

# THE DARE COUNTY TIMES

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## HOW ROANOKE ISLAND HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO GREAT TOURIST CENTER

Lost Colony's Benefits Have Made the Island Conscious of Importance of Catering to Welfare of Visitors; It Likewise Brings Benefits to Beaches and Other Parts of Dare County, and Neighbor Counties

By ANTHONY BUTITIA

The summerlong celebration of the 352nd anniversary of the founding of the first English colonies in the New World and the birth of Virginia Dare gets underway at Fort Raleigh tomorrow night with the opening of the third summer season of Paul Green's historical drama "The Lost Colony" at the magnificent Waterside Theatre facing Roanoke Sound.

It will be presented nightly from July 1 through July 9. Afterwards it will be offered every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings. Curtain time is 8:15. No extra performances for holidays will be given this season since August 18, the date of America's first blessed event, falls on a regular performance night. However, special baptismal ceremonies will be held as usual to commemorate the birthday of little Virginia Dare.

Acclaimed by dramatic critics and civic leaders throughout the country as the foremost historical attraction in modern America, "The Lost Colony" begins this season on a permanent basis to be produced summer after summer on the site of the first English colonies for those making a pilgrimage to this Birthplace of the Nation.

Roanoke Islanders, who are skeptical of the continuation of this epic drama, need only make a trip to Fort Raleigh where permanent reconstruction has been going on since last spring, under the supervision of Albert Q. Bell, builder of the theatre. With funds supplied by the Works Progress Administration, equally matched by the Roanoke Island Historical Association, the reconstruction program was made possible.

Originally produced two summers ago in connection with the historic 350th anniversary celebration.

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PLAYS JOHN BORDEN



RUSSELL COLLINS who plays the part of John Borden in Lost Colony. It is one of the strongest parts in the play, and one never forgets the dramatic scenes between this character and Eleanor Dare.

CLAMS SHOULD BE BOUGHT FROM REGISTERED DEALERS

County health officer Charles Morgan this week urged beach residents to buy their clams from registered dealers rather than from the unlicensed hucksters who frequently peddle sea food on the beach.

Morgan said that the dealers must install special equipment for handling the clams before they are allowed to sell them, and he asked cottage owners to insure their own health by making certain that they purchase from registered dealers.

PAUL GREEN AND BEN DIXON MacNEILL



ASIDE FROM the author himself, the great Paul Green, who wrote Lost Colony, no man has done as much to perpetuate it and its country, than Ben Dixon MacNeill, newspaperman extraordinary, who loves to write about things worth while. From the beginning of Lost Colony, Mr. MacNeill has interpreted it to the nation. As a host to new speakers and visiting notables, he has done much to make Roanoke Island remain in their memory. He is a loveable, helpful personage, having ways and a mind of his own and a heart of gold as big as an ox. The snapshot shows Mr. MacNeill and Mr. Green, talking it over.

"OLD TOM" THE MASTERLESS MAN



DONALD SOMERS plays the part of "Old Tom", the Masterless Man. In hilarity, in soberness and in drunkenness, and in thought provoking sentences, no part is more captivating than that of "Old Tom", the Masterless Man of Lost Colony.

### WALKER IS LIGHTING FOR DRAMA LOST COLONY SCORE BROADCAST TUESDAY

John A. Walker resigned last week as State director of the North Carolina Federal Theatre Project in order to take up his new duties as director of lighting for the Lost Colony.

Walker has been director of the State Federal Theatre for the past two years. In order to carry on his work as director of lighting last summer, he moved the state office of the Federal Theatre to Manteo. He has been connected in this capacity with "The Lost Colony" since it was first presented in connection with the 350th anniversary celebrations.

Under his directorship of the theatre project, Walker was in charge of producing units in Wilson, Charlotte, Wilmington, Kinston, Raleigh, Greensboro, Greenville, Salisbury, and Manteo. The most outstanding productions of the project were "Il Trovatore," "Room Service," and "Journey's End."

A native of Chapel Hill, Wallace is the son of the late N. W. Walker, who was for many years director of the University of North Carolina summer school session. During 1937, Walker was assistant technical director of the Carolina Playmakers, receiving an M. A. in

Radio listeners in these parts were able to get last Tuesday's Columbia broadcast of the Lost Colony score by tuning in at 2:30 on the Richmond station, WRVA. The program originated in New York, and was one in the regular series, "Story of the Song," which traces the origin and development of various types and forms of music.

Among the composers represented in the Lost Colony score are William Byrd, Thomas Tallis, Christopher Tye and Anne Boleyn. Additional music and arrangements were written by Lamar Stringfield, Pulitzer Prize composer, and Adeline McCall, of the University of North Carolina. Paul Green collected the songs and contributed additional lyrics.

