

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE WALTER RALEIGH COASTLAND OF NORTH CAROLINA

VOLUME XVII — NO. 41

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1952

Single Copy 7¢

## DARE'S FAME IS TOLD IN CHICAGO BY C. CRITTENDEN

State's History Director Accepts Fessenden Award

Chicago.— The election to radio's "Hall of Fame" of Reginald A Fessenden, inventor and pioneer in wireless telegraphy, was announced Tuesday at the annual dinner of the Radio Pioneers Club at the Conrad-Hilton Hotel. The award honoring Fessenden, whose experiments on Roanoke Island, North Carolina, took place just fifty years ago, was made by Carl Haverlin, president of Broadcast Music, Inc. It was accepted on behalf of the Fessenden National Memorial Association by Dr. Christopher Crittenden, director of the North Carolina Department of Archives and History.

In accepting the award, Dr. Crittenden pointed out the pioneer role which Dare County, North Carolina, has played in history. Within the present limits of that county were located the first English colonies in the New World, sent over by Sir Walter Raleigh in the 1580's. There in 1903 the Wright brothers made the world's first airplane flight. And there Fessenden conducted his noted experiments.

Fessenden was born October 6, 1866, in East Bolton, Quebec, Canada. In 1900 he resigned as professor of electrical engineering at the University of Pittsburgh to undertake research in wireless telegraphy under the United States Weather Bureau. With headquarters near Manteo, North Carolina, he conducted experiments in 1901-02 which established wireless communication between Roanoke Island and Cape Hatteras, the greatest distance then spanned by the new telegraphy.

In 1906 Fessenden produced the first transatlantic radio communication by sending a message from Brant Rock, Massachusetts, to Machrihanish, Scotland. That same year he sent out from Brant Rock what is said to have been the first broadcast of speech and music ever made.

The Radio Pioneers Club, organized in 1942, is composed of veterans of more than twenty years in the industry. Herbert Hoover is honorary chairman and Mr. Haverlin the retiring president. In 1950 the club established the "Hall of Fame" to honor deceased persons who have "made great contributions to the cause of radio and broadcasting." Previous recipients of the honor have been Thomas A. Edison and Guglielmo Marconi.

In 1944 the manuscripts of Fessenden relating to his inventions and patents were presented to the Association and placed in the North Carolina Department of Archives and History by the inventor's son, Reginald K. Fessenden. These valuable archives pertaining to the early days of radio fill 56 cubic feet in 24 filing drawers and 4 wooden boxes.

Although Fessenden received several hundred radio patents, his experiments were not confined to that field. Among other inventions generally credited to him are the radio compass, the fathometer or sonic depth finder and several submarine signaling devices, the smoke-cloud for tanks, and the turbo-electric drive for battleships. In defense of his patent rights he was often involved in complicated and time consuming law suits during the latter years of his life.

The Fessenden National Memorial Association was established in August, 1941, at Washington, D. C., with R. Bruce Etheridge, President, Miles Clark, Roy Davis and Mrs. Roxie Atkinson, Vice Presidents. Victor Meekins, Secretary, and Martin Kellogg, Jr., Treasurer. All except Mr. Clark, a resident of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, are citizens of Dare County. Among the other charter members are Dr. Crittenden and Mrs. Agnes L. Starrett of the University of Pittsburgh. The Association's plan to erect a monument to Fessenden on the site of his wireless station on Roanoke Island was delayed by the outbreak of World War II.

Shortly before his death in 1946 Colonel Fessenden established a trust fund to aid the memorial to his father. At a meeting in Manteo on March 23, 1952, plans were made to revive the project during the fiftieth anniversary year of the successful experiments at Roanoke Island.

## CANCER CLINIC TODAY

The Cancer Clinic in Elizabeth City, which is held each month on the first Friday, will be held today, Friday, April 4th, at the Health Department office.

## KNOW YOUR SCHOOLS

By MABEL EVANS JONES

A teacher talking with enthusiasm about accomplishments in her school this year, said, "I think the folks interested in children and their development would appreciate knowing these good things done but I personally hesitate as one of the teachers to have the facts published."

