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HATTERAS HARBOR AND HARDSHIPS OF PROGRESS.

We note with interest where numerous people are taking notice of the need for improvement at Hatteras Harbor, among them being Miles Clark of Elizabeth City. Representative Herbert Bonner has long been interested in this project, and hopes there is enough money in the annual appropriation for keeping the channel clear, but recognized that the most critical need now is for a breakwater.

Due to a great increase in commerce in this small harbor, all the boats that seek to use it cannot find protected moorings. Many unusual things have happened during the past two or three years to make urgent the need for a breakwater here. The vast development that has been brought about because of the interest of the Federal and State Government has occasioned an influx of commerce beyond the capacity of local interests to accommodate in the safe area of this small harbor.

The fame that has come to Hatteras Island, the facility with which motorists may reach it, the increase of boat traffic including yachts and sport fishing craft; great growth in freight destined to the island, the larger amount of oils needed, all have combined to bring about a condition which reminds of the old saying "busting at the seams."

The conditions under which the local residents have to suffer is not of their making. The prevailing occupation of the citizens,—commercial fishing is handicapped for need of the subject improvement. The State of North Carolina has invested a half million dollars or more in roads leading to this harbor. The Federal Government has made of the whole area a National park which is intensely promoted and brought to the attention of tourists in every state of the union. Traffic has resulted which congests the ferries. From many directions have come numerous yachts and sportfishing craft to add to the congestion while basing for Gulf Stream and Diamond Shoals fishing grounds. A ferry has been established to Ocracoke Island, which also is handicapped for landing space. The Coast Guard has brought a large part of its activities across Hatteras Inlet to this vicinity.

It seems that a little organizing of the Federal and State agencies involved might soon bring about the essential improvement providing this breakwater. The Coast Guard, Navy, Park Service, State Highway Department, Board of Conservation might unite with local interests and soon bring relief to the situation.

We believe there is no harbor on the entire coast so much in need of this sort of improvement, nor one which has so great an opportunity for service and good advertising. Here is the one harbor north of Beaufort where fishermen may come directly from the waters and load their fish on trucks for quick transit over direct highway to markets. The building of the 50 miles of road, and the free state ferry at Oregon Inlet makes this possible. But without the harbor, the road is of little avail.

A FERRY SITUATION WITHOUT EXCUSE.

Somebody sure gummed up the works at Oregon Inlet Saturday when four men, enough to run two boats, were allowed to spend the day on one boat trying to handle the traffic destined for a big week-end at Hatteras Island. Now, there was no excuse for this condition. Another boat was tied nearby; anyone could remember the situation on Easter week-end a year ago. The ferry schedules should have been doubled up on Friday and Saturday.

At 1:45 the writer of these lines went to Oregon Inlet to take the 2 p. m. ferry across. On arriving, a full load for the boat was well ahead in line. It was after five o'clock before he could get on the ferry at all.

Of all times in the week, here on late Saturday afternoon, the State Highway forces were the worst offenders themselves, and had sent down two transports of road oil, to be used in repairing roads for work on the following Tuesday, this week. And the ferry crew allowed them to cross, and thereby keep five automobiles from going to Hatteras.

Some 25 drivers of cars abandoned their intention of going to Hatteras Island in this short period on Saturday. Several, who had waited in turn nearly two hours gave up, got out of line, and went back north. Hundreds of dollars in business was lost to those whose business it is to cater to tourists, because of this inexcusable stupidity on the part of servants paid by the people.

The rudeness and discourtesy inherent in some drivers here breaks out. No one is there to police the line and make motorists wait their turn. Two instances were observed of motorists who came late and pushing in up front, got on the line ahead of cars that had been waiting as long as two hours. To enforce a fair deal, it may be necessary to provide a watchman.

Someone must have raised Cain, for two boats were operating Sunday and Monday to help folks get away from Hatteras Island. But the damage had been done. Somebody's stupidity or inexcusable neglect had driven many people to abandon a trip to the island, maybe a trip that had been in the planning for quite a long while. And in their disappointment and rage as they returned north, they may have caused many others to stay above the inlet.

It seems a tragic sort of thing for the State Highway Commission to allow these things to happen, when there is no excuse, and after so much has been done by the Park Service to promote Hatteras Island and bring it business; and after so many of the people of the Island have gone to great trouble and expense to provide facilities for the comfort and enjoyment of these visitors.

One thing may be born in mind. There was no excuse for the situation Saturday. The men were there, the boat was there; it could have kept traffic cleared up. Could it be, as some on the island believe, there was a conspiracy to keep tourists from going to Hatteras?

If there is righteousness in the heart, there will be beauty in the character. If there is beauty in the character, there will be harmony in the home. If there is harmony in the home, there will be order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there will be peace in the world.

—Chinese Proverb via the Sunshine Magazine

A man may have many friends, but he will find none so steadfast, so constant, so ready to respond to his wants, so capable of pushing him ahead, as a little leather covered book with the name of a bank on its cover. —Selected

SHALL THE SHORT-SIGHTED ALWAYS PREVAIL AGAINST THE ADVANTAGES OF DARE PEOPLE?

Within a few weeks, the Commissioners of Dare County will meet and approve a budget calling for the expenditure of something close to a quarter of a million dollars for operating Dare County during the coming fiscal year. Some of them will not know what it is all about, but they will sign approval of what is handed them.

In contrast to the great extravagances to be found in this budget to be put over by the free spenders of Dare County, the Commissioners, by the narrow margin of the Chairman's vote last week voted disapproval of a measure whereby improvement and enlargement of the medium of bringing bread and meat to most of the people of Dare County might be possible.

