

# THE DARE COUNTY TIMES

The Weekly Journal of the North Carolina Coastland—Devoted to the Interests of More Than 30,000 People of the Four Southern Albemarle Counties

VOL. IV; NO. 192

MANTEO, N. C., MARCH 3, 1939

Single Copy 5c

## UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUND DISAPPEARANCE OF MILLER AT NAGS HEAD

### Left Nags Head Soundside at Six P. M. Wednesday For His Home in Elizabeth City After Eating at Home of Geo. Midgett; no Trace of Man or Car Found; Family Alarmed Suspecting Suicide

The strange disappearance of John W. Miller, 60 year old rental agent Elizabeth City man Wednesday night is giving great concern to his relatives, and has caused a widespread search to be instituted for him. Mr. Miller left the home of George L. Midgett at Nags Head about six p. m. and announced his intention of going to Elizabeth City where he was expected home before bedtime. He had been to Nags Head to inspect his cottage which is located on the soundside. When he did not return on time, his family became alarmed because he had suffered with a heart ailment, and had been depressed in spirit for some weeks. They began to make inquiry, but found no trace of either him or the 1937 gray Terraplane sedan he was driving. Mrs. Geo. Midgett of Nags Head, who gave him his supper says he had her he was on his way home, and he left apparently all right. Mr. Miller was not a drinking man, and lived a life of quiet habits, and was customary for him to notify his family, even if a slight delay in return was anticipated.

Henry Beasley of Nags Head thought, going south along the highway about seven o'clock at night, evidently bound for Manteo. No trace of Mr. Miller having been south was found. Meanwhile, the police and highway patrol are searching for him and his car, and Sheriff D. V. Meekins and a number of assistants were searching for him on the assumption that he might have gone north along the beach.

**Now AND Then**  
by VICTOR MEEKINS

In my ten years as a public official, I have doubtless traveled among the men of the Coast Guard and other citizens of the coastline other public official in the State. Before that time I had traveled the coastline on private business for several years, and from childhood had been in contact with the Coast Guard service. I have visited all the counties of North Carolina, mingled more or less with the folks at every county seat, and have tried to know the State as a whole. During forty years of voluntary wandering in that time I have come to know and to love the men of the Coast Guard and believe I can fairly appraise their worth to their country. It is true, of course, that from time to time, when who are temperamentally untried to the needs of the service and others, who have stained their shield have been enlisted and remained to its discredit; but for these circumstances none are more responsible than the authorities, for the green material they enlist. On the whole, I believe that from the beginning of the organization until now, the greater majority of men in the Coast Guard service have been of the highest type of citizens their localities have produced.

Of course this is only preliminary to what I have in mind, which has to do with the abandonment of the shore units of the Coast Guard in the shore service and which is more readily apparent along the North Carolina coast and its disadvantages more keenly felt where the personnel has been made up from generation after generation of native-born citizens. They, by tradition and training, and instinct and impulse, naturally become surfmen of the highest order. I am completely depressed now by the conclusion that the abandonment of many of the Coast Guard stations put on the respective list nearly two years ago, has been one of the most serious things ever dealt the Coast Guard service and a very harmful and detrimental stroke against the public welfare; one that penalizes a

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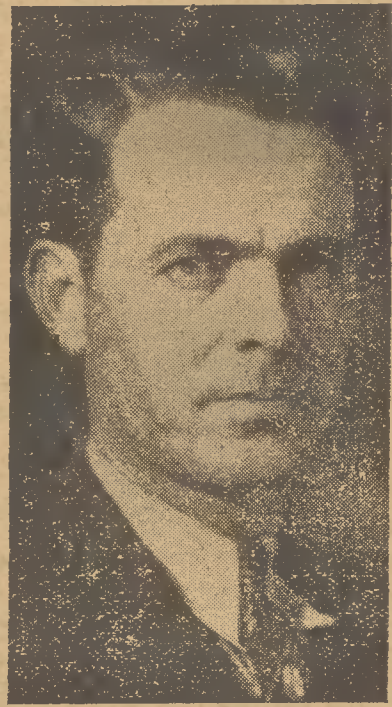
## A CLOSE-UP OF JEFF HAYMAN PICKING A GOOSE



Back in December Capt. Jeff Hayman took down his ancestral muzzle-loader, established himself on the shore at North End before day one morning, and with this prehistoric fowling piece, brought down a goose, much to his own astonishment. The roar of his muzzle-loader shook the north end of the Island.

