

THE DARE COUNTY TIMES

The Weekly Journal of the North Carolina Coastland—Devoted to the Interests of the Lost Colony Country, Embracing the Cape Hatteras National Seashore

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THERE IS A LOT OF FUN IN BEGGING FOLKS FOR LAND FOR SEA SHORE PARK

But There Is Luck in it Too, and One Never Knows Until He Asks For it; Park Commission Announces First Goal of More Than 10,000 Acres in Sight; Would Bring Great Improvements to Three Counties on Coast

"It's an interesting experience, going about the country begging folks to give land to help North Carolina create a Seashore National Park, and there is a lot of fun in it too," says Victor Meekins, who as secretary of the Park Commission reported last week at a meeting in Raleigh that more than 10,000 acres are either deeded or pledged to public ownership, which means that the work of continuing toward the final goal of 62,000 acres must go on.

In the past 15 months Meekins has travelled about the country from New England to Ohio, talking to folks about the park, and visiting people who own land on the North Carolina coast in the three counties of Currituck, Dare and Hyde which embraces the proposed National Park. "It is a splendid experience, and one gets some new impressions, and learns some worth while ideas," he says. "We don't always get land, but we do get helpful ideas in nearly every case, and most of the time, I am taken out and fed before being refused, so I get let down easy. And many men have given us large acreages of land, because they know the development of the park is our only hope of getting something for an asset that at present is doubtful."

"The bulk of the more than 11,000 acres deeded and pledged, comes to North Carolina as a gift from people who are not residents of the state," he continues. "But there are people who know the benefits our people face, and who have grown to love the people of Hyde, of Currituck and of Dare because they have been good neighbors. They know we have a good proposition, and they want to help us achieve it."

"We appreciate this great help from outside people, and now we are going to turn to our home folks for some help. Many of them have small tracts of land, but are unable to donate it. All we ask of them is a reasonable price, and if they will give the state options at a reasonable price, I shall go out and ask for money to buy this land as a further gift to the state. I have been told by a few people of means, that they would donate some cash to the cause, provided the people would be reasonable in what they expect for the land."

And so plans continue toward obtaining the 62,000 acres required in the 125 mile stretch of coastland, which would give North Carolina the only Seashore National Park in the country. The area doesn't embrace the villages along the coast, but leaves large parts for future development. Most of the land contemplated in the Park is land of no particular value at this time for development. Without the establishment of the park, it is extremely doubtful their status as to value would ever change.

The legislation providing for the Seashore National Park provides that no Federal money may be used to buy land. But the National Park Service already has spent several hundred thousand dollars in planting grass, building sand fences, and making other improvements to restore the natural state of the coastland where by trees and shrubbery may again be a part of this beautiful and interesting region.

And so the State of North Carolina undertook, without funds, to obtain land for the park. Various persons have donated large acreages. Among these people are: C. and Ogdon Phipps of New York; Ben Lamb and Joyce O'Hara of Washington, D. C.; Stanley Wahab of Ocracoke; Miles Clark of Elizabeth City; L. D. Pierce of Providence, R. I., and many others donating smaller acreages.

There are many others who have tentatively pledged lands. Not an acre has been bought. Persons of means who do not have land, may donate cash to buy lands from those not able to donate land. But in no case will unreasonable prices be paid.

The State of North Carolina has already had the foresight to forestall any attempt to profiteer on land. Legislation providing the power of eminent domain permits condemnation proceedings for any (Please turn to Page Three)

MAIL GIFTS THIS WEEK AT LATEST

Postoffice Employees Cannot Make Deliveries on Time Without Cooperation of Public

Some of the public—but not enough—are heeding the warnings of the Post Office Department that Christmas gifts must be mailed this year earlier than ever before, if reports from seven of the largest post offices in the United States prove to be typical. Six of these offices, queried on Christmas mailings, reported that gift parcels had started moving through the mails from 10 to 12 days earlier than in previous years. The seventh reported some rise in parcel post but no broad gain in Christmas mailings. Christmas cards—one of the most difficult problems because of the public's habit of mailing them in a last-minute deluge—also have started to move, but in only small numbers.