Her comments prompted some visits and inquiries, the results of which will be told as the visits to the various schools of the county come about, taking Manteo and the Roanoke Schools first, then Wanchese and Manns Harbor, followed by Kitty Hawk and the South Banks Schools.

Recently Manteo High School's dramatic talent presented a play at the Greenville Play Festival, Eastern Carolina College. Four high schools, of which Manteo had the smallest enrollment, entered the festival along with college dramatic clubs, private schools of speech and church groups. Among the plays produced and evaluated on a non-competitive basis, the Manteo production stood with the highest. During the coming school weeks both the junior and senior classes are to present a play. The school believes that with the wide field open to youth in radio, television, movies, the theater, and wide use of cultivated speech, the play production training has a basis of deep importance.

The classes from grade eight through high school have had creative writing as a feature in their English work. The eighth grade will soon present for parents and friends a group of plays they have written. From the junior and senior classes articles and stories sent to The English Teacher's Journal have been highly evaluated.

The typing class of the school has kept an enrollment of thirty since its beginning and has been developed through the efforts of the teachers and a fine spirited mother, Mrs. Granbery Dowdy. This might be the beginning of a hoped-for accredited course in business education.

A stimulating senior trip to N. C. universities and colleges was a part of the high school's efforts for the last week end. The successes of the basketball teams of the school, and especially that of the girls' team, is almost an old story now, but a pleasing one to look back on.

For informational teaching in all the grades the school now owns and uses a classroom projector for educational filmstrips, also a moving picture projector with sound track for educational pictures.

On the school grounds is being constructed a primary school to be equipped for the most approved teaching of the times. Visions of a better looking athletic field and better general appearance of the school plant, are widely expressed. Likewise the contributions of a good P. T. A. and a successful luncheon, to the welfare of school was granted genuine appreciation.

At the Roanoke School for the colored children a new building is rapidly going up. It will provide in a modern way for classrooms, lunchroom and a general purpose room that could be converted into a classroom to meet any growing needs. The old school has been moved to an adjoining lot and when no longer needed for classroom teaching will be remodeled for an auditorium and community center. The community's interest and appreciation is marked.

## POPULAR BRANCH MERCHANT WAS NATIVE OF NAGS HEAD

John Willis Tillett, 65, died Wednesday morning at his home at Poplar Branch at 5:10 o'clock after a short illness. He was a beloved citizen and well-known throughout Northeastern North Carolina. He was a native of Nags Head but had been living at Poplar Branch for the past 41 years. He was the son of the late Easter Holly and John W. Tillett, husband of Mrs. Kathryn Kent Tillett; a member of the Ebenezer Methodist Church at Aydtlett; a member of the Coinjock Masonic Lodge No. 463 A.F. & A.M. and a well known merchant. Besides his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. S. L. Dennis of Brigantine, N. J.; one son, Paul V. Tillett of Boston, Mass.; one sister, Mrs. R. S. Chapman of Smithfield, Va.; two half-brothers, Will Twiford of Norfolk, Va., and Lewis Twiford of Coinjock; two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

## SMITH CHARGES TAX LOAD IS TOO HEAVY FOR US

North Carolina Gets Back Only One Dollar in Ten

Washington.— Senator Willis Smith (D-NC) charged this week that the federal government "cannot begin to justify the tax load thrust upon the American people" and warned that "unless there is an immediate return to the principles of self-sacrifice and self-reliance, the lights of liberty will flicker into darkness."

The Senator said, however, that certain members of Congress share with the administration the responsibility.

Smith invited attention to government expenditures during the past ten years, which, he said, "show that the administration has spent far more in pursuit of its give-away policy abroad and its socialistic schemes at home than was spent winning World War II." North Carolinians, Smith said, paid \$1,257,159,936 in taxes to the federal government in 1951. He said that for every dollar North Carolina received from the federal government in grants-in-aid and otherwise, the citizens of the state paid to the government about ten dollars.

Senator Smith said that one-third of the individual income in North Carolina went to the federal government in taxes. And, he said, that does not include "hidden taxes."

