

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## NOW PLANNING BEACH FACILITIES ON BODIE ISLE

### N. P. S. To Provide Dressing Rooms, Showers, First Aid Stations

Plans for bathing beach facilities in the Bodie Island Section of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore have been prepared and are under review by officials of the National Park Service and cooperating agencies.

Donald F. Benson and John C. Lamb, architects from the Eastern Office of Plans and Design, Philadelphia, were in the Manteo office of the National Park Service on December 10-11 with scale models of five different types of possible development. Their problem was to decide which type would be most suitable for the location and to determine which, after actually constructed, would be of greatest benefit to the public.

Basically all proposed variations of the development are about the same; including dressing rooms, showers, rest rooms, information center, first aid and life-guard stations, sun shades, etc. In combining these units, the architects experimented with varying styles of architecture, ranging from conventional to ultra-modern.

Allan Hanks, Superintendent of the National Seashore, Ronald Lee, Chief of Interpretation, Washington Office, Donald D. Shepard, Mellon Foundation, and Huntington Cairns, National Gallery of Art, met with the architects on the 11th for review and evaluation of the different architectural styles.

Superintendent Hanks accompanied Messrs. Lee, Shepard and Cairns on a two-day inspection of Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands. Shepard and Cairns were instrumental in getting donated funds for land acquisition and have a deep personal interest in the development of the national seashore.

## Geological Survey

Robert Treadwell, Louisiana State University Geologist, was in the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, December 4-14, making a preliminary survey of geological features of the area. Treadwell's work was the initial step of the geological phase of a comprehensive study of the "Outer Banks" being made by the Coastal Studies Institute of Louisiana State University, under the sponsorship of the Office of Naval Research and the National Park Service of the United States Department of the Interior. The project embraces all phases of history and natural history.

Botanical studies were started during November and the archeological work began several weeks earlier.

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS AT MANTEO METHODIST

### Pageant by Young People Sunday Evening, Dec. 19; Mrs. Harbour To Read Peter Marshall's "Spirit of Christmas"

Numerous activities in keeping with the Christmas season are being planned by various groups in the Mt. Olivet Church in Manteo, according to Mrs. Nevin Wescott, General Superintendent of the church school.

On Sunday morning, December 19th, as a devotional in the Sunday school program, Mrs. Lynn Harbour will give Peter Marshall's sermon, "The Spirit of Christmas."

On Sunday evening of the same day, at the worship hour at 7:30 there will be carol singing, followed by a pageant under the direction of Mrs. B. J. Baum, and featuring the adult choir of the church.

On Christmas Eve at 7:30, the Children's Division, under the direction of Miss Miriam Ferbee and Mrs. Virginia Patrick, will present a pageant entitled "The Story and the Tree." Mrs. Robert Allance and Mrs. Belton Burrus are assisting in the presentation of this program. Following this program, members of the Youth Fellowship, together with those from the Baptist Training Union, will go Christmas caroling at the homes of shut-ins.

On Sunday, December 26, at the regular evening worship hour, the MYF group will present a candle-light service entitled "The Feast of the Lights."

Tentative plans are in the making for a Watch Night service to be held at the church at New Year's Eve at 11:30 p.m. This service will be presented by the college students.

## DARE CO. MAN GIVES VIRGIN ISLAND LANDS



FRANK STICK

It used to be a far cry from Dare County to the island of St. John in the Virgin Islands in the Caribbean. But times have changed and the fact that a Dare County man owns a large part of this island seems to have escaped local notice.

But Frank Stick, who has done so much to lift the architectural tone of the upper Dare County beaches, and whose genius went into the development of Southern Shores, a beautiful cottage line, is the man. Mr. Stick has offered to donate his interests to the Federal Government for a National Park. Mr. Stick back in 1925 with two other associates, donated several

See STICK, Page Five

## MacNeill Uncovers Hayman Potato Story In An Old Book Kept by Hatteras Mariner

### John W. Rollinson's Diary Tells of Capt. Daniel Hayman's Voyages in the Schooner Sally Smith Between Edenton and the West Indies Over 100 Years Ago

By BEN DIXON MACNEILL

It began in the year that I learned to read and to become aware of words and of the still dismaying circumstance that words that sound alike may not be spelled alike and may have different meanings. That was sixty years ago and it comes, in some strange fashion, full circle this week: next Sunday, the 19th day of December, is the 95th anniversary of the inward passage through Hatteras Inlet of the Schooner Sally Smith, Daniel Hayman, master.