But, postal officials warn, the early mailings are not yet in sufficient volume to prevent delay in deliveries of gifts until after Christmas unless mailings are increased sharply at once, and practically completed by December 15. Wartime burdens on transportation and on the postal service make it essential that the peak of mailings be far earlier than in normal times.

"Postal employees are going to do their best, as always, to see that the Christmas mails are delivered on time," said Ambrose O'Connell, First Assistant Postmaster General, in charge of postal personnel. "Postmasters all around have done splendid work in calling the unprecedented problem to public attention through newspapers and radio, and in preparing to meet the rush of mailings."

"But this year deliveries on time are impossible unless the public mails its parcels earlier than ever before. We have reduced the age limit for extra personnel from 18 to 16, but the thousands of persons being hired are inexperienced and relatively slow in handling mail. And there were already many thousands of inexperienced workers in the service, replacing men who have gone into the Army and Navy."

LOST COLONY HISTORIAN DIES ON DECEMBER 12

News of the death of Henry Buckler, on December 12 at Newark, N. J., reached the Times office this week in a letter from his sister, Mrs. William S. Hutchinson of Bethlehem, Pa. Mr. Buckler had been ill of a heart ailment for the last four months, being on tour in California with "Arsenic and Old Lace" when stricken.

Mr. Buckler was historian for Paul Green's "Lost Colony" during the last three summers of its production on Roanoke Island, and had made many friends here who will regret to learn of his death.

17-YEAR-OLDS MAY ENLIST IN U. S. MARINE CORPS

Seventeen-year-olds may now enlist in the U. S. Marine Corps, it has been announced by state headquarters of the Marine Corps Recruiting Service.

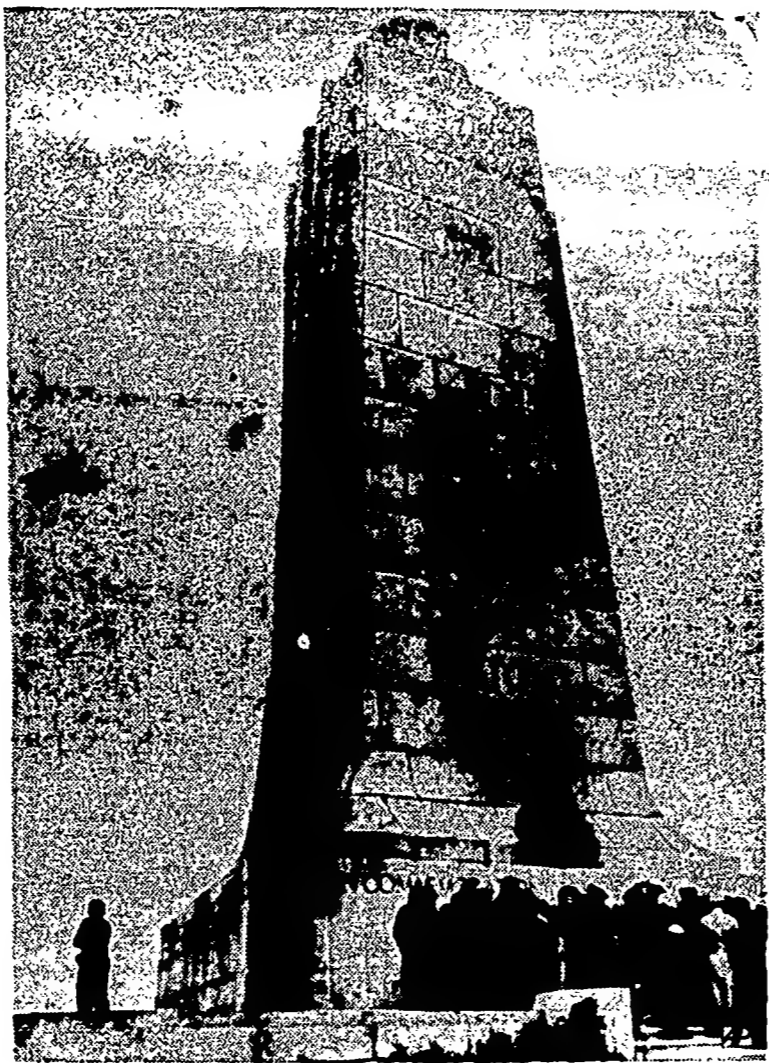
Following President Roosevelt's order of a week ago, freezing enlistment of men 18 to 38 years of age, the Marine Corps also froze enlistments of 17-year-olds. But now the ban on the 17-year-old boys has been lifted, and these boys can apply for enlistment at Raleigh, Charlotte, Asheville, Winston-Salem or Greensboro.

