

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## STRONG FACTS FOR IMPROVING OREGON INLET BROUGHT OUT

Also Amazing Report That Traffic Across Ferries Has Increased From 20 to 214 Cars a Day in Ten Years

That a total of 7,760 ships aggregating more than fifty million tons annually pass within sight of Cape Hatteras and the territorial waters of Dare County, making the heaviest concentration of shipping in the western hemisphere is among the newly developed facts contained in a new brief on Oregon Inlet completed this week under the direction of the Dare County Committee on Oregon Inlet.

Additional new matter included in the presentation of the potential of Oregon Inlet as an asset to the national security and economy includes first comprehensive traffic census for Oregon Inlet to be put together and the year-to-year increase is shown in a tabulation accompanying this story. Traffic has increased from a daily average of 16 vehicles in 1946 to 214 in 1954.

In addition to these newly developed aspects of the problem of Oregon Inlet other data compiled for two earlier presentations of the Case for Oregon Inlet undertaken under the leadership of the late Alvah H. Ward, has been expanded and brought up today making, in the opinion of some who have studied the new brief, the most comprehensive examination of the problem so far undertaken.

Annual passenger traffic across the Inlet has increased from a low of 22,978 in 1945 to a high of 207,000 for last year. Records of traffic movement over the Inlet were not kept until after the State Highway Department, at the direction of the late Governor J. Melville Broughton, subsidized the ferry in 1941 and freed it of tolls. Traffic increased spectacularly when the State bought the ferries outright in 1951 and began their operation with more modern equipment.

Members of the Committee include Alvah H. Ward, Jr., who inherited his father's interest in the Inlet; Lawrence L. Swain, chairman; Melvin R. Daniels, and E. P. White, of Buxton, a member of the Board of County Commissioners. The brief was prepared by Ben Dixon MacNeill.

In acknowledgements appended to the report special thanks are directed to Admiral Russell E. Wood, commander of the U. S. Coast Guard Fifth District, at whose direction the census of ocean traffic was made from Diamond Shoals Lightship and to William N. Spruill, District Engineer for the State Highway Department, whose engineers assembled and analyzed the inlet traffic for the period.

## MANTEO CHURCH TO BE SCENE OF CELEBRATION SUNDAY, MAY 15



Photo by Don Morrill, Manteo

MANTEO BAPTISTS ON MAY 15 will celebrate the golden anniversary of the establishment of their church. The first building, built in 1905, was abandoned two years ago, with completion of the above pictured building which is one of the finest religious edifices in the Coastland. Following the services Sunday morning, dinner will be served on the grounds.

## HATTERAS MEN APPEAL FOR IMPROVEMENT TO THE TOWN'S HARBOR

Three greatly encouraged Hatteras men returned this week from Washington where Congressman Herbert Bonner presented them as witnesses before the Rivers and Harbors Committee of the House of Representatives and they were at last able to tell the members of it how badly off is the village of Hatteras when the winds come down out of the north. They badly need a breakwater.

This harbor is, as everybody who has to use it knows, wholly unprotected from northerly winds that can and do sweep down from the 35-mile wide of Pamlico Sound and pile water up in the village. Hurricanes last fall damaged every dock in the village and tossed one of them, Fraizer Peele's, on the steps of the U. S. Post-office a hundred yards away.

This and more Mr. Peele told the Committee Monday and he was abetted and corroborated by and M. L. Burrus, Texaco dealer, Donald Oden, Standard oil dealer both of whose facilities get battered because there is no defense against a norther. The delegation came home hopeful and encouraged. Members of the committee listened with interest and sympathy and Mr. Bonner summed up eloquently.

## TO LEAD REVIVAL AT MANTEO BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. MARK M. ALEXANDER, of Coinjock, who will begin a series of evangelistic services at the Manteo Baptist Church beginning Sunday, May 22 at the morning worship hour. This meeting is to continue through Friday night, May 27 with services each evening at 8:00. The public is invited to attend every service.

Mr. Alexander was graduated from Wake Forest College and from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. He has been at Coinjock for more than one year and is in great demand as an evangelist in Eastern North Carolina. "It will be well worth the spiritual effort of everyone to come out to worship," says the pastor, Rev. Henry Napier. The special music will be presented by the church choir and led by the pastor.