This may be no way to begin setting down an event of major consequence to a good many millions of people, some of whom get their living out of the earth in Currituck County. It will no doubt distress the historians, resident and carpet-bagger, and mightily confuse the professors of plant breeding in State College. It distresses and confuses me, too, and I can but add my regret to theirs that I ever learned to read—and to write after a fashion.

And to reassure myself and allay somewhat the confusion of such as may have come with me this far, it has, or may come to have, something to do with potatoes. Sweet potatoes. Next Sunday is an important anniversary in Southern history, but I keep drifting back to a day in the autumn of 1895, the year in which I learned to read.

It was too early in the season for a pumpkin pie, and besides that had to wait until my birthday, which was and is in November. So, pending that day, I had wheedled my mother and Annie McLeod into making a sweet potato pie. But there were conditions, of course: first I had to learn how to spell potato and during this process, while Annie peeled potatoes, I became aware of yet another word. These were the first of a new sort of potato. It was called the Hayman potato.

Why my mind latched on to that name I do not know, except that, the night before, my mother had read in that chapter of the Bible about a very wicked man named Haman who had got himself hanged in the Book of Esther. . . . As long as she lived my mother read the evening's chapter in the Bible. . . . The word stuck and from my innocence and ignorance on the kitchen floor I wanted to know if the potato was named for the man who was, and very properly, hanged.

No, the potato was spelled Hayman and the hanged man was Haman. No, she couldn't tell me who Mr. Hayman was and I wondered a lot. . . . It turned out to be a very elegant pie. The potatoes, these new Hayman potatoes, were red and juicy and for a time I was disposed to place them even

## RURITAN DINNER A BIG SUCCESS THURSDAY NIGHT

### District Meeting at Shrine Club Hears Congressman Talk

The Albemarle District Ruritan meeting last Thursday elected officers and concluded with a successful dinner for 150 at the Dare County Shrine Club rooms near Manteo. Congressman Herbert Bonner was the principal speaker on the program which concluded with remarks by Melvin R. Daniels of the Wanchese Club.

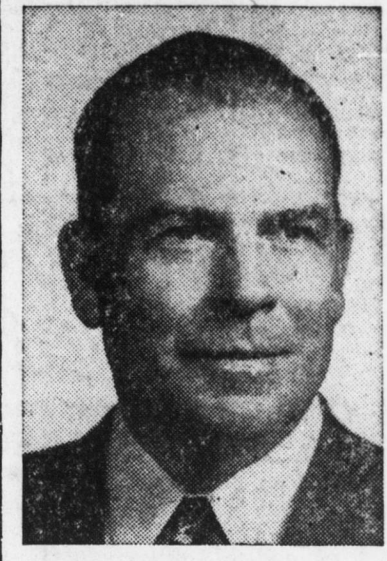
Retiring District Governor James W. Davis of Wanchese presided, and was highly complimented for his services during the year and for his work which made the meeting so highly praised. The Shrine Club staff served a splendid turkey dinner.

Bob Spivey of the Durants Neck Club was elected at the afternoon business session for District Governor for 1955. For the second time the Parksville Township Club of Perquimans County won the service award, and the attendance award went to Hobbsville. The Kell sisters of New Hope were featured singers, accompanied by Miss Peggie Harrell.

Prominent Ruritans in attendance at the club included Raleigh Carver, S. L. Lowry, Curtis Old, W. R. Gregory, and W. H. Brake, the National President.

A standing vote of thanks was given to Mr. Davis for his good work for the organization. He is now president of the Wanchese Club.

