

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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HIGH SPEED WORK NABS AN ESCAPED CONVICT IN DARE

Sheriff Cahoon Catches Man Before He Is Missed From Truck

Sheriff Frank Cahoon can chalk up an unusual achievement. Wednesday, he nabbed an escaped convict almost before he got away. A 40-year-old long termer with 28 years to go, was observed jumping off a highway truck near the home of Dennis Evans. Oliver Gilbert refused to give the man a ride, but reported it promptly to the Sheriff's office.

Gilbert had seen the man get into Lloyd Midgett's taxi near the Manteo stoplight. Sheriff Cahoon learned from Midgett that the convict had gone to the El Gay restaurant at Nags Head, and promptly got there, and captured him. He was found drunk and full of fight. Sheriff Cahoon and Patrolman Holt got him under control. They were able to report the capture of the man to the Highway guards who were on their way back to Currituck before they were aware that he had escaped.

The escape was one of a group of convicts returning to prison camp after a day's work in the Manteo Harbor vicinity.

NIGHT HUNTERS IN DARE APPREHENDED WITH DEP. SHERIFF

When Federal wardens swooped down in Dare County and rounded up some eight men charged with hunting unlawfully at night on the beach near Nags Head, they included in their list Dare County Deputy Sheriff and Justice of the Peace, Donnie Twyne of Manteo, and refused to respect his detailed explanation that he was an officer of the law himself, and had a right to be there. Included in this group were a number of teen-agers from Manteo. Some of the men contended they were not hunting but were only waiting to give others a ride home. Some were apprehended with game, while others are said to have been able to stash their game away, and return for it later.

Included in the raid were Twyne, McCoy Tillett, Jr., W. B. Fearing, Jr., Charles Midgett, Edward Etheridge and Merle Meekins, Jr., of Manteo; Earl Tillett and Luther Midgett of Wanchese. A ninth boy got away and his companions declared from the speed he put on while running, he can enter the long distance races.

The group will be arraigned before a U. S. Commissioner and if probable cause is found, will be bound over to Federal Court.

MANY VISIT BUILDINGS AT KILL DEVIL HILLS

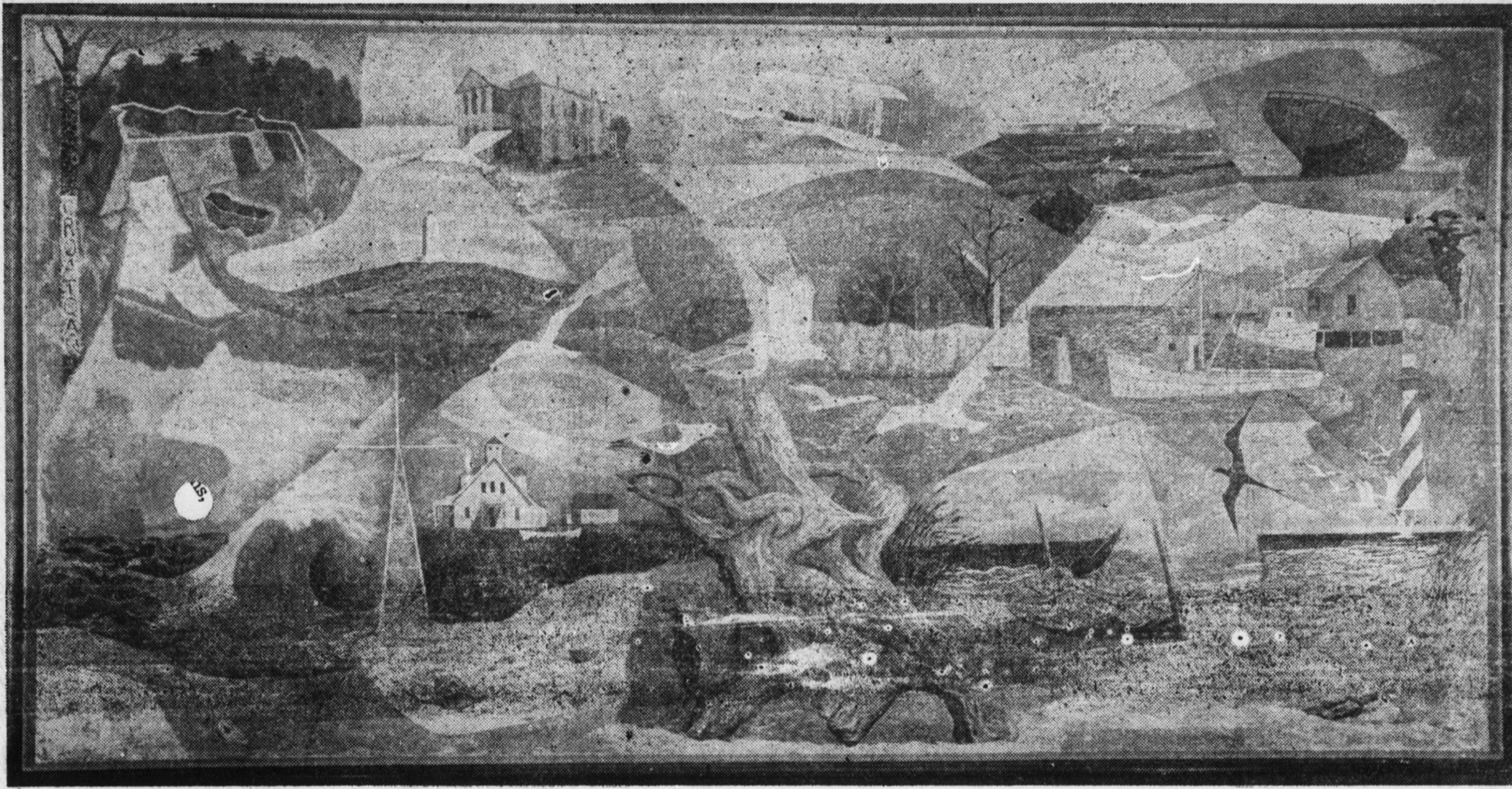
Kill Devil Hills. — Since the National Park Service officially dedicated the reconstructed hangar and camp buildings at the Wright Brothers National Memorial here on December 14, thousands of visitors have seen the structures and the interiors which have been refurbished exactly as old pictures showed the structures when Wilbur and Orville Wright were here 50 years ago to achieve their conquest of the air in powered flight.