Mrs. Orlando Burrus and Miss Edna Jones spent Wednesday in Norfolk, shopping.

Mrs. Mike Fuchini is visiting her son, Frank Fuchini.

Dramatic Art from the University that year. Walker is the younger brother of Thomas H. Walker, State editor of the News and Observer.

### SENATOR FEARING ADDS THE FINISHING TOUCHES



THE MAN at the helm of Lost Colony, who of all local people had vision, foresight and nerve enough to grab it and make something of it is Senator D. B. Fearing, who is now busy doing the finishing touches. His is a man-size job, and he has handled it in a masterful manner.



GET OUT AND RIDE. It will do you good. In our country it will be more interesting maybe than plenty of places which do not have to pay tolls and which have more paved roads. For after all, when the dirt roads are good, there is more of interest to be seen and more joy in traveling because there are fewer people in the way.

GET ON THE DIRT NOW AND THEN. It will do you good. And of you have troubles of your own, what aren't shaken out of you by the roads will be dissipated by meeting folks who have troubles as great as your own.

THE OTHER DAY I went to Engelhard in Hyde. The first man I met says what are you folks working more for a road to the west than one to the south. You ought to know it is more important to get the south road built. It will profit you more and mean more to us.

WHEN I GOT AROUND to the town to the west, I was taken to task by a good friend whose opinion was in reverse to that of my Engelhard friend. And of course I had to talk an hour telling him too that what we want is all the roads we can get, particularly roads that were intended to carry out the highway law. We have friends in all directions, and we want their convenience to be equally served and to share mutual good will with all of them.

I KNOW NO PLACE where more delightful people will be found than on the routes along the Coastland, where ancient villages house friendly people. There is no town more charming than towns in which new homes of younger residents rise white and shiny beside the quaint and dignified ancestral houses having equal charm.

TROUBLES? MY OWN-SANK into significance and my heart was lifted on finding many people whom I imagined as carefree, had troubles as great as my own. I know one young man who it seems is sitting on top of the world. He tells me he is burdened with debt. When I told him I wished I might relax like him and get more of the social side of life, he said his gaiety was more often superficial and an attempt to forget his worries.

A COLORED WOMAN CAME into the office of a lawyer friend with whom I was talking. She was begging for money. A kerosene lamp had exploded, burned up the home she and her husband had been paying on a long time. While her husband was dragging out the two older children, the two-year baby was burned to ashes because they couldn't get back in the room. The two living children, badly burned, hover between life and death in a hospital.

THE FIRST VISIT OF THE STORK had brought twin daughters to one young man. He was evidently proud and happy. And here what one man would view as a terrible trouble if singly, was welcomed as a delightful blessing.

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## BIGGEST YEAR IN HISTORY OF ROANOKE ISLAND TO BEGIN TOMORROW NIGHT

Paul Green's Epic Drama a Permanent Feature, Adding to the Life and Color of the North Carolina Coast; New Features, New Faces, and Sensationally New Interest in Lost Colony

### HYDE PLEASED WITH MR. WEBB'S FRIENDLINESS

The people of Hyde County appear to be much delighted with the cooperative attitude of the Highway Commissioner of their division, Honorable Ernest V. Webb, of Kinston. There is somewhat a feeling of envy on the part of Dare County folks in viewing the masterful manner in which Mr. Webb has set about conciliating the dissension and long-standing feeling of neglect entertained by the people of Hyde.

As one crosses the boundary going south into Hyde toward Engelhard, he is immediately impressed by the fact that something is doing. For near Engelhard forces of men are busy preparing to pave a considerable stretch from that town northward toward the Dare County line. As one travels Route 94 from Fairfield toward Columbia, there is great activity on both ends of the road. Construction is rapidly being pushed forward on a new road, particularly in the Kilkenny section, and as one nears Columbia, he runs into more construction work where extending southward from the Tyrrell County capital is a hard-surface road reaching a long arm toward Fairfield.

In the town of Columbia, the waterfront activity is greatly added to by barges and cranes busy in the process of unloading gravel and other road building material for transportation by motor truck to the paving project underway.

Both of these men believe that in time and as reasonably early as the preliminary work can be done at the triangular system of roads connecting the three county seats will so demand by reason of their importance, the attention of the

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By BEN DIXON MacNEILL  
Years ago, about thirty of them, a man by the name of Gerald Stanley Lee contrived a book that became the intellectual fashion of the period and was as universally read as it is now forgotten. But the book contained one sentence—that may have contained more—more—that persists, now anorously among the aphorisms of the language.

