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ONLY TWO MONTHS BEFORE JAMBOREE OPENS 1955 SEASON

Big Fish Fry on Hatteras Island Opens Three-Day Series of Events to Boost Tourist Trade

By **AYCOCK BROWN**
Committees continue with plans for the first annual Dare Coast Pirate Jamboree, beginning on Friday April 29 and continuing through Sunday, May 1. It will be the biggest festival-like celebration of its kind ever attempted on the coast of Dare, and back of it all is to give an official opening for the tourist and vacation season, begin the season earlier.

Opening event of the Jamboree will be on Hatteras Island where citizens have already met and formed committees to have charge of the beach buggy and pony races, the three different fishing contests and a fish luncheon near the base of famous Cape Hatteras Lighthouse on National Seashore lands. Ocracoke Island is to send many visitors.

An important role in the Hatteras Island events will be played by the Parent Teachers Association and the Hospital Auxiliary. They, along with other civic and fraternal groups will sponsor the fish luncheon. First billed as the "world's biggest fish fry" the luncheon in reality will feature broiled and barbecued fish, potato salad, and coffee. Preparations may be made to serve as many as 2,000 persons at the luncheon. George Fuller is Chairman of the Hatteras committees.

Model Plane Contests
Following the events of Friday, on Hatteras Island, the scene of Pirate Jamboree activities will move to the Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head area on Saturday April 30. Feature of the morning program will be controlled and free flight model plane contests.

Miles L. Clark, chairman of the board of directors, Kill Devil Hills Memorial Society and Dick Jordan, general manager of The Lost Colony will head the committee sponsoring the model plane contests. Manteo Rotary Club members will also assist.

Jordan stated this week that it seemed likely that several hundred model planes would be entered in the contests. This phase of the Pirate Jamboree will be held under the auspices of the Academy of Model Aeronautics.

Following the plane contests on Saturday morning will be afternoon events including jeep and nag races at Jockeys Ridge on Nags Head. During the evening at a Pirates Ball, April 30, results of the current Pirate beard growing contests and the election of a pirate queen will be featured. The ball will be held in Nags Head Casino. On Sunday at Roanoke Island, (May 1) there will be speed and fishing boat races.

SPEEDERS, LITTERBUGS, RIFLES, AROUSE IRE OF WANCHESE RURITANS

Some of the chief annoyances of the citizens of Wanchese drew positive action from the members of the community's Ruritan Club Friday night, chief among them being careless rifles in the community, the litterbugs who throw garbage and trash around indiscriminately, and particularly a number of half-cracked or idiotic speeders and drunken drivers who are a menace on the highways.

The club voted to take action. For one thing, signs or notices will first be posted about the disposal of trash. The law will be asked to do something about rifles, and the State Highway Patrol is going to be asked to give some service in the area. Drunken and reckless driving by sporadic visitors is considered the top annoyance.

J. M. Vannote of Manteo, director of Civil Defense for the area was the speaker invited by the club to make an appeal for more interest in the program. President Melvin Daniels, prior to introducing him made most of his speech for him, emphasizing the serious threat that faces every person in event of enemy attack. Mr. Vannote urged the citizens to enlist and serve as observers in this cause.

Mr. Daniels called on the committees for the deepening of Mill Creek and approaches, and they See **RURITANS, Page Five**

ONE CASE IN COURT

Judge Wash Baum heard one case this week in Recorders Court in Manteo. Oscar Midgett, a young colored boy was fined \$15 and costs for cutting Jerry Bell McCleave, resulting in a \$3 doctor's fee.

MANTEO SCOUTS PAUSE DURING LONG HIKE



HERE'S a fine crop of youngsters from Manteo, coming in from a long hike to the North end, maybe as much as ten miles there and back. They stopped beside the road to be photographed Saturday. Several of the group were elsewhere when the picture was made, but we show the following here:

Left to right, front row: Andrew Clark, Joseph Boyce, Phillip Tillett, Roy Wescott, Jr., and Dennis Midgett; second row, Charles Edward Webb, G. G. Bonner, Lloyd Wescott, Jimmie Basnight and Danny Moulson; third row, Gary Meekins, Melvin Twiddy and Fleetwood Mitchell.

