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NEGOTIATIONS OF SEASHORE PARK LANDS IN 1953

Acquisition of Property to Begin in Manteo Office Early After Jan. 1

The Land Acquisition Office of the National Park Service, which was established in Manteo three months ago, will start actual negotiations for property in the Seashore Area soon after the first of the year. The acquisition office has been engaged in surveys, appraisals and title studies during this period. It is the hope of the National Park Service that all lands can be secured by negotiations with the property owner except those instances wherein it is necessary to resort to friendly court action to clear property titles. In addition to a small staff of Park Service personnel headed by Project Manager A. C. Stratton, the firm of Ehringhaus and Ehringhaus of Raleigh, is engaged in title studies. The property appraisals are being conducted by Government appraisers and the firm of Richard B. Hall of Washington, D. C.

A meeting of the North Carolina Cape Hatteras Seashore Commission has been called for 11 a.m. on December 22 to consider resolutions leading up to the transfer of State-owned lands to the National Park Service for the Cape Hatteras Seashore Project. At noon on that date, the Commission will meet with the Governor and Council of State and officials of the National Park Service at which time the transfer will take place.

The State-owned lands included in this transfer are the Cape Hatteras State Park at Buxton, several ungranted tracts and a number of tracts which have been acquired by donation for the Seashore Project during the past few years. The transfer of approximately 6,000 acres of State lands to the National Park Service together with the already Federally owned tracts will total over 12,000 acres of the 30,000 acres that are scheduled for acquisition. The National Park Service land acquisition office in Manteo is now engaged in securing the balance of the land within the boundaries designated and approved by Secretary of the Interior Chapman on October 27, 1952.

In connection with the transfer of lands to the Park Service, Project Manager A. C. Stratton has announced the first of several deeds of gift of land from persons interested in lending their support to the Project. This first gift direct to the Park Service was made by Mr. C. N. Keyser, Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Property deeded by Mr. Keyser is located near the village of Waves. Other donations of land are expected as the land acquisition portion of the project progresses.

MANTEO BOYS WIN STATE COLLEGE PROMOTIONS

The North Carolina State College of A & E, Air Force ROTC Headquarters at Raleigh, N. C., announces the appointment of Cadet Roger P. Meekins, as Cadet First Lieutenant in its corps of cadets numbering some 900 students at North Carolina State College.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. D. V. Meekins of Manteo.

Cadet Meekins is majoring in mechanical engineering and is taking a course of flight operations in the air force ROTC program and upon graduation in June 1954, will be commissioned in the United States Air Force Reserve as a second lieutenant.

The college also announces the appointment of Cadet Leigh DeLeon Hassell, Jr., as cadet second lieutenant.

Cadet Hassell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Hassell of Manteo, and is majoring in mechanical engineering and is taking a course of aircraft maintenance engineering in the Air Force ROTC program and upon graduation in December 1954, will be commissioned in the United States Air Force Reserve as a second lieutenant.

MUST GET PERMIT BEFORE BUILDING A SEPTIC TANK

On November 21 the Currituck-Dare District Board of Health conducted its quarterly meeting at which time Dr. W. W. Johnston stressed the dire need of a revised Septic Tank Ordinance. The new Ordinance was discussed at some length and was unanimously approved and passed by the members of the Board present.

The Ordinance in effect means that any firm, corporation, or person must secure a written permit from the local Board of Health before beginning the installation of any Septic Tank in Currituck and Dare Counties.

A GREAT LEADER PASSES OUT OF MANTEO'S LIFE



By BEN DIXON MacNEILL
Mrs. Rosa Gray Drinkwater, wife of Alpheus W. Drinkwater and in her own right one of the most widely influential and beloved women ever to live in Dare county, and for more than two score years a leader in the community's religious, civic and fraternal life, died at 11:29 o'clock in Albermarle Hospital, Elizabeth City after a series of massive cerebral hemorrhages which began before mid-day.

Conscious almost to the moment of her death Mrs. Drinkwater, though she must have realized the gravity of her condition better even than those around her, continued cheerful and she died, after an instant of apparently convulsive pain, her hand in the hands of her oldest daughter who was with her from the moment of the onset of the attack that ended her life. Also at her bedside was Dr. C. R. Brown of Manteo and Dr. W. W. Sawyer of Elizabeth City had just left the hospital in a hopeful mind about her recovery, provided she survived the initial stages of the attack.

Until the last night of her life Mrs. Drinkwater was active, in her home, in her community and on the last evening attended one of the organizations with which she was so long and influentially connected. She awoke feeling unwell Tuesday morning, with little energy for the day's duties, as she remarked to Mr. Drinkwater when she set about the day. He urged her to just take it easy and within two hours the first minor attack came on.

Physicians in attendance which also included Dr. W. W. Johnston were agreed that a massive hemorrhage at the base of the brain had occurred and might recur unless she was kept quiet. She was not alarmed, or if she were he gave no hint of it. Her last words as she was carried out of the house to an ambulance about 7:30 P. M., after a second and more severe attack, was that her birds and her indoor flowers of which she had hundreds, be attended to carefully.

