### NOTED NATIVE MINISTER | day evening last in the Ransom-OF HYDE COUNTY DIES

A man who had made his mark in the ministry, following his upbringing in Sladesville, Hyde County, passed away Fri-

MANTEO, N. C. SATURDAY, NOV. 21 "THE VANQUISHED" JOHN PAYNE

SUNDAY : MONDAY " THE DESERT RATS" with RICHARD BURTON

TUESDAY: WEDNESDAY "CRUISIN" DOWN THE RIVER" DICK HAYMES

THURSDAY : FRIDAY "JAMAICA RUN" RAY MILLAND

ville community. Rev. Lewis Edward Sawyer, 81, retired minister of the Methodist Church, retired seven years ago was the son of Samuel and Annie Peele Sawyer. Following his schooling, in Hyde County he later entered Trinity College, now Duke University, to study for the ministry. He served many churches in Eastern North Carolina, including Trinity Methodist Church of Louisville and Winsteadville.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Lizzie Roper Sawyer and two reefs and treacherous shoals is a daughters by a former marriage, Miss Lucy Sawyer of Washing- annals of the U.S. Lighthouse ton, D. C. and Mrs. Mary Morton of Baltimore, Md.; two grandsons, fascinating a record than the story John and Douglas Clarkson; two of the Lighthouse towers at Cape sisters, Mrs. Ella Bell of Belhaven Hatteras, whose warning beacons and Mrs. A. S. Cooper of Raleigh. of light have saved countless ves-

Lions Club and a member of the "Graveyard of Ships." Belhaven Masonic lodge, No. 509 Scottish Rites bodies, and of the

Some scientists believe that brick was manufactured as early

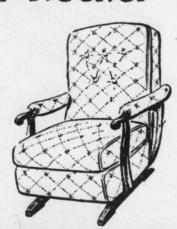
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### LIGHTHOUSES AT HATTERAS

A History of Famous Dare County Guardians of Shipping at Sea

the world that stand guard on for nautical purposes. stormy and isolated seacoasts to Bethany Methodist Church at flash out warning signals, to those who go down to the sea in ships, of the perils that lurk in hidden long and interesting one. In the service there is perhaps no more sels from doom and destruction on

> Cape Hatteras, eastermost landsels splintered on the sandy shoals. erize it. George Washington, early in his presidency, was among the first to see the need of adequately lighting the most dangerous points along the coast of the infant republic to protect shipping. Cape Hatteras, and the scarcely less received special attention as both were on direct routes of made them equally dangerous to navigation, while at Cape Hatteras extreme differences in temperature and atmospheric condithe Gulf Stream and the breezes from shore created freakish weather conditions. onsequently no point on the entire Atlantic seaboard was more dreaded by mariners than the North Carolina coast at this point because

Early Beacons The first lighthouses were perhaps bonfires of driftwood built at sea. on the beach. There was a lighterected by the British Governbeen built between 1716 and 17-89 but five more went under construction and Virginia had gathered materials for her lighthouse at Cape Henry. The first lighthouse built after the formation of the American republic was at Cape Henry, Va., at the entrance to Chesapeake Bay. Fish oil, whale oil, lard, kerosene, gas and lastly electricity served as a fuel in the lanterns of lighthouses. Sixteen of the original lighthouses are still in operation today including the light on Little Brewster Island which was rebuilt in

First at Hatteras

It was not until 1797 that the new congress appropriated funds for the erection of a lighthouse at Hatteras. The following year a sandstone tower, an amazing feat of engineering in those days was built on the sands of the Cape and lighted for the first time. While its light was poor and hardly visible more than a few miles at sea, it nevertheless helped reduce the growing toll of the sea off the stormy point.

In 1854 a decided improvement was made with the installation of fresnal lens and new revolv-



creased the candelpower of Hatteras light. During the War between the States, however, both of radio-beam as well as the rathe lens and lantern were des- dio compass ashore at Buxton, N. troyed by union forces during C., supplemented by the Hatteras stitution, whenever possible, of

the Battle of Hatteras Inlet. In light and the efficient Coast skeleton-steel structures, which 1863 new illuminating apparatus Guard patrol have reduced to a was installed but the moderate minimum the toll of life and proheight of the tower greatly re- perty taken at sea in former in less danger of damage from The history of the lighthouses of stricted its usefulness as a light years.

### New Lighthouse

In 1867 congress again approbut the sea's inroads have been brick structure of its kind in the on the treacherous reefs. member of the Belhaven Pantego the dreaded Diamond Shoals, the arrested somewhat by the work world. But like the Hatteras towof the beach erosion project.