Afterward Cap'n Jeff spent most of the day picking the goose, and most of the subsequent days cooking it, and the ensuing week recuperating from indigestion. Unfortunately only one stage of the event was photographed and the retired sea captain, ex-sheriff and keeper of Fort Raleigh is shown here.

## A PLEASANT MANNER AND A BORN TRADER



ROLAND D. SAWYER'S pleasant manner and his ability in business which indicates he is a trader born, is in the forefront of local businessmen. He not only owns the Sawyer's Laundry and Cleaners, but is a wideawake automobile salesman and insurance man. He never stops long at the time. Possessed of boundless energy, it doesn't take him long to spot a new prospect and he has doubtless effected the sale of more cars than any living man in Manteo. For no matter what sort of car, or what range in price, "Sawyer has it." His most notable contribution to the business life of the town is the Sawyer Cleaning Works which has recently built a modern cleaning and laundry plant in Manteo, and has a rapidly growing business that gives employment to many people. Mr. Sawyer looks a great deal like his father, the late M. D. Sawyer, who for many years was an outstanding citizen of East Lake, and served in various public offices, including that of County Commissioner and member of the Board of Education.

## SCRANTON SENDS FIRST LIST OF NAMES FOR HOMECOMING

The postmaster, Daniel C. Credle of Scranton, Hyde County, has sent in to the Secretary of the Southern Albemarle Homecoming, the first list of names of former residents of his community, that have been received. The list includes the name of Clay Carter, well known Washington attorney, and Dr. H. C. Carter, Mrs. William Amis and Mrs. Louise Mann of New York, and J. A. Sweeney of Philadelphia.

## KEEP UP WITH THE NEWS OF THE HOMECOMING BY READING TIMES WEEKLY

If you want to keep up with the news of the Southern Albemarle Homecoming and learn what your old acquaintances are doing, subscribe to the Dare County Times, and follow the news each week. From time to time we will publish names of former residents, and what they are doing away from home.

You can get the times a whole year for \$1.50 for three years for \$3 or you can get it a year for yourself and two friends each for \$3. Take advantage of this liberal offer now.

## HOEY, WARD, WARREN, GUESTS HYDE BANQUET

Gov. Clyde R. Hoey, D. L. Ward, speaker of the House, and Congressman Lindsay C. Warren are scheduled to attend the meeting of the Hyde County Chamber of Commerce April 3rd. Elaborate preparations are being made to welcome the distinguished guests, who will be honored at dinner at the Swan Quarter High School. Tickets for the banquet will be on sale beginning March 11th, at the following places: R. E. Tunnell, Swan Quarter; E. C. Miller, Jr., Engelhard; Guy Cuthrell, Fairfield; Jeff Credle, Sladesville.

## MANTEO CLUB'S BOXING MATCH DRAWS CROWD

That boxing has come to stay for a while anyway on the Island was proved last Friday night by the enthusiastic applause of townspeople who came out to see the ten bout boxing exhibition staged at the CCC camp by the Manteo Athletic Club. About 150 spectators watched local boys, CCC-ers, and three Kitty Hawks enter the ring to participate in fast three-rounds, two minutes boxing contests.