Mr. Napier also calls attention to the cottage prayer meeting schedule which is as follows: North of Lodge or Highway Street, Monday the 16th at home of Mrs. Lena Pearsall; Tuesday, Mrs. Gertrude Quideley's at Wanchese; Wednesday at the church, Thursday L. D. Tarkington's, Friday, Gus Etheridge's home. On Saturday an all night prayer service beginning at 4 p. m. at the church.

South of Lodge Street: Monday night the 16th, home of Mrs. Tom Russell; Thursday night, Henry Parker's home. Friday night, L. E. Skinner apartment.

## KILL DEVIL HILLS STILL DOING BUSINESS

Attorney General's Ruling That Election Was Illegal Favors Those Who Would Retain Incorporated Town

A ruling by Attorney General Harry McMullan that an insufficient percentage of voters had signed the petition for election to dissolve the incorporation of the Town of Kill Devil Hills, which was voted on in an election May 3, still leaves the town government in the saddle and doing business.

Mrs. Emily Mustian will serve as mayor, unless some legal action succeeds in upsetting the election. In the election last week, Mrs. Mustian defeated incumbent Mayor, Major Jas. L. Murphy by a vote of 68 to 66. The vote against the town charter was 76 to 70.

While there has been some talk, there has been no official notice that opponents of the town charter will carry their fight through the courts, in hope of upsetting the ruling of the Attorney General.

## MANY TRAFFIC CASES PROFIT SCHOOL FUND

Traffic cases yielded a goodly sum in fines in Dare Recorder's Court Tuesday. Judge W. F. Baum fined Barney E. Midgett of Colington \$25 and costs for allowing an unlicensed person to drive his car. Perley L. Farrow, Jr. of Buxton also paid \$25 and costs for driving without operator's license and \$5 for driving without license tags. Harlan C. Willis, Jr. of Frisco paid \$25 for driving without operator's license.

George Edward Paul, a seaman, paid \$25 for careless and reckless driving and Richard B. Green paid a fine of \$1 for driving too close to another vehicle. The same for Robert Weston charged with the same offense.

Willie H. Harrison was found not guilty of being drunk on the highway, but a friend, Charlie Harrison, was fined \$25 and costs for transporting two pints of non-tax-paid liquor.

Robert Elliott Brinn, charged with speeding at 90 miles per hour, was adjudged guilty of speeding at 80 miles per hour, and fined \$50 and costs.

## WILLIS BROWN GRAY DIES IN AVON MONDAY NIGHT

Willis Brown Gray, 63, husband of Alice Price Gray, and son of Mrs. Cordelia Gray and the late Anderson Gray, died at his home in Avon Monday night.

Besides his wife and mother, he is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Beulah Scarborough and Mrs. Missouri Meekins, both of Avon. Two brothers, Nicky Gray of Newtonville, N. J. and Edward Gray of Camden, N. J. Also a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at the Pentecostal Church on Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock conducted by Rev. Lester Jarret, assisted by Rev. R. E. Couch, pastor of the Methodist church and Rev. W. R. Hale visiting minister of Ocracoke Methodist Church. The choir with Mrs. Oma Meekins at the piano, sang "Rock of Ages" and "Abide With Me."

pallbearers were: Fred Gray, Sr., Luther Hooper, Sr., Willard Gray, Sr., Dallas Miller, James W. Sarborough and Joe William.

## N.C. A.B.C. BOARDS COMING IN JUNE FOR THREE-DAY SESSION

Officials of N. C. and Distillers' Representatives To Meet at Nags Head For Business, Fishing and Dancing

The N. C. Association of A. B. C. Store Boards will come to Dare County for a three-day convention, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, June 1, 2, and 3 according to the president, H. W. Rothrock of Halifax County. In the group will be about 300 people, including board members, supervisors, store managers and distillers representatives and wives of the guests.

Headquarters will be the Carolinian and Wilbur Wright Hotels, with many of the visitors stopping also at motels. On the program is at least one day of fishing, and a dance every night.

This is the second annual convention of the association to be held in Dare. The first was about four years ago.

## SURVEY WORK, DREDGING IN OCRACOKE WATERS

Channels and Inlets Being Sounded Along the Outer Banks; Obstruction in Pamlico Sound Near Ocracoke

Announcement this week from the office of the Corp of Engineers in Wilmington indicates that some effort is being made now toward future improvement of waterways in the Outer Banks area.