## RURITAN NATIONAL PRESIDENT, VISITOR



Among visitors at the Ruritan District Convention in Dare County last week was National President, William H. Brake of Rocky Mount, who is the second North Carolinian to serve as a National president. He is a member of the West Edgecombe Ruritan Club and has a perfect attendance record for the past six years. He has served his club as president and has been Lieutenant Governor and Governor of the Rocky Mount-Durham District. During the convention in Richmond in 1953 he was elected Vice-President. In 1952 Bill organized about all of the clubs which were chartered in the "Old North State".

He is married and has a thirteen-year-old son, William Howard, Jr., and a six-year-old daughter, named Kathryn. Mrs. Brake was president of the P. T. A. for two years, is past president of the Home Demonstration Club, and is chairman of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Brake is an alumnus of North Carolina State where he graduated with honor, earning a B. S. Degree in 1931. He won the freshman scholarship cup offered by the Alpha Zeta Agricultural Fraternity.

At the present he is a member of the Board of Directors of the Rocky Mount Farmers Cooperative Exchange, is on the State Dairy Committee of the North Carolina Farm Bureau and is President of the Twin County Artificial Breeders Association. He was selected as soil conservation cooperator for his work in conservation.

## DARE SCHOOLS TO CLOSE FRIDAY FOR HOLIDAYS

### Manteo PTA Hears Program by School Children; Carols Sung

Schools in Dare County are scheduled to close Friday afternoon, December 17, for the Christmas holidays. Classes will be resumed Monday, January 3.

Christmas parties are to be the order of the day Friday in most of the classrooms and Christmas trees and other decorations have been arranged.

In Manteo a program was presented Thursday afternoon at two o'clock in the school auditorium by students from the third grade up, Mrs. W. S. Meekins and Mrs. H. R. Ashmore directing the performance, and Bebe Burrus acting as announcer. The Manteo PTA held its regular meeting at that time and a social hour followed.

The program was as follows: The Christmas Story, told by Robert Wescott, with prayer by Alta Midgett; How the Word Christmas Originated, by Diana Ward; How the Date for Christmas was set, by Joseph Boyce and Augustus H. Etheridge, Jr.; The History of Carols and Caroling, by Della Basnight, Donald Sessions, Carol Ann Ernst and Roy Wescott, Jr.; How the Tree Came to be a Christmas Custom, by Linda Mann and Clyde Hassell; Why the Chimes Rang, by Patty Long; "Joy to the World" sung by Marjorie White, Jo Ann Ballance and Judy Etheridge. Carols were sung throughout the afternoon and the entire assemblage joined in at the conclusion of the program.

## TURKEY SHOOT FOR CHRISTMAS DINNERS

Another turkey shoot is being sponsored tomorrow, Saturday, the 18th, by the Manteo VFW post. Now's the chance to get Christmas dinner, and help a worthy cause at the same time.

The shoot will be held at the Manteo waterfront, beginning at 1 p.m. Money raised at this event is to be spent for Christmas projects.

## GUEST SPEAKERS FOR TOURIST BUREAU MEETING

### Bill Taft, Head of State Tourist Bureau, and Allyn Hanks of Park Service Bring Suggestions

Dare County Tourist Bureau, now in its fourth year of operation, has set a pattern for similar organizations in North Carolina and elsewhere, according to Bill Taft, director of the Department of Conservation and Development's State Tourist Bureau.

Taft was guest speaker at the winter meeting of the board of directors of the Dare Bureau meeting Wednesday in the Cypress Room of The Carolinian Hotel on Nags Head. Taft, who outlined the operational plans of the State's Tourist Bureau to guests present, shared speaking honors with Allyn Hanks, superintendent of Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area.

"Your bureau which has been operating for more than three years under the supervision of your board of directors here, has become nationally known for its area promotional and publicity activities," said Taft. He offered suggestions and gave many ideas how the Bureau can continue to go forward.

Announcement of work that is planned in the immediate future for Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area in the Bodie Island region and work already accomplished in the development of attractions at Cape Hatteras and elsewhere were discussed. The group present were shown plans of the proposed bathing and picnic area on the ocean side at Bodie Island and the new Natural History Museum now under construction at Bodie Island Lighthouse.