SLOW TRAIN

An American soldier in England was giving some illustrations of the size of his country. "You can board a train in the state of Texas at dawn," he said impressively, "and twenty-four hours later you'll still be in Texas."

"Yes," said one of his English listeners, with feeling, "we've got trains like that here, too."

OBSERVING 39TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLYING



The picture shows group around the base of the Wright Memorial at Kill Devil Hills, observing the anniversary of the First Flight, an annual ritual of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association.

LESLIE SUTHERLAND INDUCTED IN NEW YORK

Leslie Sutherland, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Sutherland of Manteo, who has made his home in Manteo for the last year, was inducted into the U. S. Army from the New York draft board on Wednesday, December 9.

Mr. Sutherland had volunteered twice before, and was rejected for physical reasons, but was accepted on the third application. He has had six years in the National Guard of New York. He has been sent to Camp Upton for the present.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA AT WANCHESE CHURCH

A Christmas cantata "Alleluia" will be presented by the children of the Wanchese Methodist church on Sunday night, December 20, at 7:30 at the church. Mrs. Reggie Tillett will act as accompanist. The public is cordially invited to attend.

REBEKAHS WILL HAVE CHRISTMAS MEETING

The Manteo Rebekah Lodge will have a Christmas party Monday night, December 21, at the Odd Fellows Hall at eight o'clock. All members are urged to be present, and each is asked to bring a small gift.

SUGAR STAMP NO. 10 GOOD FOR THREE POUNDS

Sugar stamp No. 10, which became valid Wednesday, December 16, will be good for three pounds, which will have to last from December 16 through January 31, according to recent information from rationing headquarters.

FIRST FLIGHT AND INVENTOR OF PLANE



The picture indicates Orville Wright as he looked about 15 years ago. It also shows the first flight, 39 years ago. Aviation has gone a long way in 39 years, and this week the group gathered at Kill Devil Hills saw Navy planes go by at 250 miles an hour.

O. J. JONES NAMED COLLECTOR TIN TUBES

O. J. Jones, owner of Jones Wholesale Company of Manteo, has been named as Authorized Representative of the Tin Salvage Institute, and will serve as collection agent for all tooth paste and shaving cream tubes collected by retail merchants in Dare County. No retailer is permitted to sell a tube of tooth paste or shaving cream unless an old tube is turned in at the time of sale. All retailers in Dare County are asked to send in their used tubes to Mr. Jones, parcel post or freight collect.

BANK OF MANTEO OPENS NEW CHRISTMAS CLUB

The Bank of Manteo has again opened its Christmas Savings Club, after paying out approximately \$5,000 last month.

This method of saving for another Christmas insures many people each year the possibility of making the Christmas season a glad one for their families, with only a small investment each week. Join now and by next Christmas you will have saved enough to take care of your needs, without feeling the pressure of a large outlay of money at the last minute.

Mrs. J. G. Midgett had as her guests Sunday, Mrs. Pearl Midgett and son, Chesley Midgett, of Buxton. On Wednesday she had as her guest LaPayette Midgett, also of Buxton.

Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps.

PLANS LAUNCHED TO OBSERVE 40TH FLIGHT BIRTHDAY

Ceremonies at Kill Devil Hills Followed by Banquet Thursday Night Dec. 17

Dec. 17, 1943, a year from now, will be the 40th anniversary of the first flight of a power driven heavier than air machine. To observe this important event properly, plans were begun here at Manteo this week, a year ahead.

Secretary Melvin R. Daniels of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association, began making plans some weeks ago, but the event dates from December 17, 1942. On Thursday, the usual ceremonies and laying of a wreath in honor of Wilbur Wright took place at the granite memorial atop Kill Devil Hills.

On behalf of Dare County Senator D. B. Fearing presented a wreath, and Mayor Jerome Flora of Elizabeth City brought a wreath and greetings from the people of Pasquotank. Short addresses were made by Allen H. Watkins, President of the Association and Attorney D. L. Russell of Manteo.

