Island in one afternoon demanding a bath. The Island's population is less than a thousand.

When plans began to form for presenting "The Lost Colony" annually, Dramatist Green's first thoughts were of some plastic surgery on the piece. The Island began to think more about bath tubs and less about its fishing. People from the mainland—"The Islanders speak of it as "the states"—were funny about their baths: they were willing to pay for a few gallons of water in a tub, though nobody on the Island has as yet been able to so stifle his conscience that he can charge more than a dollar for such a privilege, which, of course, includes a bed also.

Roanoke has not abandoned fishing as a method of making its living—but it has added bath tubs.

And in the meanwhile "The Lost Colony" has been translated from an incidental celebration feature into permanent dramatic form. The basic idea and material remain unchanged. The piece is a dramatization of history that has been and legend that had its beginning on the identical acre of ground upon which it is presented in dramatic form. The treatment is an extension, a development and intensification of the idea that Mr. Green invented for "Johnnie Johnson."

With, of course, the difference that here was a concentrated historical incident and the freedom of a great out door theatre. The dramatist set out make use of all the technical resources of the theatre, and all of them combined. The spoken word for carrying the story was assigned to a reader and to the cast, jointly. Dramatic use is made of the theatre's setting, and of heroically contrived lighting effects, and of the dance in its two major forms.

But the design of the piece does not stop there. The whole of it is borne on the shoulders of a musical score, using an electrical organ of great power, and a chorus. For the score last year Mr. Green used lyrics of his own (adapted to melodies of the Elizabethan era in England).

Before the Island was well under way with its tubs, Mr. Green was at work again on "The Lost Colony," and Lamar Stringfield, winner of a Pulitzer Prize in music was commissioned to write a complete musical score. Wide use has been made of theme in Elizabethan melody, and for the finale Mr. Stringfield has written "Into the Wilderness" to the music of Sather—"Well, he has a rich father and I haven't."

### POPULAR SINGER AT NAGS HEAD CASINO



HONEY LANE, who has met wide popularity at the Nags Head Casino this summer, and Manager Ras Westcott considers he made a big hit for his successful place of business when he engaged Miss Lane and Clark Godfrey's orchestra each Saturday night.

### DARE LIQUOR STORES BOOST INCOME \$2,500

Contribution To New York Worlds Fair Is To Be Only \$130

The additional revenue to come to the Dare County liquor stores on an estimated gross sales of \$50,000 will be \$2,500. This was the figure erroneously stated as Dare's contribution to the New York World's Fair in last week's paper. This extra income will be gained by reason of a mark up of 5 per cent on goods sold.

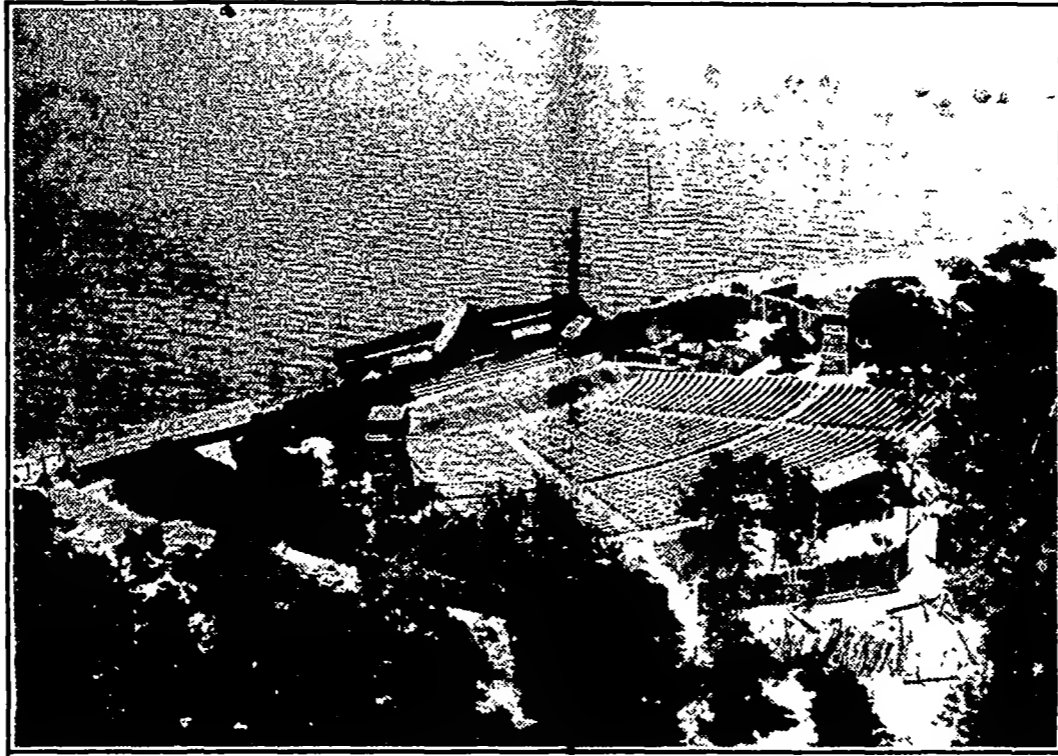
Only the small sum of \$130 is Dare's quota for the Worlds Fair. This figure represents on sixty-five one hundredths of one per cent on business done prior to December 31st, 1937.

