

# THE DARE COUNTY TIMES

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## Roanoke Island And The Beaches Beckon To Thousands

### Beach Hotels Prepare For Immense Business; Greater Attractions

**Nags Head, Kill Devil and Kitty Hawk Ready For Biggest Season Known; Casino and Beach Club High Spots Vieing For Lead In Entertainment; Hotels Enlarged**

The Dare County Beaches are well prepared for the biggest season they have ever known. Hotels are enlarged and improved. More homes are fitted with conveniences in preparation for roomers; stores are well stocked; new restaurants have been opened.

Both the Beach Club and the Casino have excellent orchestras. Clark Godfrey's orchestra, featuring vocalist Honey Lane, has been very popular at the Casino for several weeks. Manager Ras Westcott has made a huge success of the place, which has bowling alleys, restaurant and other features.

The Beach Club under the management of Levy Overton has a new orchestra this week. Freddie Johnston and his University orchestra are opening a thirty day run. The Beach Club has recently put in bowling alleys, and is mighty popular.

An attractive rooming house, The Breakers, is operated by Corbell Morris, experienced hotel man. The First Colony Inn has added many improvements. The Nags Head, and the Croatan as well as the Sea View Inn are all popular places, and there are good ones.

Cottagers are beginning to move in. Week-in crowds are flocking to the beach. Reservations are being made in large numbers. And it looks now like there will be business flourishing all summer long.

### EDENTON FORTY MILES NEARER OVER BRIDGE

**Many Thousands of People in Roanoke-Chowan Section Closer to Roanoke Now.**

Fifteen thousand people who live in the Edenton section will find themselves within 63 miles of Roanoke Island on completion of the Albemarle Sound Bridge. The discovery made in Manteo that this vast number of people are now almost 40 miles nearer to this island than before the bridge was built, has stirred the imagination of local business men and particularly people interested in the development of roads between Manns Harbor and Columbia. Heretofore, the citizens of Edenton in order to reach Manns Harbor had to drive 101 miles through Hertford, Elizabeth City and Currituck County. Fort Raleigh, it will be remembered, was rescued from the forest, purchased and improved and marked with a monument largely through the love, affection and finances of a group of people mostly from Edenton nearly fifty years ago. It is more than 101 miles by the present route from Edenton to Fort Raleigh where the Edenton folk faithfully came every year for forty years and held appropriate services at the birthplace of the nation.

By the new route to Columbia and over the ferry to Manns Harbor, the actual drive from Edenton is approximately 63 miles, resulting in a saving of a little under 40 miles driving. Since many people in Edenton own cottages on the Dare County beaches this route will afford the cottage owners a real short cut to Dare County whose value will be more extended in proportion as the highway facilities will increase. The route over the ferries from Williamston is claimed to save 60 miles of driving for the people so that who might wish to come to Roanoke may do so. It is safe to say that as the travel between the island and the Edenton and Williamston section grows there will be a rapid gain in influence and effort to bridge Alligator River and Croatan Sound.

### LOCAL PROMOTER OF LOST COLONY DRAMA



FEW MEN have won greater praise for their labors in a community enterprise than D. Bradford Fearing, Senator-nominee of the Second District, and the guiding genius on Roanoke Island of the "Lost Colony" drama. Mr. Fearing quickly caught the vision of the great Paul Green play, had the nerve and the energy to carry out. He staked everything on its success, and saw it through successfully, reaping the thanks of hundreds, and a fame that is more than local.