News Commentator W. E. Debnam in Raleigh gave ten minutes time to the occasion over a Raleigh station.

At night, a banquet was scheduled for seven o'clock at the Manteo high school, for the election of officers for the ensuing year.

Important national associations dealing with aeronautics will be asked to participate with the Kill Devil Hills Association in plans for a suitable observance next year, the scope of which will depend entirely on the status of the war situation.

If the war situation should be relieved to the point where travel may be resumed, then a large affair will be arranged. If travel is not feasible on the 40th anniversary, then suitable observances, possibly with the issuance of a special stamp, or medal, will be attempted.

The Association will make a drive for new members, in order to raise funds for the work of arranging a suitable celebration.

Mr. Orville Wright of Dayton, Ohio, co-inventor of the airplane was invited to attend the services this week, but the Association received his regrets he was unable to come to the site of the first flight at this time.

Wilbur Wright died about the year 1912. The two men, whose scientific achievement is one of the world's greatest, made history at Kill Devil Hills one bleak day, 39 years ago.

SIX AND A HALF MILLION FROM BEER IN THIS STATE

Raleigh, Dec. 17.—North Carolina's beer industry will pay more than \$6,000,000 in federal, state and local taxes for 1942, according to the Brewing Industry Foundation's North Carolina Committee.

This amount is far ahead of the total payments of \$4,934,959.55 in 1941 and \$3,124,482.79 in 1940.

Available figures show that the industry has paid the state \$2,555,061.05, the federal government \$3,229,597.16 and the cities, towns and counties \$155,000 so far this year—a total of \$5,939,658.21. These totals are based on 11-month collections for the state and local units and ten months for the federal government.

It is anticipated the state's collections will top \$2,750,000 and the federal government's share will range between \$3,700,000 and \$4,000,000 for the 1942 calendar year. There will be only a nominal increase in collections by the local units.

UNCLE JEFF LOSES MUCH MONEY IN FIRE

"Uncle Jeff" Hayman, well-known former caretaker at Fort Raleigh on Roanoke Island, who has run a shop on the grounds for some time, lost \$400 in a fire that burned the building to the ground Monday afternoon.

The fire started when an oil heater exploded, and the flames were beyond control before aid could be summoned.

In addition to the personal loss of "Uncle Jeff", a number of Fort Raleigh records were burned, and a typewriter was lost.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT MANTEO METHODIST

A program of Christmas music will be rendered at Mount Olivet Methodist church Sunday morning, December 20, at the eleven o'clock service, by the church choir. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Buy Defense Bonds and Stamps.

18 MEN PERISH MISERABLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT DURING SHIPWRECK NEAR SALVO

Steamer Louise Came Ashore Near Scene of Kohler Wreck in 1933; Dead Men Discovered Thursday Morning; 20 in Crew of Ship Laden in Part With Automobile Tires; Wreck Near Abandoned Gull Shoal Station

HONORARY PRESIDENT K. D. H. ASSOCIATION



Capt. John T. Daniels, who helped the Wrights to fly, took a picture of the first flight while a Coast Guardsman at Kill Devil Hills was made honorary President of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association Thursday night at the annual banquet of the Association in the high school building, held jointly with Rotary. The Association voted to incorporate the association which was founded in 1927, and appointed the following committee to prepare articles of incorporation. Martin Kellogg, Jr., Horace Dough, D. B. Fearing, D. V. Meekins, W. J. Tate, Melvin Daniels, Allen Watkins, C. S. Meekins. It was agreed to continue the present officers until after the association is incorporated. Capt. Allen Watkins, president; Melvin Daniels, secretary; C. S. Meekins, treasurer.

YOUNG MEN OF 17 WANTED BY NAVY

No One Eligible For Voluntary Enlistment After They Become 19

Now is your chance to take advantage of a golden opportunity. At this time you have the choice of enlisting in the United States Navy and serving your country in this preferred branch of the armed services as well as taking advantage of the many opportunities offered by the Navy to attend one of the 59 trade schools maintained by the Navy for the training of tradesmen. This choice ceases on the day you reach your 18th birthday for on that day you will have to register for Selective Service and after registering you can no longer volunteer but will have to wait to be drafted. So why not take advantage of this opportunity now. Contact the Navy Recruiting Station, Post Office Building, New Bern, N. C. or see one of the traveling recruiters who frequently visit the towns in your vicinity.