A Beaufort-based survey party headed by L. E. McLam are engaged in the sounding of channels and inlets along Core Banks and the Outer Banks.

Following reports of shoaling in the channel, an examination is underway of the Waterway (5 feet by 50 feet) connecting Back Sound with Lookout Light. This route is popularly known as Barden Channel. Ocracoke Inlet bar channel, Silver Lake harbor at Ocracoke, Wallace Channel west of Ocracoke See SURVEY, Page Five

## RASH OF BOLD ROBBERIES IN AREA OVER WEEK END BRINGS BITTER DISMAY TO OFFICERS

Scum of the Earth Creeps In and Lies Around to Thieve and Steal; Richard Gray, Roland Sawyer, on Roanoke Island, Two Beach Places, and Point Harbor Grill Suffer from Break-ins.

## SIX YEARS PASTOR FOR MANTEO BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. HENRY V. NAPIER, native of Polkton came to the pastorate of Manteo Baptist Church in 1948. Mr. Napier attended Wingate Junior College, Wake Forest, and Southeastern Seminary. In May, 1950, Mr. Napier and Miss Imogene Rayfield were married in Wadesboro. Before coming to Manteo, Mr. Napier held a pastorate in Jacksonville, in 1945 and 1946.

Sheriff Frank Cahoon is having a hectic time of it trying to locate the crapulous scum of the earth which has been hanging around the Roanoke Island area for some weeks, casing various places of business, and who finally, in a rash of robberies over the week end, victimized many business men.

Richard Gray of Wanchese, whose lonely office and small store out on Wanchese wharf was entered Sunday night, was the heavier loser. Approximately \$1,500 in cash and a like sum in checks were stolen from his safe, which was broken open with something heavy as a sledge hammer. Several items of merchandise, a radio set, and other objects were taken.

Of several hundred dollars in checks taken, fortunately Mr. Gray had records whereby he could get payment stopped on them. His only money loss will be reduced to the cash taken, plus the items of merchandise.

Apparently done by another outfit were the break-ins on Saturday night including the R. D. Sawyer Motor Company near Manteo. Very little was missed in the way of merchandise, but keys were taken from two Buicks and a license tag from a 1950 Mercury. Entry was made by a back door, and the glass was broken in the front door.

SBI agents were called in to investigate the robberies. Manteo Police Chief M. C. Mitchell also lent his aid in conducting a sweep-up investigation of the robberies.

The C & G Drug Store at Nags Head was entered; money was taken from the cash register and a few cigarettes were stolen. Perry's Drive-In near Kitty Hawk was entered and money taken from a juke box. On the Currituck side, the Point Harbor Grill was entered and cigarettes and a small amount of money in the juke box were taken.

## BAPTISTS INVITE FRIENDS TO BRING PICNIC LUNCHEON

The Manteo Baptist Church has issued a general invitation to all, to attend their 50th anniversary celebration, Sunday, May 15. There will be a dinner served on the grounds after the service, and all who will, are requested to bring a basket to help along the good work and make the day more enjoyable. The congregation looks forward to an excellent occasion on this important birthday of a vigorous and growing church.

## JEREMIAH C. MEEKINS, 93, DIES IN WASHINGTON, N. C.

Jeremiah Charles Meekins, of distinguished Tyrrell County ancestry and a resident of Washington, N. C. died Saturday at his home. He was 93 years old and he was a brother of the late Judge Isaac M. Meekins. He was born in Tyrrell County May 31, 1861, son of the late Jeremiah Charles and Mahala Melson Meekins. He had been making his home in Washington for over 50 years. He was twice married. He was an attorney-at-law. Surviving besides his wife are seven sons, Joseph C., Charles, Jack, Marzette, Edmund, Frank and Pete Meekins; 12 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren. He was a member of St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church. Funeral services were held at St. Agnes Church Monday. Burial was in Oakdale Cemetery.

