

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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

VOLUME XIX — NO. 32

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1954

Single Copy 7¢

## STRATTON GETS TRANSFER FROM SEASHORE PARK

### Charles Marshall To Take Over Management of Land Acquisition Office

A. Clark Stratton, land acquisition officer for the National Park Service who has been in charge of Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area work here for the past two years, will return to the regional office in Richmond on March 1.

Taking over the land acquisition duties here will be Charles Marshall who has been Stratton's assistant during the period that lands have been acquired for America's first ocean-side national park.

Stratton was no stranger on the Dare coast when he came here to supervise the purchase of lands between Nags Head and Ocracoke Inlet for inclusion in the National Seashore. During the 1930's he had been in charge of National Park Service beach erosion work along the Outer Banks. He was formerly connected with the National Park Service in Yorktown, Va.

The General Superintendent of the area is Allyn F. Hanks who will take over March 1, and maintain an office at Fort Raleigh.

## OLDEST BUSINESS MAN HAS A HEART ATTACK



THEO. S. MEEKINS, former Representative and Manteo's oldest business man is seriously ill in Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City following a heart attack sustained last week. He is 84 years old, and had worked steadily up to the time of his illness. He is widely known for his real estate interests. He was reported on the critical list Thursday.

## GROSS "MISARRIAGE" OF JUSTICE, SAYS THIS DEFENDANT

A rank miscarriage of justice prevailed in trial of several men in Manteo charged with violation of the game laws, according to Z. F. Wilson of Kitty Hawk. This trial was reported in our paper last week and Mr. Wilson has written a letter stating his position in the case. It was not stated in the paper that Mr. Wilson had any part in assaulting any game protector, as he seems to infer. We are glad to print Mr. Wilson's statement for general information, and which is as follows: Editor The Coastland Times:

In regards to the Coastland Times of January 29, 1954, Page one, Column 7, pertaining to game law violation, I would like to state here and now that I happened to be one man that was sober in this party and that I had no part of assaulting any game protector. In your column it stated that Justice Balance tried nine cases. Justice Balance only heard evidence in one case; that was a man from Winston-Salem, N. C. All the other cases were given the same preference as I had; submit to the charge and pay a fine and cost or go to federal court.

Also to the game law violation according to a statement of game protector, Jack Balance, prior to January 9, that it was lawful to shoot Blue Peter ducks from a boat without a motor. I was not violating any game law; however, I paid the fine and cost.

I would like to outline briefly just what happened to me and my friend, William Twiford, on January 9, 1954. We were hunting in Kitty Hawk Bay from a small boat (without a motor), when game protector Thomas and Sommerell came to our boat and asked to see our hunting license which we showed him immediately. From these license he wrote our name down in a little book. A short time later Jack Balance game protector, appeared on the scene and told the group of men that if we wanted to be tried in State Court meet him at his house at 6:00 pm. We all went to Jack Balance's house and waited for him until about 6:30. Then he came. He said for everyone to get into their cars that we were going to Manteo to a Justice of the Peace office. He was asked which one; he said he didn't know. I asked him to take the case to Justice of the Peace Bill Anderson at Kitty Hawk, N. C. of which he refused. He said we will go to Manteo.

We went to Manteo to the home of Robert Balance, Justice of the Peace. After Justice Balance, game protector, Thomas, Balance, White and Sommerell went outside of the room and got their heads together, they came back inside. Justice Balance said he did not have proper authority to try these cases. After talking for some time, I finally asked him to try me to prove my innocence or guilt of which he refused to do. He said if I would submit to the charge the fine and cost would be \$17.00. He gave me a preference to submit to the charge or go to Elizabeth City to Federal Court. I told him in that case I would rather pay the \$17.00, but I was not guilty. I think this is the largest wholesale miscarriage of Justice I have ever seen, and I think the proper authorities should investigate.

See DEFENDENT, Page Eight

## LAWSUIT WAGES OVER 5 1/2 INCHES OF OCEAN FRONT

### Three Cases Settled This Week In Dare County Court

One of the big lawsuits for which a special term of court was called this week in Dare County is a dispute over 5 1/2 inches of land, near Kitty Hawk old Coast Guard station. Along with 15 other cases of the 19 for which this term was called, the case was continued this week. R. S. Carr of Edenton some years ago brought suit against L. N. Hollowell of Hertford, because Mr. Hollowell had got across the line and built a house which occupied 5 1/2 inches of the Carr land. The Hollowell property has later been sold, but the suit stays on the books.