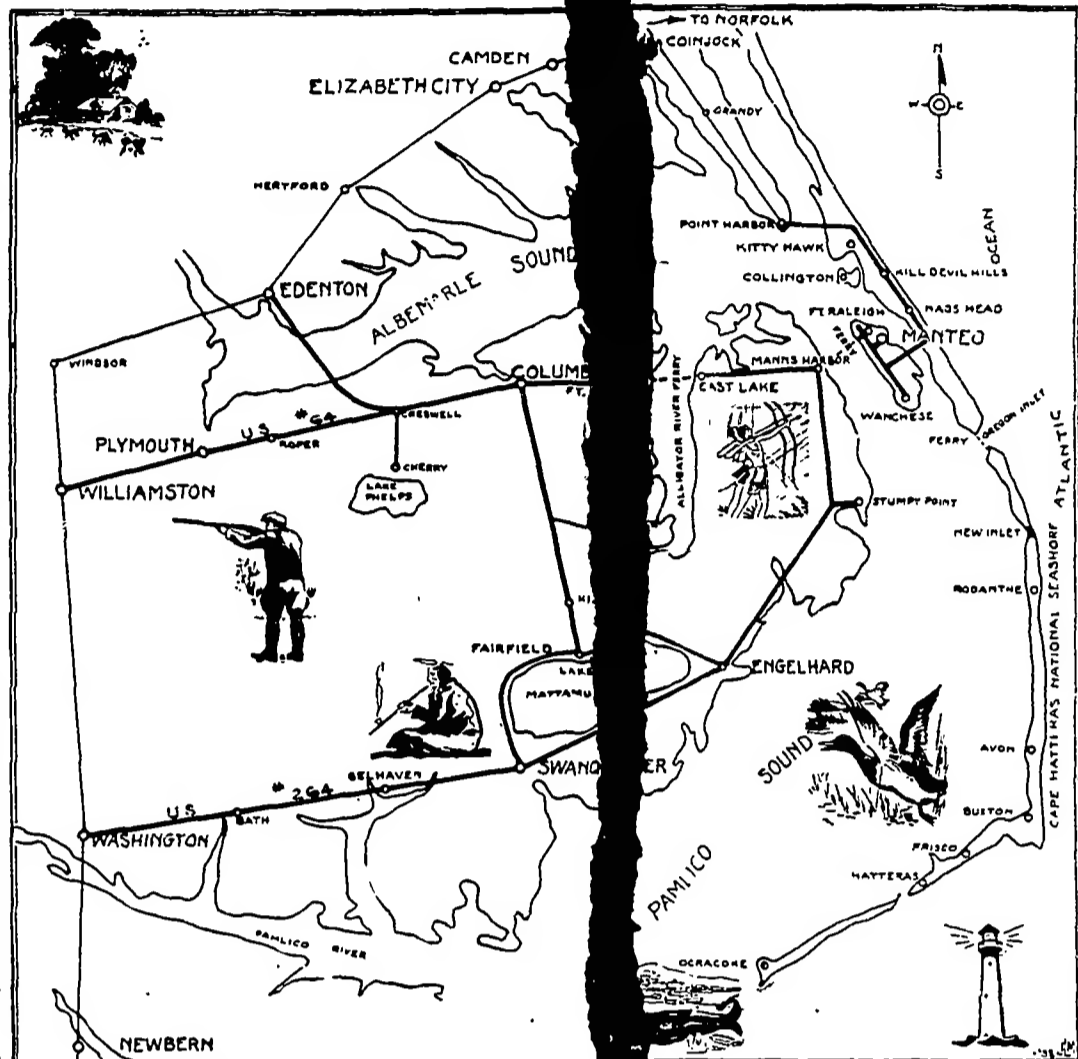


The other day it was announced in the papers that Libby Hill Hughes, 30-year-old New Bern widow had married a 23 year old WPA worker. The story was interesting because it is easy to recall the bitter cold in which I journeyed to New Bern, to visit this woman, and her late husband, the 96-year-old Geo. Isaac Hughes, who died last year.

I was accompanied on this journey by John Guthrie Midgett, the retired Coast Guard of Manteo, who at 13 sailed a schooner from his native Chicamacomico to Elizabeth City. These and other things he talked about on the journey. I had been told that if I would go to New Bern, write up Mr. Hughes, the champion papa of the state, and get some pictures, I would get half of what a newspaper acquaintance of mine could sell it for. I got the pictures, wrote a story which came out word for word in some of the metropolitan papers, but have not received a cent, and am yet \$20 out.

The moral is, if you have something worth selling, sell it yourself. We traveled through a snow-storm, and we found Old Man Hughes, a Confederate veteran living in surroundings none too comfortable and sanitary. He was mighty proud of the fact that he was soon to be a papa for the second time by his young wife, although he had children by his first marriage, ranging in age from 75 years old downward. His baby son, Franklin Roosevelt Hughes, was wrapped up snug and asleep. The old man was feeling bad with an attack of grippe. While I talked with him, friend Guthrie talked with the wife. While I had confidence in the old man's prodigality (Please turn to page four)

### SOUND BRIDGE WILL SERVE ARE COUNTY SEASHORE



HERE'S how the new Albemarle Sound Bridge at Edenton will serve the Dare County Seashore, and numerous towns in the Edenton vicinity, if a direct route is completed by bridging Alligator River, and finally Croatan Sound. You will see Edenton and Williamston 60 miles nearer, and thousands of people in the Roanoke-Chowan area who now visit Virginia's seashores will be nearer the historic Carolina Coastland. Edenton will also be nearer to Swan Quarter, and with the proper cooperation between the people of the Southern Albemarle and the Edenton area, the bridge can be made a great asset to the state.



