

THE COASTLAND TIMES

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE WALTER RALEIGH COASTLAND OF NORTH CAROLINA

VOLUME XXI — NO. 16

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1955

Single Copy 7¢

THE NEW ROAD BEING BUILT ON CAPE HATTERAS

Sea Bees Will Do The Job While Building Big Secret Navy Facility Near Buxton

Buxton on Cape Hatteras, Oct. 22.—Ten full years before there has been any substantial hope that it would happen, Conrad Wirth, director of the National Park Service, will see the fulfillment of his dream of a new highway approach to the focal point of Cape Hatteras National Seashore—a mile of road with an estimated cost of \$600,000.

Not only will the road come into being immediately, but it will come without cost to the National Park Service, except for the relatively small cost of laying some pavement, 24 feet wide, next spring when the formidable task of grading is completed. And in the interim Mr. Wirth might well devote some time to meditation upon an ancient adage, the one about clouds being lined with silver.

Maine and California will build the road, with some supervisory help from Texas and Michigan and Virginia and from Wake County in North Carolina. The road is going to be graded, in their spare time, by Detachment Jig, Sixth Navy Mobile Construction Battalion, or the Seabees, presently engaged in the erection of a secret Navy Facility on a site about 1,000 feet north of the Lighthouse.

For six months the presence of these miracle workers right in the middle of Cape Hatteras National Seashore has provided a considerable cloud on Mr. Wirth's horizon, and, nearer by, to those immediately concerned with the administration of the new recreational area. They came unheralded and they took over, with very few formalities, an area of about 20 acres on both sides the road leading from the Outer Banks Highway past the Lighthouse to Cape Point. They number about 175 men.

Since whatever they are building is top-secret they have done explaining whatever about what they are doing around here. They have a startling capacity of doing much and saying little, or nothing at all. They have said nothing about the cost or the purpose of their activity but it is a good guess that the cost will run between three and four million dollars, and they are going to build a fence around whatever it is.

But to get back to Conrad Wirth's dream. On his first visit to the Seashore after the National Park Service began moving in three years ago Mr. Wirth outlined his dream of a new and dramatic approach to the Cape. It probably derived from his experience, like that of millions, when he topped the last ridge, coming south, through Kitty Hawk Woods. There before and below him was spread the stupendous sweep of the Atlantic ocean.

It was something like that Mr. Wirth wanted on Cape Hatteras. He wanted a road beginning 1,000 feet west of the present approach to the Lighthouse and crossing the marshes and ridges to come, finally, to the crest of the 34-foot ridge that lies westward from the Lighthouse. Topping that rise the traveller would see before him not one but two oceans, with the Point jutting out between them.

But the great drawback was the question of money. There are four ridges and five sedges—the native name for marshes—between the beginning and the end of the road and the estimated cost of grading and paving it would be about \$600,000, or more than twice the annual appropriation for the development and maintenance of the See **NEW ROAD, Page Eight**

SUDDEN LEFT TURN

Sheriff Dozier of Currituck made a left turn into his driveway at Powell's Point Monday morning. Jim Twiford, well-known highway employe of Point Harbor was traveling north. He had to put on brakes suddenly, his car skidded off the side of the road and rolled over. Mr. Twiford was shaken up, but suffered no serious consequences. The car was banged up badly.

REPRINTING CORRECTED STORY OF MRS. CREEF

In making up the pages in our paper last week, some paragraphs of a story about Mrs. Caddie Creef, 82, of Manteo, got mixed up with a story about surplus commodity needs in Dare County, so that the paragraphs didn't make sense. We have straightened out the article about Mrs. Creef and reprint it this week. We want folks to know more about this grand old lady.