The magnificent Memorial Monument atop Kill Devil Hill has taken second place temporarily in popularity among visitors. That is probably because of discomfort one experiences in climbing to the top of bleak grass-covered Kill Devil Hills. The hangar and quarters buildings may be reached by autos using the north drive of the National Memorial reservation, which leads to the granite boulder marking the exact site of the first flight on December 17, 1903. Horace Dough, superintendent of the area stated today that December 1953 would make a new record for number of visitors at the first flight site here. This will be due to the fact that from December 14 through December 17, thousands of persons from all parts of the nation and world attended the 50th Anniversary of Powered Flight in a gala and exciting golden ceremony. Despite extremely cold weather, more than 10,000 persons have visited the area during the current month, according to estimates.

PARKER FAMILY HAS REUNION AT WANCHESE

The Parker family of Wanchese held its annual Christmas reunion on Sunday, December 27, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Parker in Wanchese. Approximately 50 people were present for the noon-day meal, and 19 for the evening meal.

DARE COUNTY COASTLINE AND HISTORY DEPICTED LAVISHLY IN GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE



—Photo by Abbie Rowe, Courtesy National Park Service.

THE BEAUTY AND HISTORY OF DARE COUNTY coastland is lavishly portrayed in a recently completed mural by Mitchell Jamieson, in the magnificent new General Accounting office in the Nation's Capital. It is the fruit of the love and affection borne for this area by Hon. Lindsay Warren the Comptroller General. The artist developed the mural from ideas of Mr. Warren, and visited the scenes he portrayed. It is a fine piece of recognition for this

great and historic section, to be thus depicted in a large Government building. Mr. Warren is extremely happy, he said this week, that this section is forever perpetuated thus, and he got much personal joy in seeing placed in oils in the main conference room of his office so many reminders of the section he dearly loves.

A smaller mural in an adjoining office will depict the Dutch tulip fields of Mr. Warren's native Beaufort County.

