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CHANNEL BASS TAKEN IN NETS NEAR HATTERAS

The Old Red Drumfish Are Showing Up, Promising Happy April Opening

Channel bass were being caught in Hatteras pound nets this week. Since they were the first of the season, the news was of particular interest to Dare Coast charter boat skippers, operating from Manteo, Nags Head and Wanchese, who take out hundreds of anglers daily after the big run of big channel bass arrive at Oregon Inlet.

Taking channel bass in the pound nets set for shad in Pamlico Sound usually begins about three weeks before the big game fish strike in here at Oregon Inlet. Last year the first of the season to be taken with rod and reel at Oregon Inlet was on March 30. The previous year the big run did not start until mid April, but usually the first catch is made during the last week of March.

Channel bass fishing here after the run begins is "big business." It literally means the beginning of the vacation season on the Dare coast because the run continues until May when early "summer" vacationists start arriving at Nags Head and the other Dare beaches.

Channel bass skippers usually charge \$35 daily for an inlet charter. There are approximately 50 boats in the fishing fleet catering to anglers, some of them being ordinary commercial fishing boats, when the big run is at a peak and anglers have difficulty finding a regular party charter craft.

About the same time the big channel bass start taking trolled artificial lures at Oregon Inlet, they can be taken in a similar manner by anglers at Hatteras Inlet. But usually the most popular way of taking channel bass in the Hatteras-Buxton area is by surfcasting with cut bait along the beaches.

In the outdoor sporting world, channel bass fishing at Hatteras, Buxton and Oregon Inlet is nationally famous. Anglers from this and adjoining states and from all over eastern America come here during the big Spring run to match their skill against the copper-colored fighters.

DEMONSTRATION ON THE UTILITY ROOM

Wilkinson Club Members Looking Forward to District Meet; Music Appreciation Stressed

The utility room, one room every woman should have in her home, was the demonstration very aptly given by Miss Emma McArthur, Assistant Home Agent, for the February meeting of the Wilkinson Home Demonstration Club. It was a very fitting demonstration, as the club met with Mrs. Hugh Crumpler in her new home, for details of which the Home Agents had helped to plan. Mrs. William Russ was co-hostess. Mrs. Bernice Laughinghouse presided. The group sang "America." Mrs. J. H. Bishop, Sr., read the devotional. All prayed the Lord's Prayer. Several book reports were given. Interest was shown in the District Federation meeting, to be held in Washington in April. The women all want to become more music conscious and are making plans to enable them to do so during the social hour refreshments were served.