Mrs. Lucille Purser, president of the Tourist Bureau, entertained the directors and visitors at luncheon in The Carolinian's Dogwood Room and this was the scene of the speeches by Taft and Hanks. Previously in the Cypress Room, the group heard reports on finances from Secretary-Treasurer W. H. McCown and a three months report from the manager and news director of the Bureau.

The manager's report indicated that between September 15 to December 15, 7,707 pieces of mail, including news stories, answers to inquiries, informational data to students, news photographs, monthly and weekly reports on inquiries and activities and thousands of folders were distributed. In addition to the regular board of directors, visitors included representatives of the chambers of commerce and the board of county commissioners. Each sector of the county was represented at the meeting.

## DARE'S BLACK LAUREL IS ACQUIRING FAME

### Rare Franklin Tree Believed Discovered on Mainland of Dare

Stumpy Point.—The "Black laurel" of Dare Mainland natives is now believed to be identical to one of America's most rare flowering trees, a species first discovered growing wild in the swamps near Waycross, Georgia—and never found anywhere else in a wild state. The "first discovery" was made during the late 18th Century.

Mrs. L. L. Overcash of Wanchese on Roanoke Island declares that the "black laurel" is actually the famous Franklina (Franklin Tree) sometimes called Gordonia which bears the scientific designation of *alatomahua*.

Mrs. Overcash and her husband, formerly in the nursery business at Gates, N. C., moved to Wanchese due to Mr. Overcash's health. There is no question in her mind that the trees she has seen growing in profusion along the highways and canal banks of the Stumpy Point area are anything except Franklin Trees. An Encyclopedic description of the rare tree follows:

"Flowering in late summer and early fall is the famous Franklina (*F. alatomahua*), sometimes called See LAUREL, Page Five

## LIONS SPONSORING DANCE SAT. NIGHT

The annual pre-Christmas dance of the Manteo Lions Club is being held Saturday night, beginning at 9 p.m., in the Manteo School gymnasium. A large turnout is expected, and the Lions promise an evening of fun and entertainment for all. A special event will be a drawing for a wrist watch, held sometime during the evening.

## THUNDERSTREAK JETS TO FLY MEMORIAL FORMATION OVER WRIGHT MEMORIAL FRIDAY

### Admiral Kiland Scheduled Speaker at 51st Anniversary Celebration at Kill Devil Hills. Witness of First "Trial Flights" Lives Near Manteo.



REAR ADMIRAL I. N. KILAND, Commandant of the Fifth Naval District, principal speaker Dec. 17th at Kill Devil Hills.

## BUDGET IS BIG STATE PROBLEM, SAYS GOVERNOR

### Special Press Conference Held Monday by Governor Luther Hodges

"One of the most important problems facing our state now is the question of revenue and appropriations," stated Governor Luther H. Hodges at a special press conference Monday afternoon in Raleigh. He explained that it appears that for the biennium 1955-56, the state will spend approximately \$32,000,000 more than it receives from revenues.

In 1932-33, the total General Fund Collection's were under \$39,000,000. It was then that North Carolina's sales tax was enacted. Since 1940, net revenues have exceeded current expenditures each year until the fiscal year, 1952-53. At that time, revenues, began to level off, while expenditures—the cost of government—continued upward. Last year was the first year since 1941 that the Revenue Act failed to produce more revenues than expenditures.

Governor Hodges made it clear that substantial additional revenue will be needed for the biennium of 1955-57. While some change will be recommended in the state's tax structure, the official figures will not be given until the budget report, signed by the Advisory Budget Commission and the Governor, is released to the General Assembly in early January.

Other problems were mentioned See BUDGET, Page Five

## EARLY SEASON ACTIVITY PLANNED FOR DARE COAST

Nags Head.—Everything from the world's largest fish fry to pirate or wrecking festivals, and model plane contests staged on a national scale are among early season activities planned for the Dare Coast region from Kitty Hawk to Hatteras and in the Nags Head or Roanoke Island areas.