MASONS FED TUES. AT WANCHESE BY EASTERN STAR

An exceedingly enjoyable evening Tuesday was the result of the generosity of members of the Eastern Star who were host to the Masons of Roanoke Island's lodges. About 150 were fed at the Wanchese Hall. Features of the dinner were stewed chicken, and pie.

A short address of welcome was given by Melvin R. Daniels, and applause and thanks extended the ladies for the fine dinner. Robert Midgett of Manteo led the singing of two numbers. Following the dinner, the group inspected the newly decorated lodge room, and sang a number of hymns at the piano.

FOX HUNTING NOW AN INSTITUTION ON DARE CO. COAST

It All Adds Up to More Publicity and More People For The Walter Raleigh Coastland

By **AYCOCK BROWN**
With participants from North Carolina and several other eastern states following the hounds, the Nags Head Valentine Season Fox Hunt ended Saturday night with a gala dance in The Carolinian Hotel. On the preceding night, following hunts in the wooded dunes of Nags Head an oyster roast had been held on the beach. How this mid-February event has gained national recognition during the past seven years is an interesting story. Largely responsible for the success of the events each year are the Watkins Brothers of Oxford and Mrs. Lucille Pursler, managing owner of The Carolinian.

"Our original idea was to have a country style informal hunt during the late winter season when there is a minimum of activity at Nags Head," said Mrs. Pursler. "The increasing success of the hunts each year, we believe, has been due to the fact that we have kept them informal."

Instead of mounted horsemen following the hounds, jeeps are See **FOX HUNT, Page Five**

OFFICER R. C. HOLT LEAVING FOR MARTIN

To Be Replaced March 1 By Arthur Fields, Johnston County Native

R. C. Holt, State Highway patrolman stationed in Manteo for the past four years, has resigned effective March 1 and is now spending a vacation period before leaving for his new post in Martin County. Holt, who has gained scores of friends during his service among Dare Countians, is sure to be missed by many, especially the motorists. He is going to Williamston to join the prisons department as superintendent of the Martin County Prison Camp.

Arthur Fields, a veteran of 11 years with the highway patrol, is to replace Holt. Fields is a native of Kenly, Johnston County, but is coming from LaGrange, where he is now stationed. He and Mrs. Fields and their children are planning to locate in Manteo. He is to begin his new duties March 1.

GROUP IN RALEIGH ASKS TOLL BRIDGE AT ALLIGATOR RIVER

A delegation in Raleigh Wednesday asked Governor Hodges' support for a toll bridge over Alligator River to cost a probable \$2,200,000, including approaches. This is what Highway Commissioner Emmett Winslow said it might cost. Mr. Winslow appeared with a delegation headed by Rev. A. Corey of Jamesville. Rep. R. Bruce Etheridge of Dare was with the party.

Mr. Winslow stated that the Croatan Sound Bridge now under construction, and which will be completed next year, will cost with approaches, \$2,750,000. He said he hoped the bridge might be started over Alligator River by the time the Croatan Sound bridge is finished.

ROTARIANS HEAR A NATIVE SON SPEAK ON LADIES NIGHT

P. D. Midgett of Engelhard Offers Exposition of Rotary and Its Ideals, at Nags Head

"Ladies night" was a complete success at Nags Head Monday as the Manteo Rotary Club heard P. D. Midgett of Engelhard at the Carolinian Hotel in the closing feature of the evening deliver an interesting exposition of Rotary and its ideals. Mr. Midgett, an immediate past-District President is a native of Wanchese, and a former Dare County teacher.

Steak was served in the dogwood room of the hotel. Several numbers were sung by the group, with Dick Jordan at the piano. Ray Jones, Jr., hotel manager was toastmaster. President Johnny Long introduced the speaker. See **MIDGETT, Page Five**

FOUR BOYS CAUGHT WITH STOLEN CAR IN CURRITUCK CO.