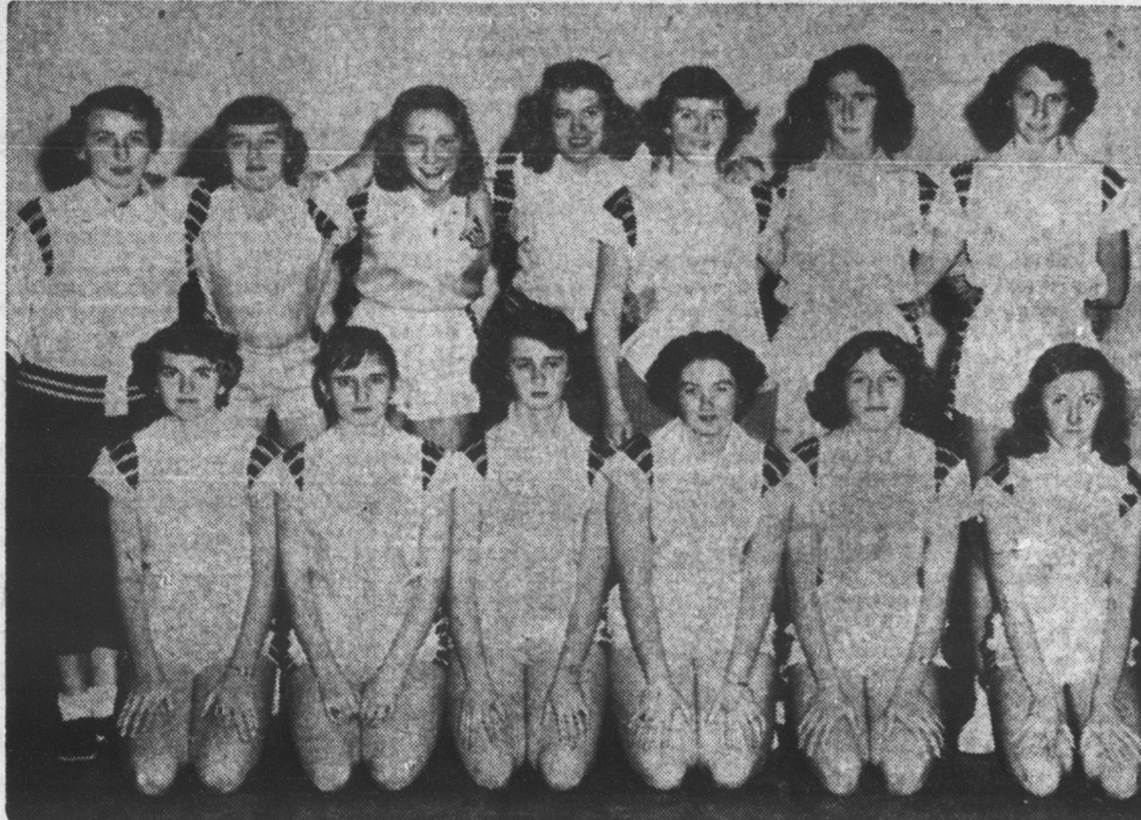
A. W. DRINKWATER NAMED WRECK COMMISSIONER

A. W. Drinkwater of Manteo last week was appointed Wreck Commissioner for the whole of Dare County by Governor Scott. He will have charge of the disposition of marine wreckage, including ships and cargoes. A small commission on sales is the only reimbursement for this office. In the old days of wooden ships and many wrecks, the office meant a real deal, and there were several commissioners along the coast. Mr. Drinkwater's first responsibility as the sale Wednesday of some materials that recently came ashore from a ship wrecked near Hatteras.

CANCER CLINIC OPEN FIRST FRIDAY IN ELIZABETH CITY

The Cancer Clinic of Elizabeth City will be open to the public on the first Friday of each month at 2:30 p. m., Mrs. W. A. Hoggard advises. The next clinic will be Friday of this week, March 7th, at the health Department.

MANTEO GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM TO COMPETE IN STATE FINALS



The Manteo girls' basketball team will go to Southern Pines next week to compete in the state finals, after winning 19 straight games this year, coming up with the rural Albemarle tournament title. Sixteen teams have been picked in North Carolina to play in the games at Southern Pines. These are the sixteen teams with the best records. Manteo will play Aberdeen on Monday night, March 10, and excitement is running high among fans. Coach Adrian O. Ayers has backed this team with many years experience in coaching, and fans expect the girls to finish up at Southern Pines with another good record.

The players, left to right are: (kneeling) Loreta Midgett, Tracy Midgett, Annie Laurie Kee, Joyce Stetson, Linda Gaskill, Marie Etheridge (standing) Jackie Forehand, Carolyn Gaskill, Betty Rae Rogers, Jane Midgett, Betty Alice Skinner, Edna Dowdy, and Darlene O'Neal.

PTA MEETING HAS LARGE ATTENDANCE

Fathers, Urged to Attend, Made Up About One Third of Those Present

Approximately 100 parents, teachers and other Manteo citizens attended the March meeting of the Manteo Parent-Teacher Association, which was held Tuesday night in the school auditorium. A special effort had been made to get the fathers to attend this meeting, and about one third of the total attendance was made up of men. The attendance banner went to the twelfth grade, for having the most fathers present.