Cape Hatteras lighthouse was and a member of the York and point in North Carolina, and long constructed of brick and stone noted for its frequent and danger- on a foundation of yellow pine ous storms, was the scene of some timber laid six feet in the sand of the world's most frightful and beneath blocks of octagonal disastrous shipwrecks in the days granite. It was completed Decbefore the first lighthouse was ember 16, 1870, and its lantern built there in 1798. Here the warm 193 feet above the sea level, was Gulf Stream, in its serpentine lit for the first time. The next course up the Atlantic Seaboard year the old sandstone tower, its now within 15 miles off shore lur- light extinguished and no longer ing coastwise vessels toward the of any use, and in danger of fallcoast at this point where men- ing during a severe storm, was acing fingers of sand reach out dynamited. The new lighthouse over 10 miles into the sea. Seamen was first painted red above the of all nationalities have been dri- 30 feet level and white below ven ashore in leaking ships during but in 1879 the painting was winds of gale force and their ves- white spiral bands that charact-

### Days are Numbered

When it was thought this tower was slowly being undermined by the steady encroachment of the sea and the erosion of the beach before it, they built a tall skeleton-steel structure some distance to the west housing an commerce. Storms and reefs electrically-lighted beam of the bull-eye type which, though smaller, throws warning signals out over, the ocean farther than the rays of the old oilburning lantions between the hot airs of tern. The earth, having a curved surface makes the height of any lighthouse have a considerable difference in the distance from which it can be seen. A lighthouse of from 150 to 200 feet high can usually be seen on a fairly clear night at a distance frequent storms exacted a heavy the same token a 1,000 foot of from 18 to 20 miles at sea. By structure would throw a beam visible aproximately 40 miles out

Years after the construction of house on Little Brewster Island the first lighthouse tower at at the entrance of Boston harbor. Cape Hatteras, the lighthouse board, in the late 80's, tried to ment as early as 1716. At the build a tower on Diamond time the United States declared Shoals.. But after spending sometheir independence from Eng- thing like \$250,000 and having land there were only 10 light- several vessels swept away in houses owned and operated by storms and the lives of two workthe colonists. All of these had men lost in the broiling current,

ing reflectors which greatly in- the idea was abandoned.

rides at anchor off the extremity

Each in turn has served the shipping of the nations of the world with warning flashes a-

er they are destined to become Today, a first class lightship obsolete as an advancement of modern times has been the abandonment of the old cone-shaped towers of masonry and the subcost less to maintain, withstand wind pressures better, and are constant exposure to heavy storms.

There is something romantic and fascinating about a lightpriated funds to rebuild Hatter- gainst the dangers of the North house that conjures up wild and as light to a greater height. The Carolina coast. Similar towers, stormy nights at sea when the site selected was 600 feet to the though smaller than the brick waves, rising to fury and moun- other life saving stations on the north of the old tower, and, at tower at Hatteras, guard the tainous heights before strong that time, more than a mile in- coast at Cape Lookout, 63 miles gales dash against barren coasts. by foreign knigs for acts of heroshore from the highwater mark, southwest of the Cape Hatteras Likely as not, some frail vessel, Now the sea, which has been light, at Currituck Beach, at the caught in the path of the storm, creeping up for over 50 years, mouth of Cape Fear River. The may be driven in on Diamond the North Carolina coast, take up and has gotten close to the light, Hatteras Tower is the highest Shoals and dashed to splinters

### RANSOMVILLE NEWS

The Free Will Baptist Youth for Christ held their regular meeting at their hut in Ransomville on Tuesday night, with Ann Paul, president presiding. The devotional leader, Edward Paul, read the eighteenth psalm. The scripture identification contest for the evening was won by David Burbage.

teras rise to the occasion. Coast Guardsmen at Hatteras Inlet, Chicamicomico, Nags Head and beach, who have been decroated sim in saving lives of foreign seamen from sinking ships off where the warning signals of lighthouse and lightship are no



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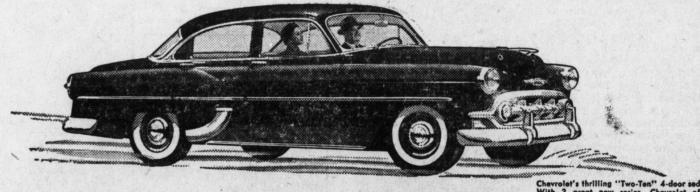
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