A total of \$20,000 will go for this purpose from 27 counties operating liquor stores. The increased profits during 1938-39 are estimated at a total of \$397,401.12. The figures for the counties interested, are as follows:

County	Business	Increase in profits based on percentage of county business	year
Beaufort	588.00	\$11,693.00	
Bertie	204.00	4,060.20	
Carteret	318.00	6,320.44	
Chowan	158.00	3,124.50	
Craven	388.00	7,695.20	
Cumberland	706.00	14,017.16	
Dare	130.00	2,598.24	
Durham	2,968.00	58,969.40	
Edgecombe	1,068.00	21,234.68	
Franklin	382.00	7,595.02	
Greene	172.00	3,430.36	
Halifax	1,086.00	21,579.24	
Johnston	1,194.00	23,730.36	
Lenoir	918.00	18,221.18	
Martin	436.00	8,646.76	
Moore	686.00	13,624.58	
Nash	792.00	15,769.58	
New Hanover	1,470.00	29,204.74	
Onslow	200.00	3,968.26	
Pasquotank	406.00	8,076.10	
Pitt	1,432.00	28,435.40	
Tyrrell	77.00	1,444.22	
Vance	662.00	13,156.24	
Wake	2,070.00	41,142.12	
Warren	324.00	6,447.82	
Washington	194.00	3,840.68	
Wilson	1,026.00	20,393.44	

Friend—"Why is it that your son rides in a car, and you always go on the street car?"  
Sather—"Well, he has a rich father and I haven't."

### A NEW PICTURE OF A RENE WED STAGE AT FORT RALEIGH



THE MAGNITUDE of the enlarged and improved stage where the Lost Colony will be presented this summer is more apparent from the air. This unusual photograph was made by Ben Dixon MacNeill flying low over Fort Raleigh. It is an unusually good piece of photography, and is the official view of the stage for the season.

### FIRST DISTRICT HAS REPUBLICAN LAWYER DEVELOPS BIG TRADE IN FURNITURE IN DARE



HON. CLARENCE R. DOZIER of South Mills and Elizabeth City is an outstanding member of the bar, and practices much in Federal court as well as state and county courts. He is often seen in Dare County. For many years there has always been an outstanding Republican member of the bar in the First District, and Mr. Dozier is recognized at this time as such outstanding lawyer. He has been a delegate to the Republican National Convention, a candidate for Congress, and has a wide friendship in this section, and a large law practice.

Robey—"I think it commendable that Morrison is so impartial."

Rannells—"Yes; but he carries it too far. When he went hunting last winter he didn't seem to care whether he shot the rabbits, the dogs, or one of the party."



A. J. LEGUM, owner of one of the largest furniture businesses in Norfolk, Virginia, who has long enjoyed a huge trade, not only from Dare County, but from other parts of North Carolina, is a successful businessman, some forty-three years of age. He was quick to see the trade advantages in Dare County, and knows how to advertise for business. So he has opened a store in Manteo, under the management of Frank Facchini of Norfolk. Legum's has stocked many homes in Dare County with better furniture during the past few months. He has a big stock in the Baum Building, and plans to branch out to Columbia and Hyde County. A. J. Legum visits Manteo occasionally, but a great part of the enterprise shown by his firm is due to the pep and initiative of his tireless manager, R. A. Cogan who constantly keeps his finger on every phase of the firm's business.

