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EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS DULY ORGANIZED ON NAGS HD. BEACH

St. Andrews By-The-Sea Becomes A Full Fledged Church After 45 Years

St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, an Episcopal mission built largely through the efforts of the late Dr. R. B. Drane of Edenton on Nags Head, has become an organized Church of the Diocese of East Carolina. The Rev. Alex. C. D. Noe, once vicar and later rector of St. Thomas Church in Bath, the oldest religious edifice in North Carolina is rector of St. Andrews and it was through his efforts, with the cooperation of Theodore Hampton Noe and Dare Coast Episcopalians that the Church has been organized with regular services.

The organization has taken place under the sanction of the Rt. Rev. Thomas H. Wright, D. D., Bishop of the Diocese of East Carolina and the Rev. Daniel W. Allen, Diocesan executive secretary of Wilmington. In the beginning St. Andrews had 35 communicants but additional members, most of them already Episcopalians, or coastal residents who have chosen this faith as their choice, have been added to the rolls weekly and the Rev. Mr. Noe is conducting regular confirmation classes. Many persons will be confirmed into the Church when Bishop Wright makes his February visit to St. Andrews.

The present structure, built some 45 years ago was financed by funds awarded the Diocese by the Government in payment for a church destroyed nearby by Federal soldiers during the Civil War. Originally built in the center of the beach to serve equally ocean-side and soundside residents, it was moved out near the new highway a few years ago.

Hampton Noe, a nephew of the Rector and native of Wilmington, was named Senior Warden of the Vestry at the organization of St. Andrews recently. He had been a resident of Dare County for two years serving as District Sanitarian for the Board of Health. During the past week he left Dare to go home in Madison, Wisconsin.

Succeeding Noe as Senior Warden of the Vestry is Dewey Hayman of Nags Head. Gordon Kellogg of Manteo has been named junior warden and members of the Vestry include R. S. Smith, secretary-treasurer, John Earle and Charles Marshall, lay readers, and W. P. Gray, Martin Kellogg, Jr., Ayecock Brown and P. J. M. Payne. See CHURCH, Page Four

MORE BOATS SOUGHT FOR OREGON INLET FERRY

Bonner and Park Service Working With Highway Department to Procure Additional Landing Craft For Summer Duty

Early conferences have been scheduled in Washington to obtain additional landing craft from the Navy Department for conversion into ferry boats for service across Oregon Inlet. Three boats have already been obtained in this manner. A. C. Stratton, who was in Manteo this week with E. M. Lyle, Assistant Regional Director of the NPS said that it is hoped one or more of these craft may be obtained for this purpose.

The boats now in service at Oregon Inlet are the Governor Umstead, the Lindsay Warren and the Conrad Wirth. Two of them were put into service in 1953.

While in the area, the park officials looked over the projected developments at Bodie Island and Cape Hatteras. The use area at Bodie Island is now in process of improvement. John E. Ferebee, Manteo house mover is moving the older Bodie Island Coast Guard station some distance away from its old location to a point northward of the newer station building. The latter is used as Park headquarters. The space vacated will be the site of the new Park service buildings.

Some distance away, across the beach, a museum is being developed at Bodie Island Lighthouse in the former keepers' quarters. Funds are available for construction of a hard-surface road over to the area.

FINE FOR ASSAULT WITH KNIFE ON COLORED GIRL

George Albert McCleave of Manteo was fined for assaulting a young colored girl with a knife in Recorder's Court this week. The fine was \$25 plus the court costs, and suspended sentence of 60 days in jail. The girl, Sylvia Mackey.

GREAT ENTHUSIASM IS REPORTED FOR ALLIGATOR BRIDGE

Williamston Meeting Attended By 40 From Counties of Area; Also Highway Engineers

"One of the most enthusiastic and promising meetings we have ever held," says Melvin R. Daniels, who with Lawrence Swain of Manteo and five others from Dare attended a meeting held in Williamston Wednesday in the interest of a campaign to obtain a bridge over Alligator River.

Mr. Daniels said about 40 people from the six counties of the Southern Albemarle attended, including representatives from Nash and Edgecombe. This was not a quarterly meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association, although it was called by A. Corey, the Association President of Jamesville.

Attending this meeting were Highway Commissioner Emmett Winslow of Hertford, and Division Engineer Bill Spruill of Ahsokie. The group voted to organize and go forward with a campaign to seek the building of the bridge over the river, thereby completing U. S. 64, which is a transcontinental highway, beginning on the west coast and continuing to Nags Head.