Mind you, they were not asked to spend any money, or to make any commitment. They were asked to sign approval for the Legislature to pass a law, whereby future Boards of Commissioners would be enabled to spend as much as \$7,500 in a year for advertising and promotion of the tourist business in Dare County.

Yet shortly before, this same Board had given eager approval to a scheme to squirt away \$100,000 to build an unfinished jail and some new offices on the back of Dare County's dilapidated old courthouse.

Now how can a Board through such contrary actions, expect to win the confidence of the people, convince the public at large of its ability to fulfill the duties of the office, or contribute to the advancement and progress of an enlightened Dare County?

The excuse that some citizens had opposed giving financial aid to the promotion of tourist business in Dare County does not justify any Board member in opposing something valuable and profitable for the county. A member is expected to use some discretion and not be swayed this way and that by every wind that blows. People who oppose tourist development in Dare County have in the main been people who opposed everything of value. They are mostly people who contribute nothing of their time to public causes, and pay a negligible amount of taxes. Many of them profit handsomely, either through employment in various trades or business whose profits result from the development of Dare County. There are the people who, while their living depends on the tourist business, dispute and spout always, but whose opinion prevails with your public servants.

Conditions have changed in Dare County until at least three fourths of the income of its people is the result of its tourist business and the development of its resort facilities. Here is a simple bill. It only permits, if considered wise and necessary the expenditure of not more than \$7,500 in any one year, to promote the business on which we depend for 75 cents of every dollar we get. No board has to spend that much. Nor spend any of it for that matter. It only makes possible the expenditure of some or all of it if needed.

It would cost the average homeowners, the man with a new modern home, only 80 cents to \$1 a year. It would mean .04 cent tax. The principal cost, three fourths of it would not be borne by residents of Dare County, but by people who don't live here. What could be a better bargain.

There are a few people of course in Dare County who would object to anything. Some of them if offered a \$50 bill free at the postoffice every Saturday night would raise Cain if transportation were not also provided for them to go collect the money. But while those people are few, it is more unfortunate indeed for us that we have public servants whose actions in behalf of the people who had confidence in them is guided by opinions of such backward folks instead of the progressive ones.

Seriously now, it is time to give serious thought to getting some abler, more conscientious public servants in office. Dare County has been too good to some of its officials too long.

What I must do, is all that concerns me, not what the people think. This rue, equally arduous in actual and in intellectual life, may serve for the whole distinction between greatness and meanness. It is harder, because you will always find those who think they know what is your duty better than you know it. — Emerson



State Government Employment RATIO is LOW!

If the ratio of public employees to total population is a measure of efficiency, then North Carolina is among the most efficiently governed states in the union! A recent study showed the total number of State and local government employees equivalent to 241.3 per 10,000 population, making the North Carolina ratio fourth lowest of any state. The economy and efficiency with which our State is operated goes far in making North Carolina a better place in which to work, play and live.

Another contribution to more pleasant living for North Carolinians is the brewing industry's self-regulation program where brewers, wholesalers and retailers—in counties where malt beverages are permitted under State control—cooperate to maintain wholesome conditions for the legal sale of beer and ale.

North Carolina Division
UNITED STATES BREWERS FOUNDATION, INC.

THE BEVERAGE OF MODERATION



MANTEO PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. Fred O. Basnight have had as their guests Mrs. Basnight's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cessa of Narrows, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Dough and daughter of Raleigh have returned home after visiting Mrs. Dough's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Krider.

Harry Thomas of Burlington spent Easter week end with his wife's mother and step-father, Mr. and Mrs. Donovan Twyne.

Billy O'Neal, USCG, of Norfolk, Va., visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. O'Neal last week end.

Mrs. W. H. Etheridge is seriously ill in Norfolk General Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Adams and children of Portsmouth, Va., spent Easter with Mrs. Adams' parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. White.

Policeman M. C. Mitchell returned to his home Friday from Duke Hospital, Durham, where he recently underwent an operation. He plans to return soon for further treatment.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse White spent Easter week end in Windsor.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayland Fry spent Easter week end in Carthage with Mr. Fry's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. William Ernst and children have returned from Floyd, Va., where they visited Mrs. Ernst's parents.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Long and children spent Easter in Richmond with Mr. Long's mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Guthrie had as guests during the holidays, Lt. Rex Guthrie of Fort Bragg, Also Corpl. Doug Guthrie of Fort Jackson, S. C. and his friend, Miss Cora Myers.

Mrs. Marvin Midgett and daughter, Susan, of Portsmouth, Va., are visiting Mrs. Midgett's parents, Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair Midgett.

WAVES PERSONALS

Major and Mrs. B. W. Williams and children, B. W., Jr., and Allan C., of Atlanta, Ga., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Midgett.

50-FOOT SNACK BAR AN UNUSUAL ADDITION TO NAGS HEAD CASINO

An unusually long snack bar was being completed this week at the Nags Head Casino, and the management planned to have it in service by Friday night (tonight). G. T. Westcott stated that so far as he knew it was the longest anywhere in this area, with its 50-odd feet. The usual refreshments and knick-knacks will be sold. Additional tables and chairs have been arranged, greatly enlarging the downstairs seating capacity, where the old bar was located.

This week marks the opening for the season for the popular amusement stand, when Friday

night, The Ramblers, a hillbilly band, will appear for a square dance. Saturday night's attraction will be the 10-piece orchestra led by inwood Maddrey.

CLUB

(Continued from Page One)

dered in making her year in service as club president a success. The Club Pin was then graciously accepted by the new president.

Mrs. A. L. G. Stephenson and Mrs. Florine Hooper, program chairman, presented a delightful program during which time music was furnished by Mrs. Play Kemp, Mrs. Hubert Ambrose, T. O. Sutton and Hugh Craddock.

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