### ONLY 933 SLAIN ON HIGHWAYS OF STATE THIS YEAR

Barely A Mere Thousand To Be Slaughtered By Nations Worst Drivers

North Carolina has something to brag about this year. According to figures arrived at by engineers a total of only 933 people are to be slain on the highways of the state this year. For more than ten years North Carolina's highway slaughter has been far above the national average, and this is the only time it has gotten down toward that rate.

North Carolinians are gaining the name of the world's worst drivers, or maybe most lenient courts. J. S. Burch, state highway engineer for the State road commission has issued some figures:

Predicting 933 highway deaths for the State this year, Burch released a study showing that North Carolina highway deaths per 10,000,000 gallons of gas consumed had decreased from 35.6 in 1935, the worst year, to 30 in 1937.

This year's rate, he predicted, will be as low as 22.8 if the record of the first four months continues. The study showed 19.5 deaths per 10,000,000 gallons of gas used in January, 19.9 in February, 23.9 in March and 22.5 in April. The North Carolina rate was listed as 27.4 in 1928, 27.3 in 1929, 31.1 in 1930, 30.4 in 1931, 29.6 in 1932, 34.2 in 1933, 35.8 in 1934, 35.6 in 1935 and 30.3 in 1936.

In every instance, the State's rate far exceeded the national rate, which varied from a minimum of 20.7 in 1932 to a maximum of 23.2 for 1934.

Burch attributed the improvement to:

1. Use of all-steel bodies and tops and shatter proof glass. "Time after time," he said, "a bad smashup suits in no deaths" because of their use.
2. Improved highway conditions. "Although still obsolete to a large degree, North Carolina roads have been in the best condition for the past 12 months of any time in many years," he commented.
3. Increased Highway Patrol, 40 per cent more mileage covered the first four months of 1938 than the same months of 1937.
4. Continued revocation of drunken drivers' license and public realization of the offense as "most serious."
5. Impetus of the spring safety campaign.
6. The normal slow, but "inevitable" swing of the pendulum from a very bad record to a better record based on lessons taught by killing and maiming, plus an aroused and indignant public.

Aunt Jerusha—"What have you ever done to benefit your fellow man?"

Uncle Eli—"Well, I married you, didn't I?"

Politician—"Now, ladies and gentlemen, I just want to tax your memory."

Audience—"Good heavens! Will it come to that?"

## Problems Suggest Need Improvement League On Beach

Certainty of Necessity in Early Future To Combat Many Emergencies on Rapidly Growing Dare Beaches, Calls for Leadership to Begin Organization for Development and Improvement

### IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE FOR BEACH ADVOCATED

By David Stick



L. S. PARKERSON, Nags Head Hotel man who thinks the citizens and businessmen of the beaches of Dare County should form an organization to work for highway beautification, year-round police protection, and many other improvements that would make the beaches more attractive and bring more tourists to visit it.



The other day I suddenly decided to take a ride on that streamlined bus the Virginia Dare Transportation Company operates out of Manteo. I have always had an aversion to riding buses, because when I want to go, I like to go to suit myself. It has always been a hobby of mine that any automobile I operate shall be ready and I always try to make it work.

In seven years of bus service in and out of town I have ridden it only twice. I was agreeably surprised at its comfort and speed and I think I shall try it again.

I don't know how much a bus driver is paid, but whatever it is he earns it. And in passing I would say that Sam Midgett, the bus driver is one of the best I have ever seen.

Did you ever stop to think of the problems of the bus driver. No doubt there are times when he enjoys his work and he finds it easy and life runs smoothly. But there are days when he must get awfully tired of it, and he too is discouraged even as you and I, when he wouldn't ask much to quit.

No matter how tired or worried, or blue he is, his outward demeanor must always be the same. If a fussy old lady gets aboard, or an impatient salesman, or a pokey person who is tiresomely slow about making change, he must bear patiently with all of it, smile and be courteous.

Day in and day out he must follow the same old formula, without variation be he sick or well, happy or blue. If he fails in any detail to be the essence of cheerfulness, if he is lacking in readiness to be obliging, his attitude will be reflected in customer good will toward his employer.

No matter whether it be a local resident or a total stranger, who is displeased, it is not so much the bus driver who is blamed, but the employer. Long after the date is forgotten, the memory of the unknown driver passed away, the impression of the bus driver will remain with the traveller.