Headlining the evening's fights was the feature bout between Donne Twyne and Gerald Wise. Wise, 170 pounds, outweighed Twyne, 165, but both boys fought hard for three scrappy rounds. Wise won the decision with his frequent punches. Dick Burrus, 120, championship novice fighter in his class at the Raleigh Golden Gloves Tournament, knocked out Liverman, 120, in the second round. (Please turn to page eight)

## COINJOCK'S RECOGNIZED AVIATION AUTHORITY



During his long stay in Kitty Hawk Capt. William James Tate was the first host to the brothers, Wilbur and Orville Wright. They boarded at his home, and in later years, when aviation began to be recognized in the movement for a memorial at Kill Devil Hills the friendship between Capt. Tate and Orville Wright, the surviving brother was renewed. Since then Capt. Tate has flown thousands of miles addressing Chambers of Commerce, Aviation Clubs and numerous other gatherings doing honor to the pioneers of aviation. Capt. Tate is recognized nationally as North Carolina's foremost aviation enthusiast, as you will learn if you visit him at Coinjock, where he holds one of the most important posts in the Lighthouse Division of the Department of Commerce.

## BELL, BUILDER "LOST COLONY'S" THEATRE, GOING

### Man Whose Genius Supervised it, Returning to Elizabeth City Home

Albert Q. Bell, architect and builder of the Lost Colony Theatre and for five years superintendent of the work of restoration at Fort Raleigh, scene of the first English settlement in America, today severed his connection with the work and will return to Elizabeth City to resume an active part in the management of a nursery and greenhouse owned by his family.

Mr. Bell has been resident upon Roanoke Island through all the alphabetical mutations, beginning with the ERA during the administration of President Hoover and continuing through the CWA of the early Roosevelt period and then the PWA and WPA, all of them having a hand in and continuing the work of restoration at Fort Raleigh eventually taken over by the Roanoke Island Historical Association.

Six months ago at the conclusion of the second season's run of "The Lost Colony" Mr. Bell planned to return to his personal affairs in Elizabeth City, but was persuaded by Bradford Pearing, president of the Roanoke Island Historical Association, to continue here during the period of repair and extension of the Lost Colony theatre necessitated by the widely expanded interest in the continuation of Paul Green's symphonic drama as an annual event.

Taking leave of the work here, Mr. Bell hopes to have his affairs at home in such shape that he will be able to return for three months this summer, coming a month before the opening of "The Lost" (Please turn to page four)

## NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

We want news of every village and town in the counties of Currituck, Dare, Tyrrell and Hyde, Eastern Washington and Beaufort counties. We want to establish all our correspondents, who wish to continue work, on a profitable basis, and invite letters from everyone who wants to take up this work. We will furnish addressed envelopes on demand for the ready handling of news, and will give details of a plan whereby some easy money may be earned for working for us. For full details, address: THE TIMES, MANTEO, N. C.

## TOWN SIDEWALKS TO BE PAVED BY TOURIST SEASON

### Sand and Gravel Already Being Hauled For Project to Improve Sidewalks

Sand and gravel are being hauled from the beach to be used in the construction of the new sidewalks and streets Manteo expects to have by the first of June. Capt. Jack Nelson, head of the WPA building projects in Dare County, says 25 men are working on the sidewalks-streets project on which actual work began February 22.

For months the proposed improvements had been talked about and WPA money had already been appropriated, but the necessary town funds for equipment to begin the job were lacking. The citizens who will profit by the improvements finally took action and the Town Commissioners have provided the necessary funds.

The project calls for the construction of 6,600 lineal feet of concrete sidewalks and curbing and several thousand lineal feet of sand-gravel street paving in the town of Manteo. This project was drawn up last spring, approved by the Town Commissioners, and sent on to Washington to go through the maze of red tape that surrounds all such projects. But Congressman Lindsay C. Warren got behind the request and obtained approval in a short while. The project was then placed on file by Capt. Jack Nelson, pending action of the sponsor in furnishing certain materials.

Apparently no hitches stand in the way now of having the new sidewalks and streets by the time tourists start pouring in for summer fishing, beach bathing, and most of all to witness the production of "The Lost Colony" which is scheduled to begin July 1.