The party was served a turkey dinner, and left with great hopes for launching a program while the Legislature is in session.

Mr. Corey stated that quarterly meeting of the SAA executive committee would be called early in May.

Attending from Dare County were Melvin and Mrs. Daniels, Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Daniels, Jr., Mr. Swain, Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Fearing.

Jim and Love Morton Use Plane To Prove Distance No Barrier to Enjoying Coastland

A Pennsylvanian, Now A New York Newspaperman and a Tar Heel Booster, Flies With His Wife to Manteo Airport for Quick Enjoyment of Their Nags Head Home.

By DON BISHOP
New York.—Second only to Texans, North Carolinians living in New York talk more about their home state than anyone. But Lone Star Staters, Tar Heels and everyone else must take a back seat to a fellow named Jim Morton.

Morton is a native Pennsylvanian who has lived most of his 33 years in New York. But on the basis of his part-time residence at Nags Head, N. C., some 25 or 30 week ends a year, he has become one of North Carolina's most vocal boosters in New York City.

What makes this all the better for his adopted state, Morton is in a key position on the influential New York Journal American. If he has occasion—and he often does—to decide on giving the nod to a picture or story from, say, Idaho, or North Carolina, the Western state hasn't a chance. For that matter, neither would any other state.

"I've been in all 48 states and 12 foreign countries," said Morton. "North Carolina has them all beat."

Flies to N. C.
He and his wife, the former Love Brice of Staunton, Va., have a beach cottage at Nags Head. He flies his Bellanca Crusair there every week end, holiday and vacation possible. Since the Mortons "discovered" the Outer Banks of North Carolina in 1948, they have become such constant residents of Nags Head that other less frequent visitors regard them as part of the year-round citizenry.

Morton first became acquainted with North Carolina when he was a student at The Citadel in Charleston, S. C. As captain of the track team, he often ran at meets at Davidson, Duke and the University of North Carolina. But being an exceptionally fast runner—his state two-mile record has never been equalled—he got only fleeting glimpses of the countryside.

A few years after his graduation in 1938 he was getting vertical views of North Carolina as a paratrooper, making about 20 practice jumps at Camp MacKall, Fort Bragg and Hamlet. He liked the state even from that vantage point.

Has Decorations
He went overseas with the 101st Airborne Division, broke a leg in a practice jump in England, won a battlefield promotion to captain in August 1953. The cottage, named "The Screaming Eagle" in honor of the shoulder patch of the 101st Airborne Division, was decorated four times and also received

NEW RURITAN PREST MANN'S HARBOR CLUB



The Mann's Harbor Ruritan Club which meets the third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., held its regular monthly meeting at the club building January 19th. Stanford White, well known Mann's Harbor business man was installed President, succeeding Sherman Twiford. Wallace Taylor is the new Vice President; Will Mann, Treasurer; John Midgett, Secretary and Henry Armstrong was chosen the new rector for three years. The officers were installed by the Rev. A. L. G. Stevenson. This was one of the best meetings of the year with 22 members present. The Woman's Club served a chicken dinner. Much interest is being shown in the club and as the officers begin their new year of work in helping to make the community a better place to live, new projects are soon to be started.

Mr. White has previously served as president of the club and also district president. He is one of the most tireless workers in Ruritan National in this area.

OLD COAST GUARD "CHAPLAIN" HEARS HIS FINAL ORDERS

Rev. George R. Willis Once Had World's Longest Circuit, Dies Saturday in Manteo

Death ended the career Saturday morning of a preacher who once claimed to have the world's longest circuit. Rev. George R. Willis died at 4:05 a.m. Saturday in Manteo at the age of 76. In the hey-day of the shore-stations of the Coast Guard. He was unofficial "Chaplain" for the men of the service, and he travelled the Coast Line of the Atlantic with its seven districts, from the Bay of Fundy to Key West, and the three districts of the Great Lakes.

Mr. Willis was born at Hatteras October 8, 1878, the son of the late Joe and Olivia Styron Willis. He had lived on Roanoke Island about ten years, and was a member of the Wanchese Methodist Church.

Mr. Willis died at the home of his sister, Mrs. Louise McCleary in Manteo. He is survived also by a brother, Willie P. Willis of Hatteras. By two daughters, Mrs. Annie Petronie of New York and Mrs. Pearl Slade of Oriental; by a son, Ernest of New York and 13 grandchildren.

At the age of 16 he delivered his first sermon at the Old Creeds Hill Life Saving Station some six miles southwest of Cape Hatteras. Along in the mid-nineties a rugged old seafaring man, Capt. Homer Styron was in charge then.