(Please turn to page four)

The growing awareness that the rapid development of the Dare County beaches will bring many problems in engineering, in sanitation and beautification is causing many of the business leaders of the beaches to sit up and take notice. There is much talk of the possibility of incorporating the beaches, and at any rate, the people are beginning to feel the need of aggressive civic organization calculated to deal effectively and in modern manner with the problems that time and travel are beginning to create.

Great resort centers do not grow up orderly and attractive without help. There must be careful and intelligent planning, proper advertising, and a direct cooperation among the leadership. Such are the immediate matters that an organization could effectively undertake at this time.

An organization, a league, or what it might be called something to act as a chamber of commerce for the beaches was suggested this week by L. S. Parkerson, well-known hotel man at Nags Head.

The purpose of the league, says Mr. Parkerson, would be to bring about a union of business men and residents along the entirety of the Dare County Beaches in an effort to make certain civic improvements that are essential for any fast growing community.

Mr. Parkerson proposes that a general meeting be held sometime in the near future at which time he, and the other men and women who have become interested in the project, will present to the assembly an outline of activities for an organization of that sort. Officers would be elected at that time, and some definite plans for league activities would be drawn up.

"A general clean-up campaign would be one of the first league ventures," he says, and it would be closely followed by a drive for beautification of cottages and grounds along the beach. The need for a clean-up campaign is pressing, and with the proper cooperation of cottage owners and businessmen Mr. Parkerson feels that the league will be able to accomplish a great deal in that respect.

"But this organization would not be formed as a temporary means of improving the looks of our beaches; it would be a permanent organization whose work would increase as years went by."

"The league would provide the means of bringing about organized action in working for permanent means of sewage and garbage disposal, year-around police protection, a permanent drainage system and many other improvements."

### TWO AGED SISTERS TAKE PLANE FLIGHT

Mrs. Lena Midgett and Mrs. Charles Midgett Go Up in Taylor Cub

The cub plane recently purchased by six Roanoke Island citizens has been as busy as the proverbial bee during June and has established several aeronautical records for the Island which saw the landing of the first colonists in America.

The tiny plane took into the air the oldest people ever to have flown on the island when Mrs. Charles L. Midgett, 74, and her sister, Mrs. Napoleon Midgett, 72 went for a flight one Sunday recently. A great, great nephew of theirs, Carlyle Davis, 3, was the youngest passenger to fly.

Capt. Thomas P. Midgett, who is now 82, took a flight at Norfolk about four years ago.

Wilton Joffe, one of the owners, last week made a solo flight, thereby becoming the island's first student to go up alone. David Driskill is teaching a number of Dare County men and boys to fly, and is also one of the plane's owners. Other owners are Martin Kellogg, Leigh Hassell, Doran Quitley, and Alvah Ward.

## Fishing and Hunting IN THE SOUTHERN ALBEMARLE COUNTRY

By DAVID STICK

Dr. Robert Hoffman and Dr. S. E. Barrera, both of New York City, caught over 50 blue fish at Oregon Inlet Monday. Staying at the Parkerson Hotel, they were fished by Kitty Hawk guide Charley Perry.

Charley Perry fished another party Tuesday and in less than two hours they hooked over a hundred blues.

Herbert Perry fished a party of six Sunday that caught two four pound blue fish and 55 small blue fish. A considerable number of the fish were caught in close to shore a little north of New Inlet. In the party which was staying at the Croatan for a week, were Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Garrett Culp, Miss Marion Smith and Miss Florence Bruffey.

Eddie Cammeron, head basketball coach at Duke University reports that he and three other

caught almost 80 blue fish at Oregon Inlet one day this week.

Russell Griggs fished Dr. E. J. Smith, Dr. A. H. Blackmore, and Runlet Blackmore at Oregon Inlet Sunday, and he reports that the three fishermen caught almost 50 small blues. Dr. Blackmore has a seven foot dinghy from which he has fished almost every day this week. Several times he has rowed out to the wreck of the Paragon, just north of the Coatan, where he anchors and catches sheepheads, tautogues, porgies, and black fish galore. On one other occasion he took the boat to Oregon Inlet, where he put a small outboard motor on the stern and went out to the mouth of the inlet. Fishing with a light rod he only caught one blue, but judging from the way he described his attempts to land the fish and handle the boat at the same time, it must have been considerable sport.