## MRS BRITANIA TWIFORD, 80, BURIED AT STUMPY POINT

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at Stumpy Point Methodist Church for Mrs. Britania Virginia Hooper Twiford, 80, who died Sunday night in Norfolk at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ellard O. Payne after a week's illness. Mrs. Twiford was born June 25, 1874 and was the widow of T. S. Twiford who died 11 years ago, and the daughter of Zion Bunyan and Hosanna Midgett Hooper of Dare County. Beside her daughter, Mrs. Payne, she is survived by a foster daughter, Mrs. Lee Midgett of Norfolk; and by three sisters, Mrs. Graves Midgett of Salvo, Mrs. Ed Frank Payne of Elizabeth City and Mrs. Mossy Daniels of Norfolk.

She was a member of the Stumpy Point Methodist Church and the pastor, Rev. A. L. G. Stephenson conducted the services. Burial was in the community cemetery.

## FRIDAY IS SENIOR DAY AT MANTEO HIGH SCHOOL

Friday, May 13, will be Senior Day at Manteo High School, and for that day the seniors will be waited on hand and foot by the freshmen. They will be accorded special privileges and will be served a chicken dinner in the school lunch room at noon.

At nine o'clock an Assembly program will be given in the auditorium; and the public is invited to attend. The Seniors will put on the first half of the program; the second half will be done by the underclassmen.

Senior Day was started in the Manteo school four years ago and has provided much fun. It is the day on which all seniors are called Miss and Mr., and are honored with all sorts of niceties and foolishness.

## MANTEO WOMAN'S CLUB HAS ITS ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic of the Manteo Woman's Club was held Tuesday afternoon at Fort Raleigh. The members were accompanied by their families, and many other invited guests were present.

### Fishing and Hunting

AS REPORTED BY AYCOCK BROWN

**Twenty Pound Tuna**  
Hatteras.—School tuna, some going to 20 pounds and over have been landed by offshore fishermen during the past week, according to reports here.

Plenty of bluefish and bonita have also been taken; false albacore are also taking trolled lures. Most of the offshore fishing during the past week has been in the lee of Diamond Shoals due to northeasterly winds. The catches of tuna were made near the western edge of the Gulf Stream.

Previously, anglers going to the Gulf Stream have been catching a few dolphin and king mackerel. No reports of amberjack landings have come in during the past several days, but one party trolling near the western edge of the Gulf Stream in sight of Diamond Lightship reported seeing sailfish on the leap.

Operators of the fishing centers here, Capt. Edgar Styron of the Blue Marlin Docks and Capt. Ernal Foster of Foster's Quay have each reported outlook good for Gulf Stream fishing by late May.

**Fishing Piers Opened**  
Nags Head.—Three fishing piers the Dare Beaches area are now open. Operators of these piers, which were undamaged by last year's storm, have reported whiting as the most plentiful variety of fishes during the past week. Some parties caught also sea mullet and roundheads. A few trout have also been taken, and a few blues. These ocean piers, one at Kitty Hawk and two in the Nags

Head area have a total of 2700 feet of overwater decking.

**32 Largemouth Bass**  
Kill Devil Hills.—Best catch of large mouth bass made in the fresh waters of this section during the past week was made by the Deatons. The Deatons, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Deaton of Delray Beach at Kill Devil Hills and Mr. and Mrs. Warren C. Deaton of Gallion, Ohio, fishing with Capt. Grover Sawyer in lower Currituck Sound brought in 32 largemouths. Their fish ranged from one

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## Figures Show Travel to Hatteras Island Is Growing Suddenly by Leaps and Bounds

Figures compiled for the travel by automobiles over the Oregon Inlet ferry reveal an unprecedented growth. After the road between Rodanthe and Avon was built, traffic almost doubled. After a big ferry was put on, in 1953, traffic almost doubled again. Last year, when a second ferry was used a part of the season, a 50 per cent increase occurred. In ten years, traffic increased more than ten-fold. It is now predicted that the 1955 volume of traffic will be twice as great as in 1954. Here are the figures, as supplied by Ben Dixon MacNeill:

Year	Vehicles	Daily Average	Passengers
1943	7,339	20	26,364
1945	5,932	16	22,978
1946	6,412	18	24,796
1947	6,955	19	25,819
1948	7,572	21	29,089
1949	8,901	24	31,364
1950	9,647	26	32,271
1951	15,084	41	48,627
1952	34,661	95	81,494
1953	54,148	148	101,370
1954	78,093	214	129,440