Escapes From Reform School in Delaware Bound Over in Federal Court

Four youths charged with taking a stolen car across State lines were bound over to Federal Court under \$1,500 bonds in Elizabeth City Wednesday.

After a hearing before United States Commissioner Lloyd Sawyer they were sent to jail at Wilson. The next term of court here opens April 4.

Following a tip off, Sheriff Frank Cahoon of Manteo set out after the four, on Roanoke Island Tuesday, and followed them over Currituck bridge where he was met by State patrolmen, and the boys were forced off the road near Point Harbor.

Officers said three of the boys recently escaped from the Ferris School for Boys at Marsh Allton, Del. They were identified as Mitchell George, 16, Richardson Park, Del.; Thursman O'Neal, 16, Richardson Park, and Anthony Amato, 17, Wilmington, Del. See **BOYS, Page Five**

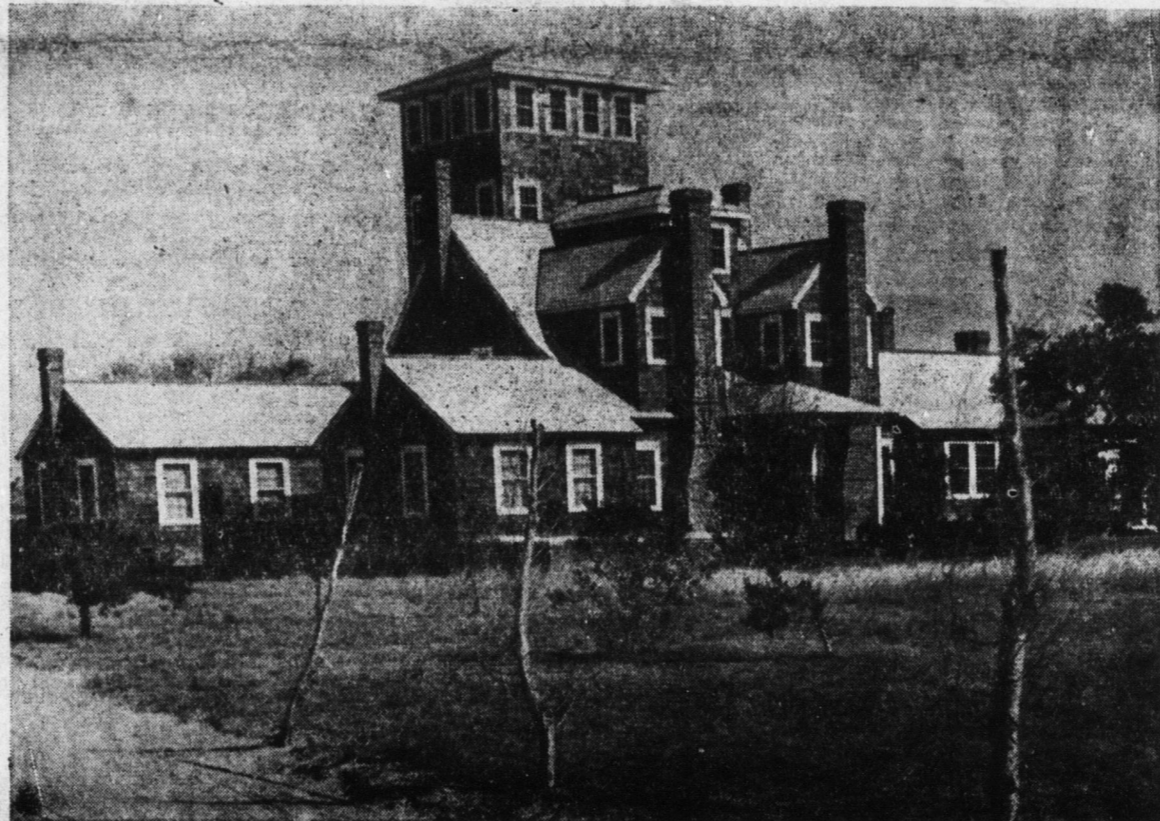
REPORTS GOVERNOR WISHES TO BUILD OCRACOKE ROAD