By David Stick  
Contributions for this column are welcome at all times, and if you have made a nice catch of blues at the inlet, or caught an exceptional trout in the sound, under unusual conditions, or just know an interesting story of fishing or hunting in days gone by, we want to hear about it.

An interesting example of the kind of story we'd like to hear, was told us this week by Junior Gilbert of Elizabeth City. It went something like this:

"My father and I were spending a week at Oregon Inlet one summer about 18 or 20 years ago, and while we were there I got in the habit of hanging around the Coast Guard Watch tower looking through binoculars at the sand, and the sound, and the sea.

While thus helping to keep the watch, one afternoon I was surprised to see a large section of the water near the entrance to the inlet seemingly tinted a reddish gold, instead of reflecting the blue and green of the sky. My surprise turned to sheer amazement, though, when I realized that the unusual color was caused by fish, millions of them, covering many acres of the sea."

Ardent angler that he was Junior became quite excited at this point in his story, and continued with much flourishing of his arms; "I quickly shouted the news to my father and within a few minutes we were headed for the mouth of the inlet in a small fishing boat; my father, Captain Charlie Miller of the Coast Guard Supply Boat, and myself.

"Arriving at the edge of the school of channel bass—for these bronze-back warriors they proved to be—my father and I began casting into them, hooking a fish on every cast, and reeling them as fast as our physical selves would permit. Not to be outdone by those of us who were so well outfitted for the struggle, Captain Miller tied a 10-0 hook and a half pound or so of lead on the end of a piece of clothes he found in the bottom of the boat,

and heaved it into the midst of the school. This first cast netted an immediate strike, and a minute or so later Captain Miller dragged a forty pounder in over the stern of the boat. But he wasn't satisfied. With our modern equipment Dad and myself were still several jumps ahead of the Captain, so he tied another hook, and another piece of lead and another hunk of bait onto the end of his improvised fishing line, and cast for a second time. Again he was rewarded with a strike, and ere many seconds had passed another large bass hit the extra hook, and Captain Miller had a fight on his hands. But the Captain was a strong man, and he was determined to show us up, so with much tugging, and grunting and bracing of feet against the sideboard, he managed to haul in his two bass. But Captain Miller still wasn't satisfied. Hadn't he heard that 'what happens twice'—so he tied on a third hook, and a third lead, and a third piece of bait, and to guard against losing his tackle, hooks, line, and sinkers he wrapped the other end about his waist and fastening it tightly with a couple of good bowlines, he cast out for a third time.

There was considerable commotion around the spot where his hooks had landed, and he felt a jerk, and then a steady tug; and the water boiled up around the end of his line, and reddish-brown tails thrashed the water, scattering from far and wide. The Captain had something! The rope grew taut, and the tugging got stronger, and the rope round his waist began slipping, while the Captain's face turned more and more reddish. I can't remember whether Dad or I had the scaling knife, but I can remember, only too vividly, seeing the form of Captain Miller being jerked suddenly to the port side of the boat and hanging there for an instant before the knife was brought against the strands."

Now possibly this story would have sounded better had we manufactured an ending of our own, and concluded with something like this. (Please turn to page five)

### EXTRA FERRY ON PAGEANT NIGHTS AFTER THE SHOW

Arrangements to Run Ferry Boat Across Croatan Sound

A late ferry to enable people to return to the Dare Mainland, and the route through Hyde County, after the Last Colony Drama each night in the week it is shown, was announced today by Capt. T. A. Baum, operator of the Roanoke Ferries.

Capt. Baum said he would put on the boat at his own expense in response to widespread demand from the public, inasmuch as many people desire to return home at night, and will more readily attend the show.

W. W. Watson of Hyde County stated this week that he expected at least 25 cars from Engelhard alone would attend the first presentation of the show.

### BUFFALO CITY CHILDREN FIND BEAR IN HOUSE

Yogsters Playing at Levy Ambrose Home Get Big Fright

Last year it was Don Basnight of Mashoes who figured in the bear news, because his hog was stolen and badly lacerated by a bear. Another time, an East Lake man loaded several shot guns so the guns fired and killed a bear when he came to steal.

This weeks bear news came from Buffalo City, where a group of small children, among them being a child of Mrs. Dimple Basnight, were playing about the old Levy Ambrose homestead, which sits back along the road from Buffalo. The children heard a noise in the house, and upon going in to investigate, found a big bear inside.

The rest of the story needs no telling. They went home promising never to run away any more.