A skit entitled "High Pressure Area," and dealing with the teenage problem, was presented by Mrs. G. G. Bonner. Those taking part were Mrs. Bonner, Robert Ballance, Betty Rae Rogers and Marie Etheridge. This was presented in the manner of a radio program, with Mrs. H. K. Tugwell as director.

Hostesses for the teen-age center, which is a PTA project, made a plea for additional volunteer hostesses. Several offered their services, but a good many more could still be used.

Mrs. Raymond Wescott, president, appointed the following nominating committee to present a slate of officers for election at the April meeting: Mrs. G. G. Bonner, chairman; Mrs. R. D. Sawyer, Mrs. Amos Daniels, Mrs. H. K. Tugwell and Mrs. Edna Bell.

Mrs. A. Q. Bell was chairman of the hospitality committee, and was at the door to welcome guests. She was also responsible for stage decorations, which were of camellias, jonquils and flowering quince.

Open house was held, and parents visited the classrooms.

Mrs. L. D. Hassell was in charge of the refreshment committee, and with other members of the committee served pie, ice cream and coffee in the lunch room.

EVENING OF MUSIC FILLS AUDITORIUM

Enthusiastic Audience Hears Program By Local Musicians

A capacity audience filled the Manteo School auditorium Saturday evening to hear the musical program sponsored by Roanoke Island Music Club. Charlie (Dr. C. N.) Wright of Jarvisburg, at the organ; and Dick Jordan of Nags Head at the piano provided the greater part of the entertainment, playing both separately and together a number of selections semi-classical and popular. The Manteo Rotary Quartette, John H. Long, Julian Oneto, Ralph and Lawrence Swain, rendered several novelty numbers. Julian and Lima (Mrs. Julian) Oneto sang "Indian Love Call" and Mrs. Oneto in Irish costume sang "Mickey." The finale was an Irish number in costume, featuring the entire cast with Mrs. Oneto as soloist.

KITTY HAWK P. T. A. SPONSORS SQ. DANCE

The Kitty Hawk P. T. A. is sponsoring a square dance Saturday, March 8, 1952 at 8:00 at the Kitty Hawk school. The figures for the dance will be called by the experienced callers, Mr. and Mrs. David Stick. There will be refreshments for sale including home made pies and cakes. The feature of the evening will be C. O. D. packages selling for a 25 cents but worth much more.

ISLANDER WHO MADE GOOD IN NEW YORK



Among the several colored men of Roanoke Island who have gone away and made good is Richard G. Pigford, who for 27 years has been in New York City and holds a responsible position in the Postoffice Department. He has several brothers and sisters in Manteo and vicinity, and his father, the late Richard Senior is well remembered as a Coast Guard of Pea Island Station. In October 1924 after finishing school at Shaw University, Raleigh, he went to New York and got a job as a porter in the subway and attended New York University at night; He had just married and it was tough going, but he finished a business course in a year and in November of 1925 passed his examination for postoffice clerk. He has worked up to a salary of better than \$4,300 a year and is buying a modern home in Jamaica, Long Island. He is active in public affairs, and last year took part in a play or operette to raise funds for postal employees who got in need through illness. The play last year was called HMS Pinafore, and Richard's part was Billy Bobstay, Boatswain, as he is shown in the picture above. He looks like a mighty salty character in keeping with the surroundings from which he grew up. This group gave over \$3,000 for their worthy cause last year. They are now working on an operetta and will give "The Pirate of Pinarus."

POLITICS DRAG SLOWLY ALONG IN DARE COUNTY

Two Candidates for House, One for Commissioner; One Prospect for Education.

Few people are breaking their necks for political office so far in Dare County this season. First candidate was representative R. Bruce Etheridge who wants to go back to Raleigh. He is being opposed by Dewey Hayman of Nags Head who represented the county in 1949. Mr. Hayman came out today. Mr. Etheridge has been in the field for a month.

James Scarborough of Avon announces for County Commissioner again, to serve from Kennebec Township. That represents the crop of candidates to date, save for Dave O'Neal of Avon, who is casting a wistful eye toward the Board of Education post now held by Ellis Gray. Dave feels pretty sure he will run, having served with pleasure for 20 years as school committee, Deputy Sheriff, policeman, registrar, etc. He is widely known all over the Outer Banks.

