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VACATION BOUND—All ferries across Oregon Inlet were jammed last weekend like the one in this photo. Your editor took this picture from the deck of another ferry heading north while this one is heading for the outer banks loaded with cars and vacationers. Ferries will carry 22 cars in the morning and stop at 7 p.m. as they are not allowed to operate at night due to the treacherous channel.

## The Fish Were Not Biting — Hatteras

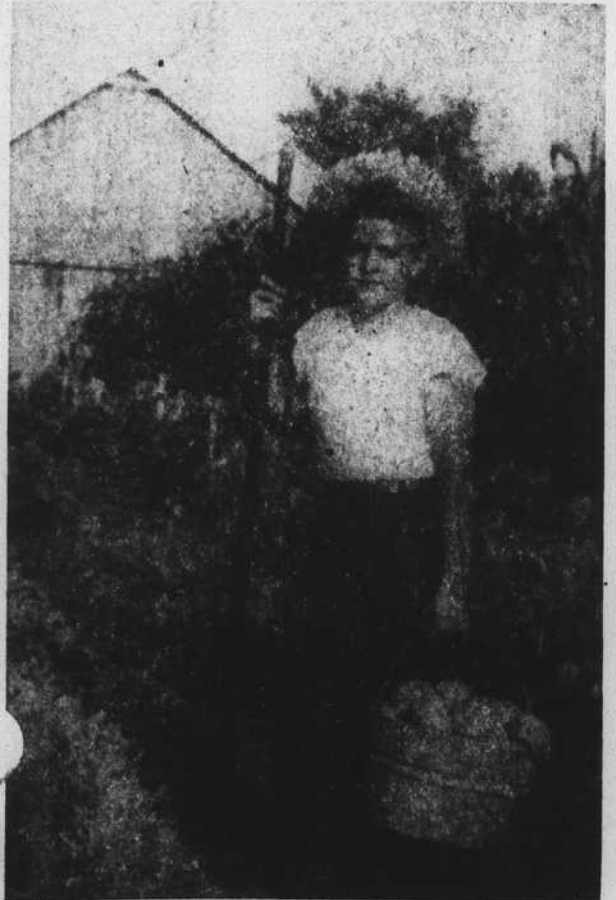
By CARLTON MORRIS  
Ghost Town, N. C.—July 4th.— Yes, most towns in Gates County are ghost towns on this July 4 as many of our folks seek to beat the oppressive July heat by heading for the beaches. The few that are here today are a sunburned bunch of ghosts as most of them including your correspondent, have already taken a quickie to the beaches on Saturday and Sunday prior to the Fourth and they are only here now because of duties they can't avoid.

Eldest son Dale, and I decided last Friday afternoon to take a long planned trip to Hatteras to visit our friend, license examiner Mack Gray, who is the man that tells Gates County people when they do or do not know how to drive an auto. He lives in Elizabeth City and has six children, but he was born and raised at Avon on Hatteras Island and he is also the license examiner for that section too. As he had to go to Avon to give examinations during the later part of the week, we took him late Friday afternoon to find him there at the home of his parents.

As is the usual procedure with a newspaper man, last minute details kept me in Gates County until 5 p. m. Friday and the last ferry across Oregon Inlet runs at 7 p. m. Even then I would have made it, but went on to Manteo to see friend Victor Meekins, Dare County publisher. And like the proverbial flea, he was nowhere to be found, but I did contact his son, Francis, who is very happily married to an Ahoskie girl and has two fine children. He informed me that the last ferry across the inlet left at 7 and it was then 7:15. He advised us to attend the 15th opening of the Lost Colony, soend the night in Manteo where a room was unavailable and catch the 5 a. m. ferry across the inlet.

Francis was sick in bed with a virus, but said he would call friend Aycock Brown and get tickets to the performance. So Dale and I tried to find a room and did find one with two beds for \$9. We figured we would be able to sleep about three hours and that would be \$3 per hour so we decided to sleep in the car if it became necessary. Anyway we went on to the Lost Colony box office and informed the two ladies in attendance that Brown was supposed to have reserved us some tickets. He hadn't done so as Francis had been unable to locate him by phone, but when I informed them of my identity, one of the ladies spoke up and declared she read my scribbling each week with a great deal of pleasure and I could get all the tickets I wanted. (Newspaper people never have any money, so they are allowed to attend everything free.) Then I mentioned Francis, and the other lady said she had called them about me and so they gave us reserved seats and incidentally we were seated in the center down front and one seat from Paul Greene and Chairman of the Highway Commission A. H. Graham, who were the featured speakers at the opening of the performance.