Melvin R. Daniels, Dare County Register of Deeds, reports this week the receipt of a cordial letter from Governor Hodges expressing a desire to do something about building a road on Ocracoke Island and a free ferry over Hatteras Inlet. The Governor's letter was in response to a recent request for this improvement, by the Dare County Board of Commissioners. Mr. Daniels believes he will soon visit the area with a view to doing something to relieve the island people of the handicaps of isolation.

THE WHALE ASHORE AT KITTY HAWK IS GOING

A 90-foot whale which drifted ashore north of Kitty Hawk the past week is being carried away by a tallow firm in Norfolk. The whale was highly objectionable because of its odor, to cottage owners in nearby Southern Shores. Through the years, several whales have been stranded in this locality.

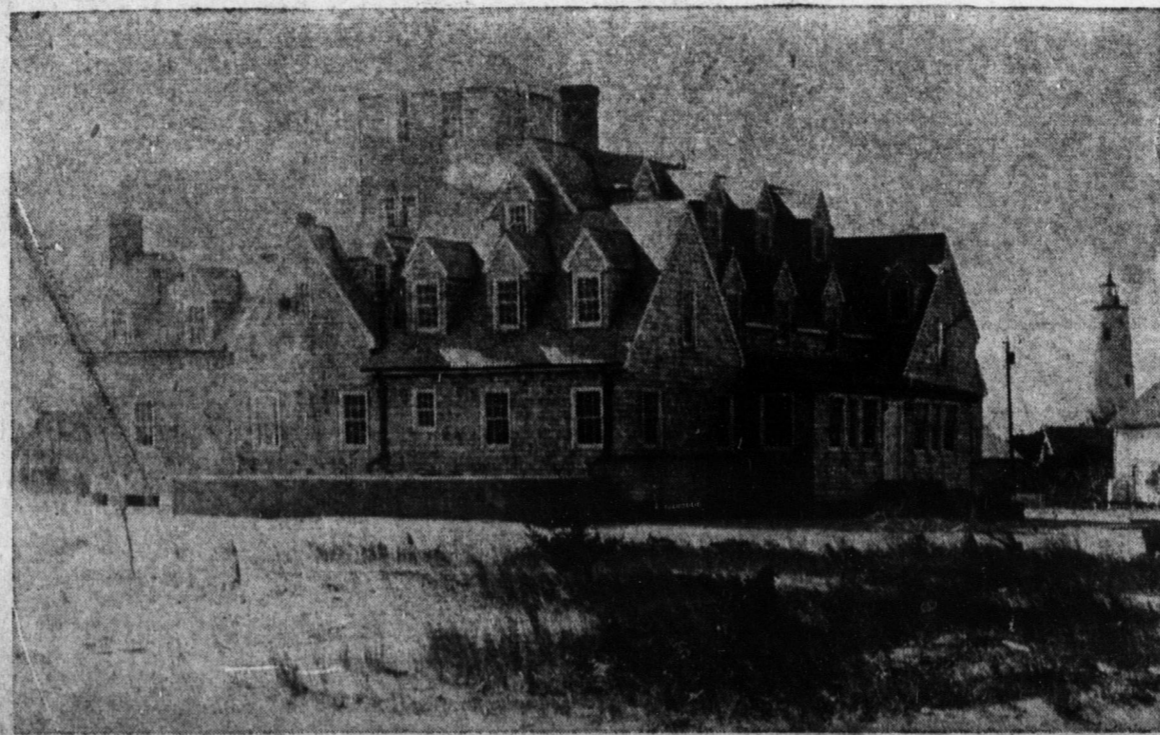
ENGLISH MANOR HOUSES DONE IN WOOD ON CAROLINA COAST