Make your application now and do not wait to complete your enlistment as hesitation may make you too late.

Remember after you reach your 18th birthday and register for Selective Service you are no longer eligible for voluntary enlistment.

WOOD—SPRUILL

A wedding of interest to their many friends in eastern North Carolina was that of Mrs. Reba Estelle Spruill of Columbia to Rev. G. C. Wood of Roper, on Thursday, December 10.

The ceremony was performed at the Wanchese Methodist parsonage by Rev. James W. Sneed, pastor of the Wanchese Methodist church and Rev. M. W. Maness of Manteo.

The bride wore a costume of Victory blue crepe with black accessories, and a shoulder corsage of American Beauty roses.

Those present included Rev. and Mrs. Sneed, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Meekins of Manteo and Mrs. Arvilla Midgett of Wanchese.

Mr. Wood is pastor of the Methodist church at Roper.

Girls in Czechoslovakia are excluded by Nazis from all but elementary schools, and so are the sons and daughters of "progressive" parents.

Near the same Coast Guard station from which the lookout spied the burning tanker, Mirlo, torpedoed by Germans in 1917, a ship was wrecked during the bitter cold of Wednesday night, and 18 men of a crew of 20 perished miserably, either in the surf, or of exposure after crawling from the icy waters. Two men were found behind the hills and saved.

The wreck occurred about two miles below Gull Shoal Station, near Salvo, on Hatteras Island, near the spot where the schooner Geo. Kohler was wrecked during the storm of August 1933.

Coast Guards, patrolling the beach Thursday morning found a number of the bodies of the men, seven in one group washed ashore.

Gull Shoal Station was abandoned as an active unit of the Coast Guard some years ago, when the Coast Guard retrenchment program was extended to the shore branch of the service. It was famous many years ago for the rescue work it did in behalf of stranded mariners.

The old station is now being re-commissioned, and repair work is under way. It was bought for a song by Theo. S. Meekins of Manteo some three years ago, and recently Mr. Meekins leased it to the Coast Guard for the duration of the war.

The tonnage register lists a steamer Louise of New York as being owned by the Ericsson Line. The vessel is of 900 horse-power, 1152 gross tons, 185 feet long, carrying a crew of 18 and was built in Wilmington, Del., in 1912.

WAR RATION BOOK NO. 2 DUE EARLY IN 1943

Those Not Having Ration Book No. 1 Must Apply at Once For No. 2

A total of 3,346,316 persons in North Carolina received War Ration Book No. 1 during the initial registration for sugar rationing held last summer. W. Hance Hoffer, state OPA ration officer, has announced.

Hoffer said that holders of the No. 1 book will be eligible to receive the big No. 2 War Ration Book which will be distributed soon after the first of the new year. Persons who do not have their No. 1 book must make application to their local ration board for Book No. 1, before December 15 if they wish to be able to receive the No. 2 book.

A total of 4,853 persons received the No. 1 book, which is being used for the rationing of sugar and coffee, in Dare last summer, Hoffer announced.

LOVE AND KISSES CAN BE SENT OVERSEAS, BUT HOW

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 17.—Did you know that love and kisses, Christmas greetings, happy birthdays, birth announcements and requests for money may now be sent, via cablegram, overseas, for the small amount of around 60 cents? Well, they can, according to Captain Robert H. McCormack, Chief of Postal Section, headquarters, Fourth Service Command. And, conversely, they may be sent this way from "over there."

Of course other messages may be sent also, just so they are brief, and the fixed text is adhered to. Naturally, the cablegrams must be submitted through the proper channels, and must be properly addressed, out-going messages showing full name, Army serial number, APO cable address and the routing word. This type message will consist of not more than three of the fixed authorized texts. Thus, for \$1.20 you could cable: "Hearing your voice on the wireless gave me a wonderful thrill. Glad and proud to hear of your decoration. Everybody thrilled. Many thanks for parcel."

These EFM cables, except for Christmas greetings, are discontinued until after December 27. You may send the Christmas messages, however, at any time through December 25, and after the 27th any of the messages or combinations.

Eye-sight requirements have been modified for volunteers in the Navy and Naval Reserve.