The show was the best I have ever seen it and I have attended it a number of times including the first show in 1937. The performance Friday night was the opening of the 15th season which is longer than any other out-doot show in the country, has managed to stay in business. At intermission I had a short chat with Aycock Brown, who makes most of the pictures of See HATTERAS, Page 4



YOUNG FARMER—Douglas Freeman, Jr., of Gates, and a two-year member of the Gatesville Junior 4-H Club, is shown here in his garden with a large bucket of freshly dug Irish potatoes. Douglas, 12, is carrying the project for the second year and has one of the finest displays of growing vegetables you'll see. He has 16 different vegetables planted and as they are gathered for home use he keeps a record of how much of each. Eleven boys have garden projects. Strange as it may seem for a youngster of his age, Douglas actually likes to work and every day spends some time in fighting the weeds and grass but is rewarded with an ample harvest. (Photo by John Artz.)

## Miss Taylor Dies Sudden In Hospital

Eure.—Miss Magdalene Taylor, 42, died suddenly last Monday at 7:35 p. m. in the Roanoke-Chowan Hospital. She was injured in an auto wreck on June 25 near Ahoskie and had been in the hospital since that time. Hospital Authorities said she had been doing well as far as could be determined up to the time of her death. She was admitted to the hospital with rib fractures and facial lacerations after a wreck between cars driven by Frank H. Britton of Aulander was in collision with one driven by Joseph R. Cherry of Norfolk.

She was an employee of Planters National Bank and Trust Company and was a native of Eure. It was announced by hospital authorities that Miss Taylor was apparently doing well until late Monday when she suddenly became much worse and died from a brain hemorrhage. Funeral services will be conducted Wednesday at Cool Spring Baptist Church. Rev. K. E. Bryant of Ahoskie and pastor of the church will conduct the services assisted by Rev. A. J. Eure of Eure. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Miss Taylor was a life member of Cool Spring Baptist Church and a Sunday school teacher. She is survived by her parents, James R. and Margaret Ella Taylor of Eure; two brothers, S. T. Taylor of Newport News and James E. Taylor of Eure; one sister, Mrs. Cam Stallings of Eure.

## Alton Briscoe Serving Army In Hawaii

Twenty-fifth Div., Hawaii.—Army Pvt. Alton R. Briscoe, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Briscoe, Eure, recently arrived in Hawaii and is now a member of the 25th Infantry Division. The "Tropic Lightning" division is continuing its post-truce training program using valuable experience gained in Korea. Private Briscoe is a rifleman in the division. He entered the Army in January, 1955, and received basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. Briscoe is a graduate of Gatesville High School.

## Coast Line Wins National Safety Council Award

The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad has received notice that it had won the Railroad Employees' National Safety Award of the National Safety Council for 1954. Six Class 1 railroads, which today were named group winners of the Railroad Employee's National Safety Award of the National Safety Council, had a 1954 employee casualty rate of 53 per cent less than the average rate for all Class 1 railroads.

In 1954 the combined rate of employees killed and injured per million man-hours worked was 3.22 for the six winners, as compared with a rate of 6.88 for all Class 1 railroads. (Class 1 railroads are those whose operating revenues exceed \$1,000,000 annually.) Coast Line was winner in the 20,000,000 to 50,000,000 man-hours group. Its rate was 3.02 as compared with 6.55 for all railroads in the group.

BIG THRILL  
Gatesville.—Mrs. C. M. Lawrence had a special thrill in store for her when she visited Mr. and Mrs. Trent Bowen in Durham last week. She was able to meet her first great-granddaughter, Margaret Elizabeth Bowen, who is also her namesake.

## No Takers for Burned Buick

Corapeake.—A 1947 Buick was burned near Corapeake last week and up to the present time officers are still in the dark as to who is the owner of the auto. The motor number and serial number do not correspond and the car is not listed in either Virginia or North Carolina, they said. The car bore a North Carolina dealer's license which was issued to a firm in Columbia, N. C. When contacted, this dealer said the license plate in question was issued to one of his salesmen, who had left that firm, taking the plates with him. His whereabouts are also unknown at this time.

Patrolman J. J. Carter of Gates said the car was almost completely destroyed by fire and gave evidence of having been set on fire purposely. A gasoline can was found nearby and the auto burned bad enough to melt the carburetor, he said. A check with the FBI failed to bring to light any record of the car being stolen in the two-state area.

## Miss Lassiter Passes Away; Rites Tuesday

Sunbury.—Miss Annie M. Lassiter, 78, died at her home here Sunday afternoon at 2:30 after a lingering illness. She was the daughter of the late Allen and Lucy Lassiter; a native of Gates County; a member of the Damascus Christian Church and Secretary and Treasurer of the Womans Missionary Society of that church for many years. She is survived by three brothers, G. S. Lassiter, of Corapeake; W. B. Lassiter, of Drivers; and W. H. Lassiter, of Sunbury; two sisters, Mrs. W. J. Hudgins, Matthews, and Miss Lucy G. Lassiter, Sunbury.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at three o'clock at the Damascus Christian Church. The pastor, Rev. T. Fred Wright, conducted the services. Burial was in the church cemetery. The body was removed from the Rountree and Hoffer Funeral Home, Gatesville, to the church one hour before the service.