## PETTIGREW PARK IN WASHINGTON AND TYRRELL CO.

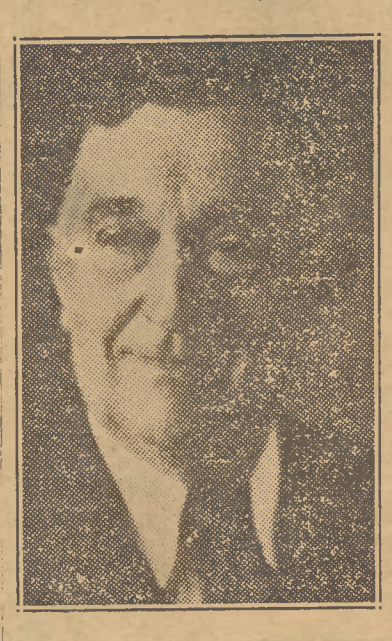
### Legislature Has Made Possible Long Desired Project

Of much value and interest is the news that Pettigrew State Park, a great historical area of 200 acres, has been assured by the Legislature. This project was ably advocated by many prominent citizens, including Rev. C. A. Ashby of Edenton. More recently, C. W. Tatem, president, John W. Darden, W. L. Whitley, and other officials of the Southern Albemarle Association have been actively behind the project. This week The News and Observer says:

"A scratch of a pen is all that is now required to bring into being Pettigrew State Park, the newest addition to the State park system, it was announced yesterday by State Forester J. S. Holmes of the Department of Conservation and Development.

"The lease for the 200 acres of" (Please turn to page eight)

## DARE ATTORNEY SEEKS COMMISSIONER'S POST

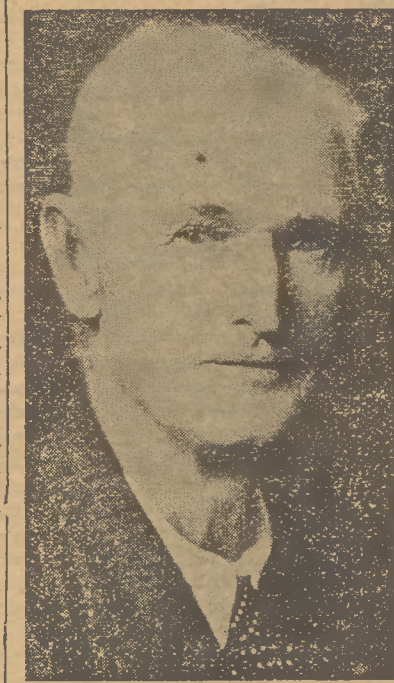


HON. DAVID LESTER RUSSELL, distinguished member of the Dare County bar, who has been unanimously endorsed by the public officials of Dare County, at least several Senators, and the Dare Representative and many prominent business men for the post of State Industrial Commissioner. This appointment must be made by Governor Hoey. The Governor has also received endorsements for Mr. Russell, from Western North Carolina where Mr. Russell formerly lived, before coming to Dare some six years or more ago. The position of Industrial Commissioner carries a nice salary, and requires residence in Raleigh.

## BEACH EROSION WORK TO CONTINUE TO JULY FIRST AT LEAST, STRATTON SAYS

### No Curtailment of Operations as Now Conducted Are Anticipated, So Far As Present Policies May Determine; Local Business Fears Resulting From Rumors Are Allayed By Statement of Camp Director

## DULL FISHING DON'T DISCOURAGE HIM MUCH



LEE R. MANN of Manns Harbor is one of the most genial and most friendly of the older citizens of that splendid community on the Dare Mainland. He celebrated his 74th anniversary during January, and is cheerfully looking forward to many more such events. For nearly 60 years he was a leading fisherman of that community, and saw good times as well as bad. Consequently he is not discouraged when the shad fishing season gets a late start, but tells the boys he knows of many a year when fishing was just as dull. "One trouble with folks nowadays," says Uncle Lee, "is that they have to spend so much time riding around, they don't have time to start sufficiently early to get ready for their fishing. They don't take time to take care of their nets which makes operating expenses too high."

Uncle Lee of course was brought up in the days when fishermen used sailboats, and many a time they had to row for miles on end to get to and from their nets, when the wind fell out on them. But men were men in those days. If you really want to meet an interesting man, stop and talk to "Uncle Lee" when you go through Manns Harbor.