Last week she had reserved two tickets for the annual Wright Memorial Dinner for Wednesday, an event she never missed and on Wednesday morning, feeling that it would be as she wished, the tickets were sent to J. W. Goodman, manager of Eastern Airlines, Raleigh Division who, a year ago, was host to Mr. and Mrs. Drinkwater on her first trip in the air and to New York. Mr. See LEADER, Page Ten

WATCHING SABRE JETS AT KILL DEVIL HILLS



A few of the spectators who craned their necks at the Wright Memorial pylon to watch three Sabre jets crack the "sonic barrier" at 20,000 feet yesterday.

HELICOPTER'S INVENTOR SEES HIS PLANES FLY AT AVIATION'S BIRTHPLACE



Virginian-Pilot Photo by Borjes

Igor I. Sikorsky, the man who made the rotary wing aircraft a reality, was told such a plan was fantastic, he told a Kill Devil Hills audience Wednesday. Here are three of the thousands that fly. Sikorsky was warmly praised for the plane's development, since it has held a special role in Outer Banks rescue operations.

SENATOR SMITH DIDN'T TRY TO SPEND IT ALL

This News From Washington Sounds Almost Too Good to Be True

WASHINGTON. — Despite the fact that 1952 was an almost unprecedented year for requests by constituents for assistance, the office of Senator Smith is turning back to the government almost 20 percent of the government funds allocated to it for operating expenses.

Senator Smith, an ardent advocate of economy in government, could have spent about \$13,000 more than he did in the operation of his office for the last fiscal period. But by careful selection of personnel and a close check on general expenses, the office operated at a minimum cost to the taxpayer.

Even so, the task of responding to, and assisting whenever possible, the nearly 50,000 Tar Heels who contacted Smith's office during the period cost a total of \$47,500 in round figures—including the Senator's salary which is set by law.

The maximum amount of money which a Senator's office may spend is based on the population of his State. North Carolina is in the brackets of States with populations ranging from three to five million people. Therefore, Smith See SMITH, Page Ten

MASONIC INSTALLATION IN MANTEO DEC. 19th



RAYMOND W. WESCOTT of Manteo, who will take office of Worshipful Master of Manteo Masonic Lodge No. 682 tonight in the Lodge Hall. Mr. Wescott will succeed G. G. Bonner. Other officers to be installed are R. O. Ballance, Senior Warden; Belton Burrus, Junior Warden; Charles E. O'Neal, Secretary; Gordon Kellogg, Treasurer; Elmer V. Midgett, Senior Deacon; Wilford Wise, Junior Deacon; Selden and Edwin Midgett, Stewards; Allen Mann, Jr., Tiler. The lodge which was organized with 20 members from Wanchese Lodge in 1947 now has 82 members. Previous masters of the lodge in order have been Raymond White, Frank White, Hugh Basnight, Edwin Midgett and Glenn Bonner. The services this Friday night Dec. 19th will be installation ceremonies and work in the Third Degree. Regular meeting nights of the Lodge are First and Third Fridays in each month.

Mr. Wescott was also elected president of the Dare County See MASONS, Page Ten

BIG CAROL SING PLANNED FOR SUNDAY NIGHT, DEC. 21

A big carol sing is being planned for the evening of Sunday, December 21, on the courthouse lawn in Manteo. People from all over the county are invited to attend, and all church choirs are urged to take part in the event. A manger scene is being erected on the court house lawn by a committee of women headed by Mrs. W. R. Pearce and Mrs. Nevin Wescott of Manteo. John H. Long is in charge of musical arrangements, and the singing will begin at nine o'clock, giving everyone time to attend church services and stop by to take part in the caroling before returning home.

O'CONNOR SEEKS SOLID SUPPORT FOR POLIO FUND

Cites Greater Need Now For Money to Fight Disease

NEW YORK.—Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, has asked the nation to support the 1953 March of Dimes.

Mr. O'Connor said the most extensive campaign in the 15 year history of the March of Dimes has been planned. Local volunteer workers in each town will call on editors this month for support in the build-up period, and in January for assistance in raising money.

Mr. O'Connor noted the all-time toll of 55,000 new polio cases of 1952 surpassed the previous record year of 1949 by 13,000. During each of the previous three years, he said, the National Foundation ended the year \$5,000,000 in debt.

Unpaid bills at the end of 1952 will total \$7,000,000, and there will still be 58,000 children and adults needing assistance, he said.

The March of Dimes pays the portion of the patient's bill which the polio victim cannot afford for as long as treatment is necessary. The organization also conducts research. See POLIO, Page Ten

THE MAN WHO FLEW THE NORTH POLE



Virginian-Pilot Photo by Borjes

Col. Bert Balchen, USAF, known in Norfolk as the man who helped prepare things here for polar expeditions of Adm. Richard E. Byrd, was at the Wright Flight Anniversary celebration yesterday which proved to be a gathering of the great in aviation.

AVIATION'S FUTURE NOW EVEN MORE FANTASTIC THAN WAS IMAGINED 50 YRS. AGO

Stupendous Suggestions Come Out of 49th Anniversary at Kill Devil Hills Wednesday; Many Notable Aviation Figures Presented; 50th Anniversary Celebration Discussed for Next Year.