## Pvt. Howell At Fort Knox

Fort Knox, Ky.—Army Pvt. Robert T. Howell, 23, son of Mrs. John R. Howell, of Eure, recently was graduated from the track vehicle maintenance course at The Armored School, Fort Knox, Ky. The course trains enlisted personnel to repair track vehicles issued to armored units. The men also are taught administrative functions of unit maintenance shops. Howell entered the Army in December 1954 and completed basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He attended Gatesville High School. His wife, Ann, is living in Valley Station, Ky.

RUNAWAY TRUCK  
Roduco.—A Johnstown, Pa., motorist, Alex Waynik was killed and four other persons injured when a tractor-trailer ran away and smashed an auto into a sun porch of a home, sheared off a telephone pole and caused heavy damage. The driver, William Roberts of Roduco was slightly injured.

Mrs. Eure Entertains  
Eure.—Guests at the Galloping Tea were entertained by Mrs. Gurnie Eure in her home Tuesday night. Refreshments were served to Mesdames Troy Greene, Ernest Smith, Nathan Eure, Minnie Jenkins, Tom Doughtie, Gurnie Eure, and Troy Allen Greene.

## Salk Vaccine To Be Shipped

Gatesville.—Mrs. Roy Hayes, county health nurse, has announced that she was notified Friday, July 1, that the second shipment of the Salk polio vaccine would be available in the near future for completion of the program started in the spring. The exact date of the shipment was not given, she said, but in all probability it would be released within the next 30 days.

Members of the local board of health advised against giving the vaccine during the hot summer months, she said. They decided it best to wait until fall when the schools reopened before completing the Salk vaccine program. Mrs. Hayes also stated that this applies to the first and second grades of both the Buckland High School in Gates and the T. S. Cooper School in Sunbury.

## Health Center Schedule Set

Gatesville.—Mrs. Roy Hayes announced last Friday that she will be on vacation from Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 15. Public health nurses from Hertford County will be at the Health Center for the Wednesday and all day Friday clinics. Mrs. Daniels will conduct the Wednesday clinic at the Health Center July 13 from 9 till 12 noon. Mrs. Hill will conduct the all-day Friday clinic July 15, with hours from 9 till 12 in the morning and from 2 till 5 in the afternoon. Mrs. Hayes stated that July 13 and July 15 will be the only time the Health Center will be opened next week.

## Destroying Property Is Good For Jail Sentence

Gatesville.—In a special term of court Tuesday, June 21, Judge H. V. Beamon found Henry Best guilty of destroying public property and sentenced him to be confined to the common jail of Gates County for a term of 5 months and to be assigned to work the roads under the supervision of the State Highway Public Works Commission. When Recorder's Court convened for its regular session on June 28, traffic violations headed the list of cases to be heard.

Whaylon Lee Slades had to pay \$25 fine and costs for operating without license. Drunken driving and Reckless driving were the charge against Percell Nowell. He received a sentence of 30 days in jail which was suspended upon payment of \$25 fine and costs. The court found Paul D. Earl not guilty of drunken driving.

Forrest V. Dunstan was charged with operating a vehicle without a license and improper passing at a railroad. The state takes no pros as to operating without a license, but Dunstan had to pay court costs for crossing the yellow line. In the case of Reckless driving against Melvin McKindly Williams, the state takes no pros with leave. Judge H. V. Beamon sentenced Kirk Johnson, Jr., to 6 months in jail for drunken and reckless driving. His sentence was suspended however, upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.



CELEBRATING FOURTH—Many people celebrated the Fourth by attending a baseball game. Here are a few at the doubleheader Monday between the Gates County Rams and the Portsmouth Jo Bos. Each team won one.

## W. Ralph Is Claimed By Death at 63

Corapeake.—Mrs. Ruth Rountree Ralph, 63, died Monday at 12:20 a. m. at her home near here. A daughter of Mrs. Laura Rountree and the late I. W. Rountree, of Gates County, she is survived by her husband, Will Ralph, of the home; a daughter, Mrs. Rufus T. Eason, of Portsmouth; two sons, Aubrey Ralph, of Corapeake, and Forrest I. Ralph, of Suffolk; a sister, Mrs. R. C. Nixon, of Tyner; two brothers, W. L. Rountree, of Norfolk, and O. J. Rountree, of Suffolk and seven grandchildren. She was a member of the Eureka Baptist Church.

The body was taken to the Hill Funeral Home, Suffolk, where it remained until Tuesday at 2:30 p. m., when it was taken to the church for services by the Rev. Caleb Goodman, pastor. Burial was in the church cemetery.