Gerald Stanley Lee said value of any given piece of land is determined by the number of people who drive past it, or the number of people who thur their way, or fly their ways," e. At any rate, there may have been sound truth in Gerald Stanley Lee's aphorism, though it was, since it was in a fashionable book, not examined critically at the time. Still, it is a nice-sounding phrase.

And, granting the verity and soundness of it, the didacticians would probably insist that the converse would also be true, which would bring about something of a paradox which would read, "The value of a piece of land is determined by the number of people who do not walk past it every day." That, being paradox, would also be this country of the Outer Banks upon which the wind and the sun and the sea have laid an enchantment.

Nub of the paradox when it is, so to speak, domesticated and translated, the value of Roanoke Island is determined by the number of people who come here in a day, a week, a year and, conversely—by the number of people who do not come here. Anywhere else upon the earth these opposites would cancel each other. But here: this being a land upon which the sun and the sea and the wind have laid an enchantment.

All of this by way of preliminary

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### MANTEO NOW AND 25 YEARS AGO



LOTS OF CHANGES have taken place in the town of Manteo in a quarter of a century. It really is a busy place today. The picture was made by Victor Meekins 25 years ago, on a busy day when Superior Court was in session. It doesn't take much examination to discover the changes that have been made.

### PENDELTON HARRISON TAKES TRIPLE ROLE

Pendleton Harrison, well-known North Carolina actor who has appeared for many years on Broadway, arrived in Manteo early last week to do three roles in Paul Green's historical drama, The Lost Colony.

Harrison was last seen in the west coast company of "Kiss the Boys Goodbye," the Clare Boothe comedy of the old south and the new. Prior to his appearance in this work, Harrison was engaged for a number of Broadway hits on the road. Back in the late twenties, he was one of the featured performers of the Carolina Playmakers.

One of his most outstanding performances with the Carolina Playmakers was with Marion Tatum, who here to play an important role in The Lost Colony. The two did a memorable bit of acting in a unique one-acter entitled "Cocaine." They are now acting together for the first time in many years.

### YOUNG MISSIONARY GROUP REORGANIZES AND ELECTS

The Hannah Brown Circle of the Woman's Missionary Society met Thursday night at the home of Mrs. Ray Jones to reorganize and elect officers. Mrs. Hannah Brown, founder of the circle and now a resident of Moyock, is in Manteo for the summer and met with the group.

New officers elected are: Mrs. Bruce Lennon, chairman; Miss Wilma Jones, vice chairman; Miss Estelle Midgett, recording secretary; Miss Pearl Etheridge, corresponding secretary; Miss Nancy Etheridge, treasurer; Miss Inez Midgett, chairman of ways and means committee; Miss Anne Twiford, program committee.

Mrs. Edward Mann and Mrs. Ray Jones, members of the Irene Shearing Circle, will meet with the group in the absence of Mrs. Brown. The next meeting will be Monday, July 17, at the home of Miss Doris Jones.

### CHARMING HOSTESSES AT LOST COLONY



These attractive young girls are on the job at Fort Raleigh to make your visit more pleasant. From left to right, they are: Misses Norma Basnight, Peggy Etheridge, Carolyn Mae Daniels, Maxine Meekins, and Mrs. Nora Etheridge, Drinkwater.

### HOWARD BAILEY WILL ASSIST SAM SELDEN

Howard Bailey, production manager of "The Lost Colony", which opens its third summer season at Fort Raleigh July 1, returned to Manteo recently after turning down offers to head a stock company in the north. His interest in the North Carolina production and his love for Roanoke Island were factors which decided him and Helen Bailey to return here for the summer.

During the past year, Bailey was director of dramatics at Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida, and his work was so successful there that he was signed up to carry on his work during the following year. Under his direction the college dramatics club presented a series of experimental short and full-length dramas.

The highlight of his activities, however, was securing Fred Stone, noted comedian of stage and screen,

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### HYDE WANTS THE PRESENT ROADS EXTENDED FIRST

A movement to create a new road from Ponzer in Hyde County some twenty and odd miles to the shores of Lake Phelps and to eventually connect with Route 64 does not seem to be viewed with much approval by substantial citizens of that county living in Engelhard and Swan Quarter. Without denying the probable value of such a contemplated road it is the general opinion in Hyde County that it would be more important to finish existing roads and thereby make them useful during all seasons of the year, to farmers and tourists who are greatly dependent upon them. M. A. Matthews, cashier of the Engelhard Bank thinks that the all-important road now to complete is Route 264 to Manns

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