He said that since 1941, the total individual incomes in North Carolina had little more than doubled. But the tax load upon North Carolina citizens last year was four times as great as in 1941.

The Senator cited these figures: In 1941, the total individual income in North Carolina was roughly a billion and a half dollars. Last year it was about three and a half billion. In 1941, the federal tax collections in North Carolina totaled less than 394 millions of dollars. Last year, federal taxes collected in North Carolina totaled more than a billion and a quarter dollars.

Our national expenditures, Senator Smith said, are 50 per cent higher today than in 1944, the most costly year of the war. And taxes have increased in almost exactly the same proportion, he said.

"The complacent road to centralized and socialized government," Smith said, "leads only to the complete loss of personal liberty."

Smith conceded that "certain members" of Congress were "parties to the crimes of waste and extravagance." He suggested that every citizen should familiarize himself with the voting records of his Senators and Representatives.

## MRS. ADA MANN DOXEY

Mrs. Ada Mann Doxey, wife of Henry G. Doxey and daughter of Augustus O. and Laura Ann Midgett Mann, died at the residence, 301 Avon Road, Norfolk, Monday.

Besides her husband she is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Ralph H. Oates, of Norfolk; four sisters, Mrs. Arthur Dowdy, of Princess Anne County, Mrs. R. L. Cartwright, of Norfolk; Mrs. P. W. Hollingsworth, of Newport News and Mrs. H. S. Barnham, of Virginia Beach; two brothers, E. B. Mann, of Ocean Park and J. E. Mann, of Norfolk, and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Doxey was a native of Manns Harbor and had been a resident of Norfolk for 12 years. She was a member of the Temple Baptist Church and Coinjock Chapter OES.

## GORDON RIDDICK, COM'DR. VETERANS FOREIGN WAR

Gordon Riddick of Manteo last Thursday night was elected Commander of Dare County Post 9959 VFW at its regular meeting in the Post Hall at the Manteo Airport. Nick Sapone was elected vice-commander; Frank Ausband, Adjutant; Robert Shannon, Quartermaster. Trustees are Dan Lewark, Edison Meekins and Henry Edens. The club is planning to move into the Wahab Building in Manteo at an early date, with upstairs quarters formerly occupied by Donald Gordon's offices.

The new Commander succeeds J. L. Newman. He served in World War II on the European front.

## RABIES VACCINATION NEXT WEEK ON ISLAND

M. C. Mitchell, rabies inspector, announces that he will vaccinate dogs in Wanchese Thursday, April 10, and in Manteo April 11 and 12. All persons owning dogs are required by law to have them vaccinated.

## BONNER OUTLINES SENSIBLE PLAN TO HELP NATION

First District Congressman Presents Masterful Brief in Armed Services Statement

The statement of congressman Herbert C. Bonner of North Carolina, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Inter-governmental Relations of the Expenditures Committee of the House of Representatives, based on 152 hours of hearings and 50-odd hours of personal inspection within the United States and around the world where our military forces are established. Mr. Bonner was accompanied in his appearance before the Armed Services Subcommittee on Appropriations of the Appropriations Committee of the House.

Mr. Chairman: This is not the report of our Subcommittee, but it is my personal statement to your committee based on the above hearings. Our Subcommittee of the Expenditures Committee is pleased to be invited to appear here today. There is every need today for closest cooperation among the committees of Congress.

We have been studying the problems of military supply management in the zone of the interior as well as overseas. We fully believe that savings of billions of dollars can be made if federal management practices are brought to handling of military supply.

We may as well face it; the so-called unification act has misfired. Now we have three independent competing departments where before we had two.

You are interested in how much of a cut can be made in the present military budget. You are also interested in where these cuts can take place. I should like to say that based on my observations to date I can support a 10 per cent cut across the board. I believe this cut can be made without even drawing blood. I say this with full knowledge that any cut is a decision of policy affecting the striking force of the military establishment. I believe such a cut instead of rendering the military less effective will actually result in improvement of our national defense efforts.