Back in those days, before the automobile or roads, and when travellers came seldom to these lonely stations, any visitors was highly welcome. Opportunities then being few for the religious-minded surfmen to attend church. Rev. George Willis relieved the monotony as he made his rounds up and down the coast. He would spend a day at each station, if they were far apart, and less time if they were close together. The men developed a habit of each giving him a dollar... he got his meals and bed, and transportation to the next station up or down the coast. See WILLIS, Page Four

ELLIS H. MIDGETT, 70, EX-COAST GUARD DIES

Ellis Howard Midgett, 70, retired surfman of the Coast Guard and husband of Mrs. Lotta S. Midgett of Manteo, died Monday morning at 1:15 at the Marine Hospital, Norfolk. He had been ill for five months, and had been retired from the service after 20 years, through disability May 1, 1939.

Mr. Midgett had lived in Manteo 52 years. He was born at Salvo May 23, 1884, the son of the late Jesse T. and Elvira Jennette Midgett. His first wife, was Mrs. Lavenia O'Neal Midgett who preceded him in death several years ago. Beside his wife he is survived by eight children: four sons: Wilbur of Blue Anchor, N. J., Willard of Palm Beach, Fla.; Ellis Jr. of St. Simon's Island, Ga.; and Edwin of Manteo; four daughters: Mrs. Wayland Baum of Wanchese; Mrs. Caleb Brickhouse, and Mrs. Anita Jessen of Manteo; and Mrs. Effirania Thomas of Belmont, N. J. Two brothers, Willie E. Midgett of Manteo and Ervin Midgett of St. Petersburg, Fla. Two sisters: Miss Eulalia Midgett of Manteo and Mrs. Dwight Andrews of Raleigh. There are 14 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He was a highly regarded citizen of Manteo and had been cheerful and uncomplaining during his long illness.

He was a member of Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, and funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 2:30 from the church by Rev. H. R. Ashmore, the pastor, assisted by Rev. H. V. See MIDGETT, Page Four

FIRST MAN INJURED WEDNESDAY ON BRIDGE

Jim Bethea of Manteo, a colored man in his early 30's, got a leg painfully bruised Wednesday while working on a barge of the T. A. Loving Co. which is engaged in driving the piles for the Croatan Sound bridge.

According to one of the company men, Bethea was caught between two of the concrete pilings on the deck of the barge when they rolled together. He was taken to Elizabeth City hospital for treatment and is expected home in a couple of days. No bones were broken. This is the first injury reported on this big job which is expected to take nearly two years to complete.

A number of the pilings have been driven. These were of concrete, octagonal in shape, diameter ranging from 20 to 22 inches. They are allowed to cure 18 days before going under the hammer.

ANCIENT MONSTER'S JAWBONE ALONG WITH OTHER MARINE ANIMALS DREDGED UP AT MANN'S HARBOR



Some beast, the like of which has not walked the earth since millions of years back, came to light in the Mann's Harbor marshes Tuesday morning when the dredge piling up the approaches to the new Croatan Sound Bridge turned up his jaw bone and was promptly paralyzed by what might be called a pump-ache.

This fragment of what might have been a mastodon or something had all its teeth missing, but when he had teeth they were teeth, set into sockets five inches deep. No scientific opinion has yet been available as to the precise nature of the critter but, despite the hopes of naturalists and such, the dredge people hope no further fragments will show up.

The cutter-head of the dredge was working 38 feet below the surface of the marsh when the pump started pounding and then just stopped. The machinery was halted and the chambers of the dredge opened. From it was taken the somewhat battered fragment

FURTHER DELAY IN PLANS FOR BEACH TOLL ROAD

Later advice this week is that there has been an indefinite postponement of the meeting of the bond brokers and the promoters of the toll road between Nags Head and Virginia Beach, which meeting was to have been held in Raleigh Wednesday. Some observers think that due to various unsettled conditions, threats of war, public opposition to tolls in N. C., that it is being difficult to interest investors in buying bonds in a project of this type.

Investment houses which had contracted to sell the bonds had failed to do so by the 19th, the deadline set. Previously the backers of the toll road had notified them that unless something was done by the 19th, to close the deal, it would be called off. A meeting was called Wednesday of last week for this purpose.

But announcement later said that because of the bad weather prevailing on the 19th, travel was rather difficult, and the meeting was postponed to Wednesday of this week.