**24 PAGES IN THREE SECTIONS THIS WEEK**

### Lost Colony Strides Into Its Second Year as Permanent Feature

**Everything in Readiness for Opening Night; Bishop Darst and Lindsay Warren to Aid in Opening; Many Reservations Made; Homes Prepared in Modern Manner for Tourists**

### SAUNDERS WORKED FOR "LOST COLONY" DRAMA



W. O. SAUNDERS, Elizabeth City newspaper man, whose vision conceived the "Lost Colony" drama, and its great possibilities on Roanoke Island. Long before any of the islanders were interested, he had talked it over with Paul Green, the playwright, who wanted to do a play about Roanoke Island history for the Carolina Playmakers, and he had called meetings in Manteo to discuss the matter with the homefolks. "We owe him a great debt," Paul Green said this week.

### THE BEACHCOMBER

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL

Some generations of short story journeymen have erected a palisade of legend about the travail of dramatists that has become a standard pattern in that field of fiction. The poor dramatist, with his very heart-strings woven into a tapestry of emotion and the whole of it colored with his heart's blood, is, in fictional routine crucified by producers, directors and leading ladies who do a sort of tribal dance.

After so many days, in the short stories dealing with this matter, the dramatist rushes blindly from the place where his soul is impaled upon the heartless imbecility of these stock figures of torture, leaving the mangled fragments of his dream behind him. They have ruined him, ruined his play robbed him of any hope in heaven or upon earth. He wanders vacantly around, with policemen eyeing him dubiously. If he met his play in the road, he wouldn't recognize it and his play wouldn't recognize him either.

From here on the pattern varies according to the inventive bent of the short story journeyman. One school proceeds realistically and the dramatist dies in some convenient gutter, and the fragments of his dream are tossed into the nearest contained. Others, more romantically inclined, have the dramatist pursued by repentant producers beseeching him to come back and save them from their own wickedness. In such cases the leading lady also comes and manages to have him propose marriage to her.

It sounds tolerably fantastic, of course, but in a good season a full dozen variations of that short story will appear in magazines of (Please turn to page eight)

With a cast of 186 people, the majority of them residents of Roanoke Island, with scores of new and more elaborate costumes made in the Dare County Sewing Room, and with new scenery, with a closely integrated script, and an entirely new musical score, the dramatic miracle that Paul Green brought to Roanoke Island a year ago will begin its second season Sunday evening at 8.15.

Congressman Lindsay Warren, ever faithful to Dare and its people, and the Rt. Rev. Thomas Campbell Darst, D. D., bishop of East Carolina, and himself long a proved friend of the section, will formally open the run of "The Lost Colony". Bishop Darst will conduct solemn religious services at 11 o'clock in the amphitheatre and in the evening, Mr. Warren will preside over brief opening formalities.

Every indication is that there will be a record crowd here for the formal opening of the show. Every hotel on Nags Head has been booked to capacity for more than a week. The Fort Raleigh Hotel here on the Island has been booked full for even longer. Scores of telegrams have been received by Bradford Fearing asking for accommodations, and these have been answered with assurance that the Island is ready to take care of all comers.

Reservations for the opening have been made from New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, Washington, Baltimore and Atlanta, with scores and scores from every section of North Carolina and eastern Virginia. The Island is fully prepared to take care of the over-flow from the beach and the usual hotels. A complete list of all rooming facilities has been made, and at least 3,000 additional people can be taken care of comfortably.

Many of the expected throngs will come Friday night, and by Saturday night, when "The Lost Colony" will stage its final dress rehearsal it is expected to be approaching its peak. But the great throng is due Sunday when the season will be opened with the impressive religious service conducted by the Bishop, assisted by the Lost Colony Choir of 36 voices under the direction of Erle Supleton.

Rehearsals have kept the Island going at full-throttle for a week past. Weather has hindered full-company rehearsal at the amphitheatre, but when they were unable to work out of doors, Director Selden and Mr. Green have worked in the high school building. Rehearsal in costume were undertaken Monday night and again on Wednesday night for the benefit of a photographer.

Almost complete new scenery, designed by Mrs. Selden and others of the Carolina Playmaker staff, and executed under the direction of Walter Preston and Wilbur Dorsett will greet the first night audience. New and spectacular lighting effects worked out by Johnnie Walker and put into use by Tommie McIntosh and Walter Russell of New York.

Those who saw the performance last year will be astonished and delighted at what Dare County women have been able to do about costumes under the direction of Mrs. Ora Mae Davis. Queen Elizabeth will have a completely new dress for her second scene. Colonists and Indians have been more carefully rigged out this year. Nearly 10,000 yards of material have been worked into new costumes.

While Mr. Green and Mr. Selden agonize over rehearsals Bradford Fearing, who never wastes time agonizing, has found means and times to perform his customary quantity of miracles. But it seems a sort of useless task to spell out the name of everybody who has (Please turn to page four)