The principal case actually heard, was a dispute between M. L. Burrus and Frazier Peele of Hatteras involving a boundary line, but this case was finally settled out of court and a consent judgement signed.

Another case was settled by consent judgement, wherein E. P. Brinkley was awarded \$200 for work done on property of and for L. G. Hernley of Nags Head. Cora Mae Basnight was awarded a divorce from St. Clair Basnight. Save for this case, no jury was needed, and 16 of the 19 cases were continued until next term of court.

## MANTEO GIRL TAKES OHIO UNIVERSITY JOB



MISS NATALIE GOULD, who for several years has been in a highly responsible position with the National Educational Association, this week went to the job of Secretary to the President of Bowling Green State University at Bowling Green, Ky, a city of 12,000 22 miles west of Toledo. Dr. Ralph W. McDonald, is president of the University, and Miss Gould was his secretary for many years. During World War II Miss Gould served overseas in Europe and North Africa with the American Red Cross. She is the daughter of Mrs. Eliza Gould of Nags Head.

## DARE BEACH RESIDENTS HAVE FLYING TROUBLES

### Two Close Friends, Usually Together Have Engine Trouble in Separate Planes, in N. C.

A news item of unusual interest to people of the Dare Beaches, who know the parties, concerns Luther Gurkin of Plymouth, North Carolina, and Syd Trott of Staunton, Virginia:

On Monday, January 18th, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Morton, of New York City, who have a cottage on Oregon Inlet Road, were flying to the Florida Keys on a fishing trip with Luther Warren Gurkin, Jr., of Plymouth, North Carolina, also owner of a cottage on Bodie Island. Morton, a New York newspaperman, was piloting the airplane, a Bellanca Crusair. At 2,000 feet over the little town of Chinguplan, North Carolina, in the Swampland west of Wilmington, the engine failed, requiring a hazardous forced landing into a muddy ploughed field. No one was injured and the airplane was undamaged, and now is at Manteo Airport for minor engine repairs. The three Nags Head summer residents were fortunate to escape injury, having landed in one of the few, if not the only dry field in Duplin county.

On Wednesday, just two days later, Syd Trott, of Staunton, Virginia, owner of Trott's Sportswear on the Nags Head beach, was injured in the crash of a twin Beech airplane at Charlotte, sustaining two fractured vertebrae. Mr. Trott was a passenger in the twin-engine executive aircraft, having elected to leave his own single-engine Navion in Charlotte due to instrument weather conditions. It was the second air crash he has survived in two years.

Oddly enough, Trott and Morton, close personal friends, usually fly together. Despite being in different airplanes in different parts of the state they went down in similar crashes. The cause in both cases was engine failure.

## MRS. MINNIE JENNETTE 71, DIES AT BUXTON THURSDAY

Mrs. Minnie Scarborough Jennette, 71, member of a prominent family of Hatteras Island, died at her home Thursday, Jan. 28, and was interred Saturday in the Quildley cemetery at Cape Hatteras. The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday afternoon by Rev. Dan Meadows of the Methodist Church, assisted by Rev. Robert Rayle, Holiness pastor.

She was the daughter of the late Richard and Rebekah Scarborough of Avon.

She was the widow of the late Alaska D. Jennette. She was a member of the Methodist Church. For several years she had operated the Pine Grove Tourist home at Buxton.

One sister survives her: Mrs. U. B. Jennette of Buxton.

## BOYETTE ANNOUNCES FOR HYDE REPRESENTATIVE

Ocracoke, Feb. 1. — C. F. Boyette, long-time resident of Ocracoke, has announced his candidacy for the Hyde County seat in the House of Representatives. This announcement pleases his many friends here at Ocracoke and has brought forth favorable comments from many of Hyde County's mainland citizens.

Mr. Boyette is a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Class of 1918; a native of Wilson County, but spent most of his life in Johnston County. He taught in the North Carolina Schools for seventeen years, and it was in the capacity of teacher and principal that he came to Ocracoke in 1941. For the past ten years or so, he has been manager of the Wahab Village Hotel, here at Ocracoke.

## RODANTHE BOY COMPLETES COURSE IN COAST GUARD

CAPE MAY, N. J.—William D. Midgett, 18, seaman recruit, USCG, and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jethro Midgett, of Rodanthe, is scheduled to complete the 12-week course of recruit training at the U. S. Coast Guard Receiving Center in Cape May, N. J., early next week. The course schedules the basic duties encountered as a member of the nation's oldest seagoing force.