Of the Dare County Mural, Mr. Warren says:

"The mural depicts the restful Ft. Raleigh, the cradle representing Virginia Dare (I wish so much the artist had put a baby in the cradle as I suggested); copies of Governor White's drawings; the tree with the word CROATOAN; the Atlantic Ocean in a storm; the Dare County courthouse; Kill Devil Hill and the Wright Memorial; the Oregon Inlet Coast Guard station; first flight and plane; a fisherman's cottage with the nets hung out to dry; gulls; a large piece of driftwood; shells on the beach; Pea

Island Snow Goose Refuge; the ocean in a calmer mood with an old wreck on the beach; the wreck of the George A. Kohler, now destroyed; Jockey's Ridge and sand dunes; Pamlico Sound and fish houses and fishing boats; Cape Hatteras Lighthouse; sea-oats and willets on the beach. I understand that there is a well-known Irish whiskey named Jamieson. In the lower right hand corner a bottle is washed up on the beach and the artist has placed his name on it."

The Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts has written Mr. Warren a highly congratulatory letter on this mural by Mitchell Jamieson. "It was a happy coincidence," he said, "that the commission could inspect the painting with you on the 50th anniversary of the historical flight of the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk."

KITTY HAWK MAN HAS SERIOUS LEG INJURY

Curtis Gray of Kitty Hawk sustained the loss of his left leg just below the knee as the result of a shotgun wound while hunting rabbits near Kitty Hawk Monday afternoon. He was in company with Clarence Parker and Tom Sawyer of Belcross and Ed Humphries of Moyock, and C. P. Pritchard and Lloyd Hofler.

He is being treated in Albee Hospital, Elizabeth City.

EDLA EARLY TO GIVE CONCERT DECEMBER 8

Miss Edla Early will present her first concert since her return a month ago to her American home from Italy on Friday evening, December 8, at 8:15 in the auditorium of the S. L. Sheep school in Elizabeth City. Miss Early has been studying for the past two years in Italy, having won a scholarship after her graduation from Greensboro College. Her career has been followed closely by many interested friends in this section of North Carolina. She is the daughter of Charles Early of Norfolk, Va., and the late Mrs. Early, who formerly were residents of eastern North Carolina.

Tickets will be on sale at the door, or can be obtained in advance by writing the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce. The sponsoring organization is the Elizabeth City P.T.A.

9-WEEKS OLD DAUGHTER DIES AT AVON WEDNESDAY

Wendy Jean Hooper, nine weeks old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erskine B. Hooper, died Wednesday night at the family residence in Avon.

Besides her parents, Erskine B. and Doris Jean Atkinson Hooper, she is survived by a brother, Erskine B. Jr., her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Grybeck, and her paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ulysses Hooper.

The body was taken from the Twiford Funeral Home in Hatteras, to the family residence in Avon where funeral services were conducted Friday at 2 p.m. by the Rev. P. M. Porter, pastor of Avon Methodist Church. Burial was in the family plot at Avon.

CORRECTION

In the December 25 issue of The Coastland Times it was erroneously stated that the door decoration contest was sponsored by the Roanoke Island Garden Club. The Home Demonstration Club was the sponsoring organization.

YEAR-ROUND PLENTY TAKES DELIGHT AWAY FROM CHRISTMAS NOW

(Carlton Morris in Gates County Index).

At this time of the year, the main occupation of oldtimers is sitting around and telling anyone who will take the time to listen about the vast difference in Christmas now and a few years ago.

To hear us tell it, Christmas of long ago was so far ahead of the present time that we just don't have it any more. Such is not the case. We are just getting older and naturally look back with nostalgia on things of the past. Christmas is still a wonderful time of the year, when it is celebrated right.

I do not contend that most children miss out on the real pleasure of the season, for they have so much during the year that they are unable to get any thrill out of anything at Christmas. Nine days before that day of days, my oldest son, who is 11, has been unable to decide on any particular gift for himself and when he does decide, changes his mind on an average of once a day. Every program on TV shows various gifts and he changes with each program.

When I was a lad, which has been a long time ago, we started preparing for Christmas several weeks in advance by practicing for church programs. We would go into the woods and bring out holly berries, moss and cedar and decorate the schools and churches. Christmas Eve night we would all gather at the church and the children would stand up and recite poems and sing songs. No one understood them but their proud parents, but since every parent there had one or more children on the program, everybody was happy.

When the program was over, in would come one of the neighbors dressed like Santa and all the younger kids would get a big thrill out of just seeing the old fellow. Small gifts would be taken from under the tree and passed out by some of the older girls, who were so dressed up they were almost unrecognizable.

After a while it was time to go home and away we would all go in the cold night time. Sent to bed as soon as we reached home, we thought that the next day would never arrive, but despite our best efforts to stay awake, we would soon be asleep, although nervous tension would arouse every kid in the neighborhood long before daybreak and out of bed we would scramble.