Rumors have it that Chairman Walter Perry of the Board of Education may run for the Board of Commissioners. This post is now held by Hallett Perry of Kitty Hawk who says he won't run anymore.

KILLER WHALE MAY HAVE SLAYED STRANDED FINBACK

Duck, N. C.—A pack of killer whales, most vicious members of the whale family may have been responsible for the death of a giant finback of the species now beginning to ripen on the beach near Caffey's Inlet Coast Guard Station.

That is the opinion of Dr. Henry Kritsler, director, Duke University Marine Laboratory, Beaufort, who came here this week to make a scientific study of the 40-ton, or more, carcass of a whale that washed ashore during the recent storm. More than half covered in the gravelly sands of the area, there is a very distinct wound on the body, close to the right eye, of the 54 or more feet still visible.

Woodson Midgett thought the whale's death was due to its having been struck by a moving ship.

"Killer whales usually attack their larger relatives in packs, ripping at their tongues or in the vicinity of their eyes and great toothless mouths," said Dr. Kritsler.

The Duke Marine Lab director knows a lot about whales, but is an expert on the bottle-nose dolphin or porpoise. For several years prior to becoming associated with Duke University he had been attached to Marine Studio in Marine-land, Florida—the place often pictured showing porpoise eating fish from the hands of tourists.

"Finbacks are the fastest swimming whales known. In the old days of sailing ships, whalers seldom killed finbacks with their hand-harpoons thrown from slow moving row boats. Today however, this is one of the principal species taken with modern harpoon guns and fast attack boats operating from whaling ships," he explained. See WHALES, Page 4

DEEPER WATER FOR HATTERAS AND ENGELHARD

Rollinson Channel and Far Creek to Be Dredged At Early Date

The dredging of Rollinson Channel at Hatteras and Far Creek at Engelhard is to be completed at an early date. Congressman Herbert Bonner, who has closely followed these projects, advises that Col. R. C. Brown of the Corp of Engineers of Wilmington has notified him as follows:

"Contracts have been let for the maintenance dredging . . . on both projects . . . and it is expected the dredging will be started in Rollinson Channel, within 30 days and at Far Creek within 60 days."

FRED GRAY FINDS WOMAN'S LEG IN SURF NEAR AVON

Salty Old Coast Guard Frig-htened By Strang Relic He Brings Drinkwater

Avon.—This picturesque village of Manns Harbor, one of the best known salesmen along the North Carolina coast for many years, died Thursday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ray Ives in Elizabeth City, following a severe illness of several months. He had been in poor health for several years, and was first stricken about four years ago while on a visit to Hatteras, campaigning for Governor Scott. He was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, and a member of the Red Men and the Ruritan Club of Manns Harbor. He had served as Sunday school Superintendent, helped in the choir, and took part in all community endeavors. He had made his home variously in Elizabeth City, Manteo, Engelhard, and in Manns Harbor where he ran a store business for some time. He had traveled for wholesale grocers, and for several years worked for Jones Wholesale Co. in Manteo. His parents were the late Stanford L. and Cynthia Tillett Fulcher of Manns Harbor. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lizzie Burrus Fulcher, two daughters, Mrs. Ives and Mrs. Russell Langley of Norfolk, and by one son, Woodrow T. Fulcher of the Coast Guard, now stationed in California. Also by three sisters, Mrs. Allan Gibbs of Elizabeth City, Mrs. Elma Mann of Manteo, Mrs. Fred Johnson of Manns Harbor; several grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

Driving along the highwater mark of the beach a few weeks ago Gray saw what at first glance appeared to be the lower limb of a human body. But the next breaker brought the object ashore, and while it was definitely a limb, there was no body attached. Then as he started to retrieve the leg he discovered it was artificial—made of metal.