## COMPROMISE REACHED IN BARNEY PEELE SUIT

### Suit For \$30,000 in Death of Boat Captain Settled Out of Court

A compromise agreement in the \$30,000 suit of Miss Esta Peele, administratrix of the estate of her father, Barney F. Peele, former chief officer of the steamer Woonsocket, against the Norfolk, Baltimore & Carolina Lines, Inc., owner of the vessel, was recorded in the Circuit Court of the City of Norfolk this week.

No statement of the amount agreed upon between the administratrix and the defendant was made in the court order, which dismissed the suit by agreement. It provides that the amount agreed upon, however, shall be divided equally among Captain Peele's three daughters, Miss Esta Peele and Mrs. Leslie D. Austin and Mrs. C. S. Meekins, of Manteo.

Captain Peele was fatally injured on board the Woonsocket in the Elizabeth River at Norfolk last November 20 when the steering gear broke and the wheel spun, catching him and throwing him against the ceiling of the pilot house. He died two days later.

The settlement was handled in Norfolk court by Sidney H. Kelsey, attorney for the administratrix of the estate, and Lester S. Parsons, of the law firm of Venable, Miller, & Parsons, representing the

## I Beg Your Pardon

Her hat was on one side, and clothes rumpled and her shoes were in shreds. Were you knocked down by a motorist? asked a sympathetic bystander. No, picked up, she snapped.

A rumor that spread like wildfire about Manteo Wednesday night to the effect that the Park Service work camps in Dare County were in line for immediate sharp curtailment, and probable discontinuance, threw consternation into local business men, and gave much concern generally to employes of the camps.

The disbanding of the camp at Ocracoke last week when all the men and equipment were removed and distributed among other camps, together with the termination of the services of J. M. Berry, of the main accounting office, probably gave rise to the rumors, and local businessmen began taking stock of the various benefits from the trade incident to the project.

When pressed for information as to the reliability of the rumor, A. C. Stratton, director of the project said he had no knowledge of any serious curtailment to threaten the project, as funds are set up to carry on the work until July 1, in line with the usual Government policy. He said Mr. Berry's services was terminated through the office of the Secretary of the Interior, and that while he was desirous of retaining him because of his efficiency and general usefulness, such appointments are beyond his discretion, and naturally terminate from time to time at the

(Please turn to Page Eight)

**Fishing**  
and all  
**Out Doors**  
—By—  
Aycock Brown  
Authority on Fishing News

Goggle-fishing will quite likely be Salt Water Sport No 1 along the North Carolina coast during the summer of 1939. And a year ago, less than one-half of one per cent of the people had ever heard of this method of going after fish. For the Polynesians, South Sea Islanders, and other people of the Pacific goggle-fishing is just another way to make a living or obtain food. It took Americans to make a sport of it and it took Major Farrell, of Quantico, Va., to introduce the sport in North Carolina coastal communities. This introduction occurred during the summer of 1938.

There will probably be some who read this column today who still do not understand exactly what it is all about. There will be some who read this who will believe it is only so much hokum, that a good diver and swimmer can put on a set of water-tight spectacles and armed with only a spear, dive beneath the surface and swim up to a fish and spear it and return to the surface with the fish, whether it is a five ounce angle-fish or a five pound sheepshead or tautog. But this business of wearing goggles and armed with a spear and meeting fish on their own ground beneath the surface is not hokum. It is an actual fact, but a difficult feat for one until they learn the knack—then it becomes a thrilling sort of sport.

As a result of the goggle-fishing activities along the North Carolina coast last summer this State got the jump on all other states with one of the best publicity stunts of the year. Major Farrell had tried the goggling off the coast of Dare, but due to northeast weather which made the water thick in the vicinity of the wrecks, near which he went spearing, and because his leave of absence from the Marine Corps was limited, he came on down to Carteret. In Beaufort he met Dr. Prytherch of the U. S. Fisheries Laboratory who took to the sport like a duck takes to water and the two of them with a group of Duke students goggled near the breakwater adjacent to the channel leading to Beaufort from the sea, at Shackleford breakwater and down at Cape Lookout. Conditions (Please turn to Page Six)