The gifts left by Santa were all — See DELIGHT, Page Four

BENJ. F. CAHOON, 75, DIES CHRISTMAS DAY

Benjamin Franklin Cahoon, 75, a native of Gum Neck but a resident of Roanoke Island for the past 50 years, died Christmas day at 11:30 a. m. following a long illness, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. H. Ward in Manteo. He was the husband of the late Mamie Daniels Cahoon. His parents were the late Benjamin F. and Sarah Meekins Cahoon of Tyrrell County. He was one of the best known and most highly regarded citizens of Roanoke Island. He had resided at Wanchese until about 12 years ago when he came to Manteo to make his home with Mrs. Ward, his only child. He is survived also by three grandchildren: Lela Alvah Ward, Jr., USA, Miss Lela Ward and Mrs. Brantley Brown. He was a member of the Wanchese Methodist Church.

The funeral services were conducted December 26 at the grave-site in Manteo Cemetery by Rev. H. R. Ashmore and Rev. C. W. Guthrie of Manteo and Wanchese churches.

HIGH TIDES ON THE FISHING GROUNDS

OREGON INLET FOR JAN.

	A.M.	P.M.
Friday	1 4:15	4:28
Saturday	2 5:03	5:18
Sunday	3 5:49	6:02
Monday	4 6:32	6:47
Tuesday	5 7:16	7:31
Wednesday	6 7:58	8:17
Thursday	7 8:42	9:03
Friday	8 9:28	9:51
Saturday	9 10:15	10:43
Sunday	10 11:06	11:39
Monday	11 —	12:01
Tuesday	12 0:41	1:06
Wednesday	13 1:47	2:01
Thursday	14 2:54	3:15
Friday	15 4:00	4:20
Saturday	16 5:00	5:23
Sunday	17 5:54	6:12
Monday	18 6:43	7:00
Tuesday	19 7:27	7:45
Wednesday	20 8:08	8:28
Thursday	21 8:46	9:08
Friday	22 9:23	9:50
Saturday	23 9:59	10:28
Sunday	24 10:36	11:10
Monday	25 11:15	11:55
Tuesday	26 11:59	—
Wednesday	27 0:44	12:50
Thursday	28 1:39	1:49
Friday	29 2:37	2:50
Saturday	30 3:34	3:51
Sunday	31 4:29	4:45

RINGS TUNES ON GIANT DUKE CARILLON BELLS



ROMAN LEE PATRICK

It delights us to follow the career of our young people of the Coastland. It's a thrill to know that in so many of them is the foundation for greatness, as among other people we read about. Ours are no less great because they are close home. Some years ago at an Engelhard Commencement we were delighted with the accordion performances of this fellow, when a small lad. We got equal or greater pleasure in reading in an issue of some weeks ago of the Duke University Chronicle, that this same fellow was playing tunes on the giant bells of the University Carillon, and taking the place of the internationally famous Anton Brees, when he goes to the Bok Tower in Florida for the winter season.

Not many weeks ago, we stood under the beautiful Bok Singing Tower at Mountain Lake, Florida, and meditated upon the genius that went into its making, and the generosity of the Dutch Immigrant who rose to wealth and fame in America, and in dying, gave to Florida and the Nation this masterpiece of beauty and service.

Well, young Roman Patrick is a medical student at Duke with two more years to go, but he can find his fame in at least two directions, if he should choose. He will have to be the judge of which one will lead him to great service to his people. He may give ease and bring healing to aching bodies, or he may through his music, lift the downhearted, comfort the desperate and inspire the zealous to greatness too. Maybe he can pursue both ways with success. We don't doubt it. Anyway, her is what the Duke paper See PATRICK, Page Two

BIRD CLUB MEETING AT NAGS HEAD SOON

By AYCOCK BROWN

Nags Head. — Members of the Carolinas' Bird Club will arrive here on New Years Day and on January 2 will have a field day in the marshlands of the Outer Banks generally and Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge in particular. The Carolinian will be headquarters for one of the members on the North Carolina coast.

Bob Wolff of Greenville, here recently to help complete plans for the field day and meeting, stated that up to 125 persons may attend. Already L. B. Turner, manager of Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge is making arrangements to take care of the large group.