Asked what was the first thing he thought after picking up the leg, Gray said, "Well, I scanned the beach to see if there might be a one-legged body ashore nearby and then I thought of Long John Silver."

"I believe I sort of remarked to myself, 'it couldn't be Long John Silver's artificial leg, because his was a peg-leg.'"

(Long John Silver in Stevenson's "Treasure Island" was the one-legged pirate who sailed as sea-cook aboard the Hispaniola, but appeared in his true colors later when he headed the mutiny and ran up the Jolly Roger.)

"A lot of things have been found washed ashore on our beach, but this was the first time myself and neighbors had ever heard of an artificial leg washing ashore," declared Gray.

"It was a right leg and shapely—something like some of those shown in photographs you have made of bathing beauties," he said. "What did you do with it?" I asked.

"Since no one around here had any use for it, I left it at Drinkwater's house in Manteo. He collects things, you know."

LAST CONFEDERATE WIDOW DIES IN DARE CO.

Mrs. Olive Frances Barnetté, 84, died Sunday afternoon at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. D. Hayman, at Wanchese at 3:15 o'clock after a lingering illness.

She was a native of Buxton but had been living at Wanchese for the past 14 years. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Abner Gray and wife of the late James J. Barnetté and a member of the Wanchese Methodist Church.

Her husband, who died in his late nineties about 15 years ago, had served in both the confederate Army and Navy. He was a distinguished citizen of Dare County.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. J. D. Hayman of Wanchese and Mrs. Mary E. Hackert of Charlotte; two sons, Horace Barnetté of Corolla, and Samuel L. Barnetté of Blumes Island, Md.; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Wanchese Methodist Church by the Rev. C. W. Guthrie, pastor. Burial was in the Cudworth Cemetery at Wanchese. The body lay in state at the church one hour prior to the service.

CAFE NOW OPEN AT MANTEO AIRPORT

To serve the flying public in particular, and tourists travelling by ferry across Croatan Sound, the Manteo Airport Cafe has been leased by Bill Meekins of Manteo, and opened for business on March 1. The cafe will be in position to serve seafood, barbecue, steaks and chops.

END COMES THURS. FOR WELL KNOWN SALESMAN



Charles R. Fulcher, 66, of Manns Harbor, one of the best known salesmen along the North Carolina coast for many years, died Thursday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Ray Ives in Elizabeth City, following a severe illness of several months. He had been in poor health for several years, and was first stricken about four years ago while on a visit to Hatteras, campaigning for Governor Scott. He was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, and a member of the Red Men and the Ruritan Club of Manns Harbor. He had served as Sunday school Superintendent, helped in the choir, and took part in all community endeavors. He had made his home variously in Elizabeth City, Manteo, Engelhard, and in Manns Harbor where he ran a store business for some time. He had traveled for wholesale grocers, and for several years worked for Jones Wholesale Co. in Manteo. His parents were the late Stanford L. and Cynthia Tillett Fulcher of Manns Harbor. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Lizzie Burrus Fulcher, two daughters, Mrs. Ives and Mrs. Russell Langley of Norfolk, and by one son, Woodrow T. Fulcher of the Coast Guard, now stationed in California. Also by three sisters, Mrs. Allan Gibbs of Elizabeth City, Mrs. Elma Mann of Manteo, Mrs. Fred Johnson of Manns Harbor; several grandchildren, nephews and nieces.

OIL SOAKED GANNETS IN PITIFUL FLIGHT

A dozen or more oil-soaked sea gannets were hobbling along the beach between Jettette's Pier and Oregon Inlet early this week. They had been washed ashore during the stormy weather last.

Harry Davis at the State Museum was notified about the situation but there was nothing he could do.

The gannets had probably gotten soaked with oil while diving for herring or menhaden in the wake of some ship that had pumped its bilges off the coast.

These seafoam, once known as Solan Geese, which early writers averred were hatched from barnacles, are solid white except for yellowish neck feathers and black wingtips. They have a wingspread of six feet or more and they are the only North Atlantic members of the Booby family.