## Ground Observer Post Alert July 9

Gatesville.—The Ground Observer Posts in this area have been requested to participate in an exercise for a period of 12 hours starting at 9 a. m., EST, until 9 p. m., EST, Saturday, July 9. The name of this exercise will be "Skytrain V." Purpose of the exercise is to increase operational efficiency of the Ground Observer Corps and to provide systems training in low altitude surveillance and interception. It is important that all posts in the Durham Air Defense Filter Center Area take part in the entire period of this exercise if possible.

## First District I.O.O.F. Convenes on July 16th.

### Gates County BRIEFS

Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away. But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. St. Mark 13:31-32. During the last five years, this newspaper has collected only one bad check, which must set some sort of record, though we don't know what it is. A gentleman from Georgia working out of Suffolk gave us a check for some printing and after repeated efforts to collect, we turned him over to Suffolk police. In their usual efficient manner they picked him up and turned him loose under \$100 cash bond. He promptly disappeared. He was picked up again last week on a cohabitation charge. This time he didn't have the bond. And he has a wife and children in Georgia and his wife is expecting another one. All we lost was \$40. Self Praise Dept.: We are pleased to note that one of our Human Interest columns of the July issue of The State, Though friend Georch spelled our last name Norris. Just goes to show you that the Index doesn't make all the mistakes, or something. Also noted that our picture of the new Sunbury lights made last year appeared in a recent issue of the Vopceovian with credit lines to the Index and this photographer.

Elizabeth City.—Charles A. Outen, Grand Master of North Carolina Odd Fellows, will be the chief speaker at the semiannual convention of the First District when it convenes in Elizabeth City Saturday, July 16. Grand Master Outen, who is secretary for the Pilot Life Insurance Company of Greensboro, joined the order in 1944 and was elected to his present office at the May meeting of the Grand Lodge in High Point. He was Deputy Grand Master in 1954. L. B. McBrayer, Grand Secretary, will also attend the Elizabeth City meeting. Achore Lodge No. 14 will be host for the occasion, and the other lodges in the First District are Bay View of Swan Quarter and Holly Grove in Gates County.

W. J. Tucker, past Noble Grand of the host lodge, will deliver the welcome, and Miss Jerry Ann Peoples, who recently visited the United Nations, will talk on her experiences while on this trip. Her visit to the UN was sponsored by all lodges in the First District. Ralph Wood, secretary of the convention, has announced that the supper will be served beginning at 6:30 p. m., and the business meeting will begin promptly at 7:30 p. m. Officers for the coming year will be nominated at the business meeting.

Present convention officers are Clyde Berry, president; R. E. Chappell, vice president; Ralph Wood, secretary; Gerald Warren, warden; Cecil White, conductor; Hallett Brown, chaplain; G. L. Cohoon, inside guardian; Wesley Eure, outside guardian. The last convention of the First District was held in Sunbury January 15, 1955, with Holly Grove Lodge No. 12 as host for the occasion.

## Joint Picnic Planned By HDC and FB

Gatesville.—At a joint meeting last Thursday night of the officers and directors of the Gates County Farm Bureau and the Home Demonstration County Council officers, it was unanimously decided that the two organizations sponsor a countywide picnic at Colerain Beach Thursday afternoon, August 18, with supper being served at 5 o'clock. Each family attending is to take a basket well filled with home-cooked food, such as Gates County folks always prepare for such occasions. All FB members and their wives and HD club members and their husbands and their children are supposed to attend. A recreation committee composed of Mrs. E. P. Story, Mrs. C. V. Cross, Sr., J. W. Willey and Hardy Askew has planned a lively program following the supper for all ages. Mrs. Frank Barnes is president of the woman's organization and Bradford Jones of the Farm Bureau. Further announcements will be made concerning this get-together. The two Extension agents are ex officio members of the two organizations.

Note to highway sign dept: The sign at the intersection of highway 158 and 158-A leading toward Gatesville from Sunbury is down. Last Friday a lady and gentleman from Mass. stopped on 158-A and were busily engaged in studying their road map. They were headed south.

Has anyone noted the beautiful crops in this section. They are a far cry from the dried-up affair we had last July.

Emery Rountree reports to us that a jug of water is a dangerous thing to leave around the house where the sun can get to it. Recently he discovered a piece of wood burning on a neighbors back porch. He checked and found a jug of water placed just right for the sun rays to slant through where it set the wood on fire. He picked the wood up and it broke into a blaze.

The Sunbury PTA under the direction of the president, Mrs. William P. Hudgins has done an outstanding job during the past year, to promote highway safety. During the school term the organization sponsored a contest among students using safety as the theme and now they have mailed out a quiz to school patrons designed to better acquaint everyone with the Governor's safety campaign. Printers who print "Your Home Newspaper" are best equipped to fill all your printing requirements—they will appreciate your orders.