WHO AND WHERE is the Lord of Ocracoke, the visitor might inquire these days upon beholding in his approach the bold yellow shingled mansions recently erected by Sam Jones, Hyde County native and millionaire industrialist of Norfolk. They dominate the Ocracoke skyline from afar; greater than the ancient lighthouse which shows up poorly because it is white. With variations of his own, Mr. Jones has transplanted to the sands of North Carolina, replicas of the old English manor houses where opulent lords once held power, and which were the center as well as ruler of the village and countryside. The Lord of the manor in the old days held great sway, and at intervals would hold field days and feasting times and invite the peasantry to foregather for fun and to be impressed by the Master's opulence and power.

In the past three years while these gigantic houses were being built, many working men on Ocracoke had had jobs, and vast sums flowed out to benefit the island trade. One of these large houses, Berkeley Manor, has five floors, a dozen chimneys, many fireplaces. The smaller house, Sajo Manor, which is a contraction of the name Sam Jones, is also liberally studded with chimneys. It is the smaller house with lighthouse in background. The building was completed during the past season, and proved so interesting that the architectural style has been copied in the village of Hatteras in the largest residence ever built there.

Were it not a misnomer on a free island where there is so much of rugged independence, this beneficent man might win and hold the title of "Lord of Ocracoke". With two such manor houses, he surely has earned it.



THOS. CHEARS, JR. ATTORNEY LOCATES IN DARE COUNTY



THOS. CHEARS JR. Edenton native, this week opened offices in Manteo for the practice of law. Mr. Chears has been in law practice in Charlottesville and Richmond, Va. since World War II, through which he served with rank of Lieutenant Commander in the Navy. The first year and half of the war he was in command of a Patrol Craft in Anti-Submarine warfare between Norfolk and the West Indies, and for two and a half years, he served with Admiral Bull Halsey's Third fleet in the Pacific aboard the battleship Alabama. Mr. Chears graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1935 and from the University of Virginia in 1937. His wife is the former Miss Nelson Powell, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J. A. Powell of Edenton.

During and after the recent war, she spent nine years overseas, working with the American Red Cross and other organizations in Italy, Austria and Germany. Mr. Chears' father, Thos. Chears, is a retired businessman in Edenton. The lawyer's new office is located in the former Coastland Times building opposite the Fort Raleigh Hotel.

MANTEO, NAGS HEAD RAISE MORE THAN \$900 FOR POLIO

Other Committees To Be Heard From: Tops Last Year's \$513.30

More than \$900 has been raised for the 1955 March of Dimes by the committee working in Manteo and Nags Head, according to a report this week by Mrs. Raymond Wescott of Manteo, chairman. The following amounts have been turned into the county chairman and other amounts raised are yet to be added to this total.

Business firms, \$207.00; Methodist Church, \$121.22; Manteo Baptist Church, \$52.21; Roanoke Island Baptist Church, \$34.70; Coin Containers, \$70.91; School Containers, \$53.31; Pioneer Theater, \$19.46; Long vs Short ball game, \$66.55; House to House, \$67.88; Human Fly, \$25.00; V. F. W. Auxiliary, \$35.00; Rebekahs, \$22.00; Manteo Masons, \$15.00; Shrine Club, \$13.95; Lions Club, \$2.95; Manteo-Wanchese Home Demonstration Club, \$3.00; Colington Home Demonstration Club, \$10.00; Nags Head business firms, \$52.00; Nags Head containers, \$20.84; Miscel. Containers, \$7.02. Total, \$900.00.

Mrs. Agatha Gray has reported \$30 raised by her committee, of which amount \$20.71 was raised by the Roanoke School. W. E. Hall is principal of the school.

Mrs. Wescott said this week: "Again the committee wishes to express appreciation for the generosity of all the people for such a successful campaign." One-half of the funds remain in the local bank to be used by any Dare County person becoming a victim of Polio. Those planning and carrying out the Drive were Mrs. M. L. Daniels, Jr., Mrs. Leo Midgett, Mrs. Camille Podolski, Mrs. Raymond Wescott and Nevin Wescott.