Forty nine years ago Wednesday, Wilbur and Orville Wright flew the first airplane in Dare County. Yet today, the things predicted in the field of aviation are so far more fantastic than the future of flying in those days, that they approach the realm of "impossible"; Visitors Wednesday heard some of these things predicted.

Igor Sikorsky, aviation pioneer and developer of the helicopter, came back Wednesday to Kill Devil Hills to witness the unfolding of a prediction he had made to an audience on the same spot five years before—flight by man at speeds exceeding that of sound.

Sikorsky was one of more than 1,000 persons who watched and listened fascinatedly as three Air Force Sabre Jets roared earthward from 43,000 feet, passed the "sonic barrier" for a period of three seconds and pulled out of the dive at 20,000 feet.

Entering and returning through the "barrier" at the speed of sound produced six "sonic booms"—two for each of the planes. These are loud, sharp explosions.

The speed of sound is roughly 760 mph at sea level. It was unofficially estimated that the F-86's were traveling at better than 800 mph when they pulled out of their dives.

They were a part of a splendid air show put on by the Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

Later, at a luncheon in the First Colony Inn, Sikorsky listed reasons for the Wright Brothers' selection of the place and the time for their successful flight.

"Today we experiment in wind tunnels. The Wright Brothers really had a wind tunnel at this site. They had a smooth hill and a reasonably strong wind and that is virtually a wind tunnel," he said.

They made their plane fly, not because of good luck, but because of the correctness of their basic ideas and because of their outstandingly accurate, thorough and well-done scientific approach."

Sikorsky made another prediction:

"Out of aviation will come the inter-planetary operations of the future."

Arthur F. Kelly, president of the Air Force Association and a principal speaker at the luncheon, called for a "consumer commission" to assist in planning possible adaptations of instruments of war to peacetime use. He said:

"We must bring our military airpower effort closer to the people who pay for it. We can do this by increasing the research and development portion of this effort and by planning a program adapting it to our civilian economy. First and last, we must crack the mental barrier as we have cracked the sonic barrier."

See FUTURE, Page Ten

McCOWN SPEECH ON CHRISTMAS TO ROTARIANS

Manteo Club Heard Secretary Make Address Monday Night; Appeals Made for Unfortunate

Wallace McCown, Manteo Attorney and Secretary of the Manteo Rotary Club as program chairman Monday night didn't have to go far to find a speaker. He made a good talk himself on the spirit of Christmas, which was both inspiring and challenging. His questions stirred the thinking of his hearers.

Several guests were introduced, and Dr. W. W. Johnston offered a suggestion that club members send Christmas cards to all of Dare County's unfortunates who are away in institutions of any kind.

R. D. Sawyer made a request for articles of clothes for a needy 16-year-old Dare County boy, the clothes to be brought to Mr. Sawyer immediately for delivery before Christmas.

TEN-MAN GROUP VISITS MANTEO AIRPORT ON HUNT

Study of Recreational Possibilities in Connection with Flying Sportsmen Made

Ten men interested in Aviation spent the early part of the week at the Manteo Airport, and some of them got some good wildfowl shooting in the two counties of Hyde and Dare. Limits were bagged Monday and Tuesday at Lake Mattamuskeet and near Oregon Inlet, as well as Kitty Hawk bay, where some of the party hunted with Charlie Perry.

In the party were Joe Norwood, District Airport Engineer of Wilmington and his Deputy, John Talbert who had as their guests eight others. L. A. Winkler, Chief of Planning and Evaluation of the CAA; A. S. Quinn, Chief of Airport Lighting Section; Marsden F. Holman, Electrical Engineer; R. D. Stout of the Southern Engineering Co. of Greensboro; Sam Baker of Wilmington, an attorney for the National Production Administration R. D. Seaborn, Chief of the Airport Building Section; O. L. Andrews, Director South Carolina Aeronautics Commission and his Chief of Airport Division.

The party lived in the Sky-Club building at the Manteo Airport, where business sessions were held following the hunts. Meals were prepared on the premises. Some of the party came by plane, others drove in, while one lone member rode the bus all day Sunday from Washington in order to complete the rendezvous.

Something may develop from this meeting in the near future if only comments and advice for the community to take advantage. See GROUP, Page Ten

NATIVITY SCENE AT DARE CTHOUSE THRU HOLIDAYS

Throughout America this year there has been a special effort put forth to get Christ back into Christmas. This spirit has even taken root in Manteo, is the belief Mrs. Nevin Wescott and Mrs. W. R. Pearce, through whose good efforts there will be very soon a Nativity Scene displayed on the courthouse lawn. It is hoped that no one will pass this by without pausing to realize the true meaning of Christmas, "Peace on earth, good will to men".

A listing of those who have made this display possible through their generous gifts will appear in next week's paper.

COUNTY OFFICES TO CLOSE FOR LONG WEEK-END

The Dare County Board of Commissioners this week voted to close all county offices December 25, 26 and 27, thereby giving all county employees a long week end for the Christmas holiday season. The county offices will also be closed on New Year's Day.