NORTHEASTERN CANCER CLINIC POSTPONED WEEK

The Northeastern Cancer Clinic will be postponed from its usual time of the first Friday in each month until January 8, 1954 because the Health Department will not be open on January 1 as is its custom. The Clinic will be held Friday, January 8th, 1954 in Elizabeth City, N. C. at the health Center with registration beginning at 1:00. Mrs. W. W. Finlator, clerk, announces. A free chest X-ray will be given anyone who wishes it along with the examination of the five areas of the body where Cancer is most easily found and cured. No appointment is necessary but a priority may be secured by writing the Cancer Center, Elizabeth City, for one. Please bring a robe or housecoat with you.

SWAN QUARTER SEAMAN RATED AS STOREKEEPER

Washington, D. C. (FHTNC)—The Bureau of Naval Personnel has announced that it is an advancement in rating for Dwain H. Mason, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel S. Mason of Route 1, Swan Quarter, N. C., to storekeeper second class, USN, while serving aboard the destroyer USS Zellers.

The advancement came as a result of a world wide competitive written test which consisted of questions testing military and professional skills.

To be eligible for the written quiz, Naval personnel had to exhibit proficiency in the on-the-job phases of their ratings.

"OLD CHRISTMAS" CELEBRATION AT RODANTHE JAN. 5

Only Place in Country Still Honoring Old Custom In Coastland

Rodanthe. — Christmas comes twice each year to Rodanthe and Waves, here on Hatteras Island, and the second observance of January 5, is one that has been celebrated through the centuries, or since the Outer Banks of North Carolina was first settled more than three hundred and fifty years ago. There are other places in the world where an "Old Christmas" is celebrated on January 6 or Twelfth Night and the Epiphany, but nowhere else is the second observance following the modern Yuletide on January 5.

The Rodanthe citizens who adhere to the custom are not sure why January 5 is their "Old Christmas" although present generations observe that date, just as their ancestors through the years celebrated the occasion on the fifth day of the New Year.

They will agree that the date of their Old Christmas celebration falls on the Eve of Epiphany and they will also accept the Twelfth Night theory as a reason for the custom — but the more logical and generally accepted explanation of why January 5 is their old Christmas date goes back to the 16th Century and the days of Pope Gregory XIII who revised the old Julian Calendar in use for centuries prior to that time.

It was not until the mid-17th Century that England and her colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar, and then from the English-speaking people there was much dissent. It meant the loss of 11 days when the New Style Calendar was adopted. Thus Christmas which had been universally observed by English peoples came 11 days earlier on the December 25th of our present day. It was years before the New Christmas was universally observed. In recent years, during the current Century as a matter of fact, the people of Rodanthe and Waves began observing New Christmas, but they also celebrate on January 5, the traditional Yuletide of their ancestors.

There is one phase of Old Christmas Celebration here which has a mythological aspect. That is the traditional "Old Buck" the mad bull of Trent Woods which shows up at every celebration. There is always an "Old Buck" attending the Rodanthe-Waves Old Christmas party, parties which include religious phases, a Christmas tree and gift-giving, dancing and carol singing.

Some believe that "Old Buck" was injected into Old Christmas celebrations here by a shipwrecked Scandinavian, because the Norse in their mythology had a bovine beast at the celebrations. Here the "Old Buck" is not a live bull, but one crudely and comically constructed from the skull of a Banker "cattle-beast" and a body of cow hide beneath which one would upon examination find human propellation.

Already plans are underway to make the Old Christmas celebration of 1954 the greatest in the history of the community. This will be made possible because paved roads now connect the communities of Hatteras Island and where is used to take hours of travel over roadless beaches to reach the community, the trip today from any village on Hatteras Island can be made in a matter of minutes.

Responsible for the celebration this year which will include the Christmas tree, religious services, carol singing and Old Buck will be the Midgetts, the Herberts, the O'Neals and all other families of the community. After this phase of the celebration there will be a square dance in R. D. Oken's new motel, The Chicamacomico, halfway between Rodanthe and Waves.

MRS. CATHERINE PERRY KITTY HAWK POSTMASTER

Mrs. Catherine Perry of Kitty Hawk took office December 31 as postmaster at Kitty Hawk succeeding Mrs. Hettie M. Baum retired, according to V. G. Williams, Dare County Republican chairman. Mrs. Carson Meekins will continue as assistant. The new postmaster is the wife of Lee Perry, and has resided in Kitty Hawk for the past 11 years. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allen H. Hayman of Point Harbor.