Midgett was graduated with the class of 1953 from Ocracoke High School. He was sworn in as a recruit in the U. S. Coast Guard on September 28, 1953. He is the husband of the former Lou Elle Spencer of Ocracoke.

## BOBBY OWENS WITH CG IN BALTIMORE



ROBERT V. OWENS, JR., if he keeps up the energy and love of work for which his father and mother were noted to go a long way in life. He is now stationed on the Coast Guard ship Alapahchee in Baltimore, having finished his Coast Guard training in Cape May, N. J. during the holidays after which he visited his mother, in Manteo. He is the son of Mrs. Clara Owens, and the late R. V. Owens, and he will be missed this year around the Owens Tourist Court where he was his mother's mainstay. Bobby is 21, and he finished Manteo High School in 1951, after which he attended school at State College and ECC Greenville, until September 1953 when he enlisted.

## ZONING COMMISSION FOR DARE BEACH AREA

### County Board Adjusts Tax Matters; Additional Welfare Office Provided

The Dare County Commissioners named four new members to the Zoning Board for the Dare Beach area Tuesday. Leo Midgett was a member of the Board and the following were added: W. H. McCown and W. A. Williams of Nags Head; T. J. Harris, and W. H. Smith, Jr., of Kitty Hawk.

The Board ordered that the space in the community building recently vacated by the Health Department be turned over to the Welfare Office.

It was voted that \$96 be contributed toward the rent of the N.C. Revenue Collector in Elizabeth City.

The Board voted to ask the National Park Service through Congressman Bonner's office for year-round lighting of the Wright Brothers Memorial.

## TURKEY DINNER TO AID MARCH OF DIMES FRIDAY

A turkey dinner at \$1 will be served in the Manteo Methodist Church annex (This) Friday evening from 5:30 to 8 o'clock, the proceeds to go to the March of Dimes. Mrs. Raymond Wescott is chairman of this drive in Manteo. Mrs. Wescott says that workers for this cause will make a house to house canvass Sunday February 7 between the hours of 1 and 2 p.m. to solicit further contributions.

## MRS. LAURA ROGERS BAUM BURIED AT KITTY HAWK

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon in Elizabeth City for Mrs. Laura Rogers Baum, 69, a native of Kitty Hawk, who died Saturday as the result of burns sustained Tuesday of last week when her clothes caught fire from a cookstove. Burial was in the Austin Cemetery at Kitty Hawk.

She was the wife of A. C. Baum, and is survived by two daughters: Mrs. Mary Pritchard and Mrs. Clyde Liverman of Elizabeth City; four sons, Tommy Baum of Norfolk, A. D. Baum, Oscar and Earl Baum of Elizabeth City. Three sisters, Mrs. A. C. Harris of Kitty Hawk; Mrs. T. W. Perry of Ocean View, and Mrs. J. H. Fulcher of Currituck. A brother, Will Rogers of Kitty Hawk.

## KITTY HAWK PLANS A MARCH OF DIMES DANCE

The Kitty Hawk Home Demonstration Club is sponsoring a square dance Saturday, February 6. The proceeds from this dance will be turned over to the March of Dimes. There will be a door prize, a cake walk, a cake raffle, and home made cup cakes and fudge will be for sale.

Mr. Bob Smith, county agent, will be on hand to call figures for the dance. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance for this worthy cause.

The committee for the Kitty Hawk March of Dimes are Mrs. Jesse Baum, chairman; Rev. Gregory, Mrs. Elizabeth Whitfield and Mrs. Linda Walker.

## SEASHORE PARK MANAGER NAMED; BEGINS MARCH 1

### Allyn F. Hanks Will Be Administrative Official Of Banks Area and Fort Raleigh

Allyn F. Hanks has been named Superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, and will have charge of the project which plans the expenditure of something like a quarter of a million dollars next year in the development of the park. This office is separate from the land acquisition office operated from Manteo, and which is under the direction of Charles Marshall.

Mr. Hanks, whose family claimed kinship with Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln, since January 16, 1953, had been assistant superintendent of Everglades National Park in Florida.

He will assume his new duties with temporary headquarters in the John White Cottage at Fort Raleigh on March 1, until new headquarter facilities are completed this spring at Bodie Island near the north boundaries of the National Seashore at Nags Head and Oregon Inlet. In the beginning he will have, in addition to secretarial personnel already employed, three rangers working with him. They are Gus Hultman, chief ranger, and Charles Lamb on Hatteras Island and Balfour Baum of Manteo north of Oregon Inlet.