In every appearance of the Secretary of Defense before our Subcommittee upon cross-examination he insisted that he had sufficient authority under the law to "eliminate duplication and over-lapping" as contemplated under the National Security Act of 1947. Since he needs no further legislative assistance we can only conclude that the administration of the Department of Defense whatever its quality is his responsibility.

Therefore, it appears at this time that the best method would be to slash the budget 10 per cent and put the responsibility squarely on him to carry out the intent of the law. If he reads the newspapers and if he studies his reports, he will have plenty of material for knocking heads together.

The Secretary can carry out this administration based on such a budget if he insists on uniformity of forms, procedures, and policies. He must assign priority of importance to projects and commodities. The era of coin-flipping must end. I know you gentlemen are interested probably in specifics where the Secretary might show a little energy. I shall try to give you a few. In stating them I should like to tell the Committee that in our recent overseas study we explained our mission to General Eisenhower and asked his comments based on his field experience. He wholeheartedly supported our views in spite and gave us freedom to quote him as saying "unification can work if a Secretary of Defense has guts." With regard to the specifics, we are convinced that the planning and implementation of a separate Air Force supply system for common-use items is an unconscionable burden on the taxpayers at this time. The vast construction program they contemplate for such a supply system, which is needless, is under way, whether the Secretary of Defense knows it or not. The Army is giving adequate support to the Air Force in these times. However, to cite an instance, in Alaska where adequate Army storage is available the Air Force is taking steps to build a new warehouse—a small item of \$800,000. In Okinawa the Air Force is planning a large depot expansion program, where adequate Army warehousing exists. In Okinawa, also, we saw personnel housing costing \$22,000 per unit being erected along side buildings of a local corporation of superior design costing 50 per cent less.

During the last war the Army Service Forces centralized the efforts of the Army Tech Services. This resulted in better requirements determinations, coordinated

See BONNER, Page 5

## BONNER'S VIEWS AIRED



HERBERT C. BONNER, First District Representative in Congress whose interesting brief about federal affairs is published today, and commended to our readers.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION WORKSHOP NEXT WEEK

Teachers of Dare School System To Have Instruction On Recreation

Taylor Dodson, Adviser in Physical and Health Education, State Department of Public Instruction, and Miss Helen Stuart of the School Health Coordinating Service, will conduct a Physical Education and Recreation Workshop in Dare county, beginning Tuesday morning, April 8.

The following schedule will probably be followed:  
North of Oregon Inlet  
April 8, 9

Miss Stuart and Mr. Dodson will visit as many of the schools as possible Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. On Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, beginning at 2:00 p. m., all teachers, north of the Inlet, will meet at the Manteo school. Miss Stuart and Mr. Dodson will conduct the entire workshop and will bring with them all necessary equipment. In order for teachers on the mainland to catch the 4:45 p. m. ferry, these meetings will begin at 2:00 p. m.  
South of Oregon Inlet  
April 10, 11

Mrs. Evans will take Miss Stuart and Mr. Dodson down the banks on the first ferry Thursday morning. They will probably go to the Hatteras and Buxton schools first, then meet with the Avon and Rodanthe schools on Friday. On Thursday afternoon, at 2:00 p. m., a meeting of all teachers south of Oregon Inlet will be held at Hatteras school.

## OFFICERS INSTALLED BY WANCHESE OES

Mrs. Bonner and Mrs. Midgett Entertain at Supper for Outgoing and Incoming Officers

New officers were installed by the Wanchese Order of Eastern Star Monday night, March 31, in the Masonic Hall in Wanchese. Mrs. Blanche Twiford of Elizabeth City, past grand matron, was in charge of the installation service. Installing officers were Mrs. Elma Midgett, installing marshal; Mrs. Anne Tugwell, installing chaplain; Mrs. Dawn Midgett, installing conductress; and Mrs. Rosa Drinkwater, installing organist.