METHODIST REVIVAL SERVICES MARCH 1 TO 6

The Rev. T. Z. B. Everton Methodist minister of McCormick, S. C., and formerly a resident of Dare County is to hold revival services at the Manns Harbor Methodist Church beginning Tuesday evening, March 1 and continue through Sunday evening, March 6; services each night including Saturday. Monday night preceding the meeting a prayer service is to be held at the church. The public is invited to attend.

PECULIAR OBJECT SIGHTED AT SEA AROUSES RUMORS

Jagged Framework Sticking Up From Ocean Off Kitty Hawk Creates Excitement

The discovery by Mrs. Orville Baum of Kitty Hawk Tuesday afternoon, of a peculiar object at sea, some four miles east of her home, has resulted in quite a bit of excitement in these parts, and widespread publicity has followed.

The world is full of gullible souls who think the sea is full of Russian submarines, even in shallow waters where subs can't operate. Thus many people who neither saw and heard little, did their jolly part in keeping the rumor going that it was a submarine.

This writer saw the object. Mrs. Baum called his attention to it. She said she first observed it earlier in the day, in an apparently stationary position. Not knowing but it might be wreckage of a ship, she called the Coast Guard to notify them. After a time it began moving, and by five o'clock in the afternoon, it had progressed up the coast some eight or ten miles, and then appeared to be moving at the rate of seven or eight miles an hour.

The objects seem to stand up in the water, as if part of a structure on the deck of a vessel which could not be seen, and consisted of a number of vertical standards such as might have been part of the staging used while weatherboarding or painting a building of about three stories in height. There were two sections of this framework a short distance apart, and apparently moving northward at equal speed. The objects appeared to be from three to four miles off shore.

Some observers contend it was simply a mirage, bordering on the supernatural, other long unexplained things that have mystified people for ages. Some think it was wreckage, caught in the tides and drifting northward on some tidal current. At any rate, speculation continues.

The mystery is all over. Because it was a holiday, the information wasn't readily forthcoming. The Navy Department advises it was an American submarine, which put up its radar equipment in plain sight of everyone.

But anyway it caused a lot of time and money to be spent by other Government agencies, which sent out aircraft to look for it.

NO MORE SHIPWRECKS; THE GOOD OLD DAYS WENT WITH DEMOCRATS

By **FRANKLIN COCHRAN**
Cape Hatteras.—You can believe the Republicans all you want to, about times being prosperous and the stock market going up, but what have they done for us here on the Outer Banks?

They haven't, for example, given us one single shipwreck this year!

Now, if your living depends upon showing visitors the spectacular old shipwrecks in the graveyard of the Atlantic, you are naturally expectant, if not hopeful, of new material. But, since the Republicans started running the show, coastwise shipping has stopped so far out to sea that we hardly ever see the smoke from their funnels. Not only that, but the rising column of hot air, or thermal, located near Washington has caused such a meteorological reversal that all storms that used to occur on the ocean, now break over dry land. Even the one ship that hit the beach here last year didn't stay very long. Someone informed McCarthy that they used red breeches on the breeches buoy, so they hauled her away up north for an investigation.

The tourist trade is a pretty good means of making a living, but you've got to be alert for opportunities to show off something that appeals to the imagination. For instance I have a friend who is part owner of some beautiful clear water springs in Florida where glass bottom boats are featured. These springs have enough natural beauty without all the legend that goes with them, but a good story does wonders to stir the imagination. I was particularly attracted to an underwater cavern called "Bottomless Pit." Gazing down into the depths of this crevice one day I suddenly was struck by an inspiration:

"Hugh," I said, "let's get the diving bell and I'll go down there and find the bottom of that hole."

His answer was not meant to be poetic:
"You do, and I'll sue you."
You see, there are a few people who'd pay money to see a bottomless pit after some clumsy, but well meaning curiosity box had See **SHIPWRECK, Page Five**