North Carolina's Carolina-Virginia Turnpike Authority and Virginia's Coastal Turnpike Authority met with the bond-buyers in Raleigh Wednesday either to clinch the deal or call it off.

State Highway Chairman A. H. Graham, an ex-officio member of the North Carolina group, and other members of the two authorities told the bankers in Virginia Beach earlier this month that if definite proposals were not ready by Wednesday's meeting the contracts would be considered terminated.

The road would run from a point just north of Nags Head to a point just south of Virginia Beach. Although the North Carolina and Virginia authorities are coordinating plans and preparations, all contracts and agreements are made separately to avoid possible legal snarls.

The construction contractors were designated last September, pending sale of the bonds, and the bonds were to have been sold within 30 days.

All told, approximately \$3,500,000 worth of revenue bonds were to be issued—part in the name of the Carolina-Virginia Turnpike Authority and part in the name of the Coastal Turnpike Authority.

Fight Polio in '55!
Join the
MARCH OF DIMES
January 31

MARCH OF DIMES DARE CAMPAIGN LASTS THRU FEB.

Community Directors Named This Week; Same Group Headed Last Year's Successful Campaign

The March of Dimes campaign in Dare County will continue through the month of February according to Mrs. Helen Baum, County director. This is due to a late start in launching the county-wide campaign.

In order to raise Dare County's quota, Mrs. Baum has called on almost the same entire group of community directors who served so successfully last year.

Mrs. Ralph Marks of Kitty Hawk will work that community through Nags Head, and some other areas of the Dare Beaches. Other directors follow:

Manteo, Mrs. Raymond Westcott; Hatteras, Mrs. Byron Byrd; Buxton-Frisco, Mrs. L. L. Gibbs; Avon, Mrs. H. K. Barnette; Stumpy Point, Mrs. Woodrow Best and Mrs. Jasper Hooper; Manteo Colored, Mrs. Lonnie Gray; Kill Devil Hills, Mrs. Elton Twiford; Mann's Harbor, Mrs. Dorothy Taylor; Mashoes, Mrs. W. H. Mann and Rodanthe-Waves-Salvo, Mrs. Asa Gray Jr.

Half the net receipts will remain with the Dare County Chapter for aid to needy polio patients of the county. Half will go to the National Chapter.

TRUCK ROLLS OFF FERRY IN MIDDLE OF OREGON INLET

Friday of last week a road oil tank truck of the State Highway Commission, northbound on the 3:30 p.m. ferry, ran overboard off the stern of the boat in about seven feet of water in the middle of Oregon Inlet. The driver of the truck had gotten out a few minutes before and was walking about the deck of the boat. The ferry was dragging bottom shortly before the mishap, and caused the truck to take a short jolt. It is believed the truck had no emergency brake set, and the ignition was on, causing the motor to start and run it all the way over the stern, clear over the two safety chains across the end of the boat.

The tank being empty, the wheels did not set firmly on the bottom and a rough sea kept the unit bobbing up and down. The men of Oregon Inlet Coast Guard station went to the scene in a Duck, and taking the truck in tow, dragged it over to a shoal, and left it for the night. Next day, Selby Gaskins the station engineer also took hold with a boat and the truck was finally dragged ashore near the southside ferry slip.

Coastguards have many times been called out to drag automobiles ashore from the surf when motorists were bogged down and caught by the incoming tide, but this is the first instance of a vehicle being towed ashore by boat from the middle of the inlet.

And this ought to be a pretty good reminder of what might happen to an automobile and a man's See TRUCK, Page Four

WANCHESE RURITANS PUT NEW OFFICERS ON JOB

Dick Jordan on Program; District President Davis to Represent Club This Week in Washington

The Wanchese Ruritan Club Friday night in regular monthly meeting installed their newly elected officers. Melvin R. Daniels, returns to the Presidency of the club, Clifford Wagstaff the school principal is the new Vice-President; Chesley Midgett, Secretary and J. W. Davis, Treasurer. Willis Daniels, Ralph Meekins and McRae Etheridge are Trustees.

J. W. Davis, retiring president, installed the new officers. Mr. Davis, who is still District Governor was designated to go to Washington, D. C. this week to represent the club at the Ruritan National convention at the Statler Hotel.

The club viewed with much interest a program of slides in color depicting the Lost Colony and presented by Manager Dick Jordan. President Daniels named each of the 25 members of the club to one or more committees, made a report on club activities and called on all hands to join in making the coming year one of great success on behalf of the community.

The club made plans to buy some equipment for the kitchen at the school, where a fine dinner was served by ladies of the community.