Civic leaders from Cape Hatteras to Kitty Hawk and Roanoke Island, meeting here this week with the board of directors of Dare County Tourist Bureau and officials of the Nags Head and Dare Beaches Chambers of Commerce discussed potential events that may be held in various parts of the county during late Spring and also in the autumn. The general idea is to attract more Spring vacationists.

Bill Taft, director, State Tourist Bureau of the Department of Conservation and Development was guest speaker at the meeting and showed a deep interest in the various ideas suggested.

Mrs. Lucille Purser, president of the Tourist Bureau stated that the meeting was drawing to a close that if present plans carry the famous "first channel bass of the season at Oregon Inlet," may soon, and possibly in 1955, share the spotlight with many other unusual activities and tourist attractions.

At speeds of approximately 500 miles per hour, 15 Air Force Thunderstreak (F-84-Fs) in V-shape memorial formation will fly southward over Wright Brothers National Monument atop Kill Devil Hill here on Friday morning, December 17 at 11 o'clock, returning in single file seconds later on a northward run over the area. This flyover of the Langley Field-based fighter-bombers will climax a wreath laying ceremony at the base of the Wright Monument.

Following the ceremonies at the monument which will feature music by Elizabeth City's high school band, a drill by the band's majorettes, taps by a ROTC drum and bugle unit of East Carolina College in Greenville, the wreath laying and introduction of distinguished persons present, will be a reception and luncheon at The Carolinian with Rear Admiral I. N. Kiland, commandant of Fifth Naval District as the principal speaker. The program at monument will begin at 1:30 o'clock, the luncheon at 1 o'clock.

Capt. R. M. Blankenbecler an operations officer of the 405th Fighter-Bomber Wing of Langley Field said that the Thunderstreaks in their V-formation southward over monument would be traveling at an altitude of 1,000 feet and that on their return in single file a few seconds later would be trailing at 500 feet above monument. "These fighter-bombers are the very latest in jet aircrafts," he said.

In contrast to the speed of the fighter-bombers, the Wright Brothers, Wilbur and Orville, wire their parents back home in Dayton, 51 years ago following their four successful flights on December 17, 1903, that their plane traveled at a forward speed of 31 miles an hour against a 27 mile wind.

## MANTEO MASONS ELECT OFFICERS FOR NEW YEAR

The newly elected officers of Manteo Masonic Lodge who will be installed on the next meeting night, December 27 are as follows:

B. B. Burrus succeeding R. O. Ballance, Worshipful Master; Charlie E. O'Neal, former secretary, Senior Warden; Selden Midgett, succeeding Elmer Midgett as Junior Warden. John W. Evans, Secretary and J. G. Kellogg, Treasurer. The Lodge, which was chartered seven years ago began with some 20 members who withdrew from Wanchese Lodge. It now has a membership of 104 and meets on the second and fourth Mondays in each month.

## LOSES NEW HOME IN FIRE AT NAGS HEAD

A newcomer to Nags Head lost her new cottage Saturday morning in the early hours. Mrs. Hilda Mihovitz who came from Newport News and built a new home this year was the loser. She lost all clothing and furnishings, but escaped with her two sons.

Damage was done by this fire to telephone lines by the house. The Manteo Fire department responded as soon as they were called but this was too late to help. However, they were able to prevent spreading to other property.

## AGED BUXTON CITIZEN IS TAKEN BY DEATH

Mrs. Louisa Gray, 89, died at her home in Buxton Wednesday, following an illness of several weeks. Funeral services were conducted Thursday afternoon in Buxton.

Mrs. Gray, who was the widow of the late Matthew Gray, is survived by four sons, O. J. Gray and Lupton Gray of Buxton; Richard Gray of Wanchese; Ignatius Gray of Norfolk; two daughters, Mrs. Lula Austin of Manteo and Mrs. Nellie Gray of Buxton; a large number of grandchildren and great grandchildren; and one great-grandchild, Laura Lee Skinner of Manteo.