New officers are Mrs. Doris Boner, worthy matron; Edwin Midgett, worthy patron; Mrs. Doris Burrus, assistant matron; Raymond Wescott, assistant patron; Mrs. Jeanine Tillett, secretary; Mrs. Mary Isabel Midgett, conductress; Mrs. Hilda Ballance, assistant conductress; Mrs. Carrie Midgett, chaplain; Mrs. Lois Bridges, marshal; Mrs. Rosa Drinkwater, organist; Mrs. Hulda Wise, Adah; Mrs. Allene Cudworth, Ruth; Mrs. Mollie Daniels, Esther; Mrs. Helen Guthrie, Martha; Mrs. Elizabeth Daniels, Electa; Mrs. Irene Basnight, warden; and Mrs. Annabelle Midgett, sentinel.

During the social hour, the hostesses served punch, cookies, sandwiches, mints and nuts.

Prior to the meeting Mrs. Doris Bonner, newly-elected worthy matron, and Mrs. Dawn Midgett, outgoing worthy matron, entertained old and new officers, and Elizabeth City visitors, at a buffet supper at Mrs. Bonner's home in Manteo.

## SPAGHETTI SUPPER

The Manteo Womens Club is sponsoring a spaghetti supper to-night at the Mt. Olivet Methodist Church. Meals will be served from 5:30 to 9:00. Plates will be 75¢ for adults and 50¢ for children.

## SEEKING WATER SUPPLY FOR THE DARE BEACHES

For the past three weeks the Linberg Engineers, working with the Lane Atlantic Well-Drillers, engineers and the State Board of Health, have been drilling wells and making such other investigations as necessary to determine the amount and kind of water available adjacent to the fresh water lake for a public water supply for the Dare Beaches Sanitary District that was formed some time ago by the State Board of Health.

After results of tests and drillings have been analyzed by engineers together with state engineers, supplementary reports will be made to the sanitary district board, including recommendations as to the source of water supply for both domestic and firefighting purposes.

It has long been realized that for the fast growth of the Kitty Hawk, Nags Head and Kill Devil Hills community, the present system of sewage disposal on sand lot was not in keeping with good public health.

After it is determined by the Sanitary District as to what extent improvements will be made, said information will be submitted to voters living within the sanitary district, to see if the improvements are to be made.

A. C. Linberg, the Burlington engineer who has been engaged on the project, offers the following encouragement statement:

Engineers' advice according to tests made has been that the water supply is ample. In selecting well site, have selected west side of Fresh pond, because for a long time it will be protected from building by the pond on one side and high dunes on the other, thus lessening the danger of pollution. Also, as long as there is water in the pond, there will be plenty of water in the wells. Pond shore to be used for filtration.

## WANCHESE LOSES LAST OF A LARGE FAMILY

In the death Friday of Mrs. Mattie Tillett Midgett, 81, of Wanchese, there passed away the last of that large and prominent family of citizens, the children of the late Thomas C. and Sophia Daniels Tillett. Mrs. Midgett died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. James W. Davis. She was the widow of the late P. D. Midgett, a veteran member of the Coast Guard, and the mother of a prominent group of children.

She was a lifelong resident of Wanchese, a member of the Bethany Methodist Church and a chapter member of its W.S.C.S. She was also a member of the Order of Pochontas. The following children survive her: three daughters, Mrs. J. W. Davis, Mrs. Pete Daniels and Mrs. W. L. Daniels, all of Wanchese; three sons, P. D. Midgett, Jr., of Engelhard; A. Parker Midgett, of Elizabeth City; J. Barker Midgett, of Hillsboro; 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 3 p. m. from the Methodist Church by Rev. C. W. Guthrie. The body lay in state one and a half hours prior to the service.

Burial was in the Tillett Cemetery. "Jesus Lover of My Soul" was sung by the choir. A duet, "When the Mist Has Rolled Away" was sung by Mrs. James Gaskill and Mrs. Reggie Tillett. A solo, "Beyond the Sunset" was sung by Mrs. James Gaskill. "Asleep in Jesus" was sung by the choir at the grave. Rev. B. E. Bingham assisted Mr. Guthrie. Active pallbearers were her grandsons, Royce Daniels, Stewart Daniels, Marvin Daniels, Pete Poole Daniels, George Midgett, P. D. Midgett, III, and Robert Midgett. Honorary pallbearers were her nephews, C. S. Meekins, Casper Meekins, Raymond Meekins, Peter Tillett, Dallas Tillett, Crowder Tillett, J. B. Tillett, Reggie Tillett, Raph Tillett, Sr., and Dewey Tillett.