Shortly after taking over his new duties, Hanks will begin expending monies on new developments within the park area. A total of \$270,000 has been allotted this development beginning with the new fiscal year. In the meantime the National Park Service for time, such projects as converting the old Bodie Island Coast Guard Station into a park service building to serve as headquarters until a new administration building is constructed, and finishing touches to a marine museum building, will continue. The marine museum will be located in one of the former light house keepers' quarters at Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

For his initial training with the Park Service which began in 1928 Mr. Hanks attended forestry schools in Montana and Colorado. He served as a park ranger in Yellowstone National Park and Grand Teton in Wyoming. He was a chief boatswain in the Coast Guard during World War II and later was superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Monument Park before his transfer to Everglades last year.

Mr. Hanks is married and they have one child. The family will move to the Dare Coast when he takes over his duties as superintendent of America's first ocean-side national park.

## TO HEAD DARE COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

Philip Hale Quildley is President of the Young Republicans of Dare County and will be presented the Dare County charter of the Young Republican Club of Dare County, he will also participate in the contest that will be held in the convention, the subject of this declaration the "Republican party for the future," according to announcement by County Chairman, V. G. Williams. Quildley is a Baptist Minister, now living at Nags Head, and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Hale Quildley of "Baumtown."

There was a meeting of the Dare County Republican Executive Committee on Saturday evening at 8 o'clock, the following officers were elected V. G. Williams, Chairman, L. V. Gaskill, Committee man, Blucher Scarborough, Committee man, the purpose of the meeting was to nominate a committee to attend the State convention which will be held in Charlotte, N. C., on Feb. 20, 1954, the following delegates will attend, L. V. Gaskill, V. G. Williams, Ray Jones, and Philip Hale Quildley.

## MRS MARY G. WILLIAMS 86 AGED AVON RESIDENT DIES

Mrs. Mary G. Williams, 86, an aged lifelong resident of Avon died in Manteo at 12:20 a.m. Wednesday, where she had been a patient for some time. She was twice married, her last husband, the late Irving Williams having been dead for many years. She was a member of the Methodist Church.

She is survived by a son of her first marriage, Baxter Gray, of Elizabeth City, and by four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral was conducted at 2 p.m. Thursday from St. John's Methodist Church at Avon, by the pastor, P. M. Porter.

## NATIONAL SEASHORE MUSEUM IS PLANNED FOR CAPE HATTERAS

A building originally built to house the keepers of America's tallest lighthouse at Cape Hatteras is scheduled to become a maritime museum of the National Seashore Recreation Area which is now being created between Nags Head and Ocracoke Inlet.

Clark Stratton, land acquisition officer of the National Park Service has indicated that the museum would be ready for dedication by early summer of 1954.

Located near the base of famous Cape Hatteras Lighthouse the museum will be within sight of Diamond Shoals, one of the most dreaded bodies of water, by masters of sailing vessels. Diamond Shoals was long known as the "graveyard of the Atlantic," because so many ships were lost in the area. A more modern name to the general area off Diamond Shoals during World War II was "Torpedo Junction," because so many merchant and war craft were attacked and sunk there by enemy submarines. The term "torpedo junction" was first coined by the skippers of Coast Guard Patrol craft operating from Ocracoke and Morehead City Section Bases in the submarine-infested waters off Cape Hatteras.

In addition to the museum which will contain many maritime objects and relics Cape Hatteras Lighthouse will be open to the public for supervised tours under the supervision of the National Park Service.

The museum site is adjacent to the new all-paved highway which branches from the Nags Head-Hatteras highway as it approaches Buxton village. The museum area has long been noted for its maritime history and also for its excellent surf fishing.

## DARE CO. BOYS BADLY HURT IN CAR MISHAP

Serious injuries were received Friday night by two young men, well known in Hatteras, when a 1953 Plymouth driven by Ivy Peele, 20, of Hatteras ran off the road on U.S. 158 near Elizabeth City, and after traveling some 600 feet and turning over for another 100 feet was a total wreck.

The driver's companion, Don L. Austin, 21, of Elizabeth City was critically injured. Both young men were thrown from the car, which while out of control, knocked down two signs, a telegraph pole and part of a fence.

Austin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Austin, formerly of Hatteras, and Peele, his cousin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. U. Peele, of Hatteras. Austin is in Albemarle Hospital.

An investigation was made by Patrolman Hawkins.

## RED CROSS TO MEET

Miss Jewel Graves, head of the Red Cross for the 1st Dist. is to be the speaker at a meeting in the Community Building in Manteo, on Feb. 11, at 8 p.m. All those who are interested are asked to attend.