RETURNS TO DUTY WITH AIR FORCE



CORPORAL KENNETH CLAY TILLETT, of the U. S. Air Force, left Monday for Randolph Field, San Antonio, Texas after spending the weekend with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Tillett, at Kitty Hawk. Young Tillett graduated from Kitty Hawk High School on June 6, 1951, and on June 7, went to Raleigh for induction into the Air Force. Stationed for a time in Texas, Corporal Tillett was later sent to Denver, Colorado. Being transferred from Denver back to Texas, he came home for a short visit.

FISHING INDUSTRY SHOWING PROFITS THRU FEBRUARY

Manns Harbor and Wanchese Report Good Catches; Few Rigs Active

Commercial fishing would be mighty good in most sections that usually depend on pound nets, judging from the record up through March 3. The trouble is, not many people are engaged in commercial fishing, as compared with the good old days.

Shad fishing at both Wanchese and Manns Harbor has been admittedly good, according to fishermen of these communities. Catches in pound nets have run up to more than 40 shad a day in many instances, including Monday of this week. Ralph Meekins of Wanchese caught over 500 shad Monday in a long net rig.

But the trouble is now that where there were once 50 rigs fishing out of Wanchese in Pamlico Sound, there are now barely a half dozen. In Stumpy Point, famed as the shad capital, there are now less than a dozen rigs working, as compared with more than 50 rigs 12 or 15 years ago. Decline of income from the commercial fishing business, followed then by the entire community, has caused most of the fishermen to engage in other work.

Stumpy Point fishermen along with Hatteras fishermen says the season with them has been poor. Good catches of shad have been reported from Albemarle Sound in the region of Columbia and Edenton. Of course there are six more weeks of fishing, the season is not half over, the prices have been good so far. As the season progresses, shad are expected to fall rapidly in prices. If a few of the fishermen don't go haywire again and ask for an extension of the shad season right at a time when the fish are not worth catching, but would be mighty valuable if allowed to spawn, they may hope for a big increase in shad output in a year or two. This being a political year however, it may be for sake of a few votes the wasteful catching of shad after the usual season, will be permitted again.

SPRING FEDERATION FOR DARE HD CLUBS

Kitty and Duck Hostesses to County Clubs on March 19 at Kitty Hawk

The Kitty Hawk and Duck Home Demonstration Clubs will be hostesses to the Dare County Spring Federation Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, at Kitty Hawk High School. Lunch will be served by the two clubs at 12:00 noon at 75¢ per plate and the meeting will begin as soon as lunch is served.

Mrs. Corinne Grimsley, Family Life Specialist at State College, will be the guest speaker. Many club women in Dare already know Mrs. Grimsley and will be happy to hear her again.

A bus will be chartered to Kitty Hawk for the women from the Outer Banks. It will leave Hatteras at 8:00 a. m. and return on the 4:45 p. m. ferry.

All members are urged to attend the meeting at Kitty Hawk.

PORPOISE ROUNDUP ATTRACTS ATTENTION

Kitty Hawk.—When commercial fishermen appeared before Kitty Hawk Civic Club recently and asked that something be done to rid Currituck Sound of a school of porpoise, they really started a story that gains momentum from day to day. Within two weeks after the first story about the porpoise was published, the State Wildlife Resources Commission officials began riding herd on the herd of sea mammals.

In the meantime LIFE Magazine sent two photographers here to cover the story—which has not developed into much of a story from a photographic standpoint yet. That is because the porpoise and unfavorable weather combined have been able to evade the hunters who would drive them south of Wright Memorial Bridge. On Thursday, National Broadcasting Company's TV cameraman in the Norfolk area, was assigned to the story.

50 YEARS OF WEATHER DATA COMPILED BY R. B. DAILEY

A summary of weather information for the past 50 years by Richard B. Dailey of Hatteras has recently been completed, and is a valuable source of information for anyone who wishes a handy reference for month by month temperature and rainfall tables. It will come in handy to settle disputes about the mild weather that prevails on the coast at Hatteras.