## MANTEO SENIORS VISIT COLLEGES LAST WEEK

Members of the senior class of Manteo High School spent last week end visiting on the campuses of N. C. State College, Raleigh; the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill; and Duke University, Durham. They also visited the state capitol, the state museum and other points of interest in Raleigh. On Friday night they attended the ice show at the Coliseum in Raleigh. They were chaperoned by Mrs. Desmond Rogers, W. H. Frye and Mr. Finch of the high school faculty.

## LANDING STRIP AT K. D. HILLS IS CONSIDERED

CAA and Park Service Officials Confer on Possibilities of New Project

A survey of possibilities for establishing a landing strip for airplanes at Kill Devil Hills was made briefly Wednesday by officials of the Civil Aeronautics Administration and the National Park Service.

The movement begun during the summer has aroused much interest. The project is tied in with plans for a museum.

Representing the CAA Wednesday were Joseph Norwood, District Airport Engineer of Wilmington and W. M. Turner, Chief Airport Planning Branch, Atlanta Regional Office.

Representing the National Park Service, from the Richmond office were: Scudder Griffin and Edmund J. Clancy, Landscape architects; and R. L. Lipscomb, Highway Engineer.

Capt. Horace A. Dough, Supt. of the K. D. H. Memorial also attended the site planning conference, and the party had lunch with Capt. and Mrs. Dough at their cottage near the hill.

## LITTLEJOHN BOOKED FOR THIS WEEK END

Nags Head Casino Bringing Popular Dance Band to Beach Saturday

"Another week end of Spring-time fun," says G. T. Westcott, "is in store for dance fans this Friday and Saturday. Bill Littlejohn and his Silhouettes have been booked for the Saturday night dance, and the dance floor will be open to all without charge Friday night.

The Littlejohn aggregation has made several appearances at the beach in the past, and have been well received.

The Casino opened its 1951 season two weeks ago with a colored revue, "Hot From Harlem," booked for the occasion. This group was well received, although the weather was cool. Last week end Bubbles Becker played at the Casino.

At the bingo this week end a major door prize will be awarded Saturday night, the winner having a choice of three items.

## 1952 RED CROSS CAMPAIGN CONTINUES FUND EFFORTS

The Dare County Red Cross Campaign for 1952 reached one third of its goal according to reports received during the past week. Nellie Farrow of Waves reported her community had oversubscribed its goal on April 1st; and Mrs. M. L. Burrus indicated that Hatteras would also make a substantial contribution for the 1952 Fund Campaign. These communities were the first making their reports this year.

Due to the increased needs of the Red Cross for disaster aid in the recent tornado which hit southern states, the 1952 Campaign Goal for the nation has been increased five millions of dollars, and local chapters are urged to oversubscribe their quotas to meet this new and pressing demand upon funds.

Fund Chairman McCown stated that workers are needed to cover the Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills, and Nags Head area. Anyone able to assist is asked to contact the Fund Chairman in Manteo. It was also reported that a concentrated effort in Manteo would be made in the coming week. Every citizen of Dare County, if not contacted personally, is urged to send his contribution direct to Red Cross Fund Chairman, Wallace McCown, in Manteo that we may give our continued support to the Red Cross.

## CHICKEN DINNER FOR REBEKAHS POSTPONED

The chicken dinner planned for the Manteo Rebekah Lodge for next Monday evening has been postponed until the next meeting, which will be on April 21, but the Rebekahs will meet next Monday evening at eight o'clock in the Town Hall. All members are urged to be present.

## ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH TO HAVE REVIVAL HERE

A revival will be held at the Assembly of God Church in Manteo beginning Tuesday night, April 8, at 7:30 each evening. Services will be conducted by Rev. G. E. Lawrence, son of the pastor, Rev. D. B. Lawrence. The visiting evangelist lives near Windsor. Services will continue for about two weeks.