AUNT "SET" OBSERVES 86th BIRTHDAY WEDNESDAY



MRS. LUCETTA MONTAGUE, oldest woman on Roanoke Island was 86 years old on Wednesday, October 19th. She is among the most beloved women of Wanchese, having ministered her lifetime to the women folks of her community, and assisted at the birth of between 800 and 900 babies. Mrs. Montague is the widow of the late McAllister Roughton Montague, and is the daughter of the late George Charles and Nancy Cudworth Daniels. She has 27 grandchildren, nearly 60 great-grandchildren, and some 20 great-great-grandchildren.

During her lifetime, she has suffered lots of broken bones, but always keeps going. Four years ago she broke her hip, but she never gave up. She spends a lot of time visiting about with her children. She married at the age of 13. She was born October 19, 1869.

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL AT MANTEO SCHOOL OCT. 31

Hallowe'en carnival at the Manteo High School this year appears to have fun and action in store for old and young if the program presented is any indication.

As usual it is to be held in the school gym. The doors will be open for the sale of tickets at 6:30 p.m., Monday, October 31 and all folk are asked to hold on to their ticket stubs for a chance at the door prize for the lucky number and use later on.

The judging for the best and most original costumes will start at 7 p.m. and there will be prizes for each of the following groups: pre school; grades one and two; three and four; five and six, and so on up through the school, coupling two grades together. There will also be an adult prize.

Refreshments for sale will include, ice cream, home-made cakes and drinks, and for entertainment there will be the fish pond, grab bags, apple bobbing, also a beauty contest. The admission charge will be 10¢.

OLDEST RESIDENT OF AVON PASSES AT 89

Mrs. Cordelia Wallace Gray 89, widow of the late Anderson Gray, passed away Saturday at her home in Avon following a ten days illness.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Moody Meekins, and Mrs. Blucher Scarborough of Avon; two sons, Nicky Gray of Avon and Edward Gray of Camden, N. J.; one step-son, Nelson Gray of Avon; one sister, Mrs. Cynthia O'Neal of Avon; eleven grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and six step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at the St. John's Methodist Church, Sunday afternoon by Rev. Aaron Tyson, pastor, assisted by Rev. Lester Jarrett, pastor of the Assembly of God church.

The choir, composed of members of both churches with Mrs. Harrison Meekins at the piano sang, "Nearer My God to Thee," "No Night There" and "Will the Circle Be Unbroken." "Abide With Me" was sung at the grave.

Pall bearers were: Erskine Scarborough, Luther Hooper, Dallas Miller, Seymour Gray, George Price and Burgess Gray.

WANCHESE RURITANS TO HOLD LADIES NIGHT

Tonight, Friday, the 21st of October is Ladies Night for the Wanchese Ruritan Club at the Wanchese Schoolhouse. As usual, a fine time for the members and their ladies is expected. President Melvin Daniels has invited all visiting Ruritans to attend. Rev. L. E. Aitken, pastor of the Manteo Methodist Church will address the group.

GRIGGS' MULLET ROAST BIG EVENT AT POINT HARBOR

Annual Affair Attracts 500 Invited Guests Saturday Night to Praise Its Excellence

Another annual affair which has flourished for just a few years, and which now is established as an institution in this coastland is the annual Mullet Roast held by the Griggs family at Point Harbor. This year's roast on Saturday night was enjoyed by some 500 invited guests, and a few extras who just dropped in.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Grady Griggs and Mr. and Mrs. Walton Griggs gave the party for their friends. Here was demonstrated a way of cooking these fine fish that is unexcelled, doubtless just as the Indians cooked them on the same spot up to 300 years ago. The fish had been cleaned, and seasoned, and hung on a slanting stick over a bed of live coals, and barbecued to a fine brown. It was served with slaw, sweet potatoes and cornbread, and coffee. Some 500 of these fish were suspended above the fire at one time. They weighed about a pound each, and during the cooking process, all the indigestible oil ran out of the fish on the ground. Mulletts cooked this way are something "out of this world," the guests said.

Of the 500 people in attendance, many were from places as far away as New York City. This annual affair is looked forward to each year, since it began about five years ago. It was held at the Point Harbor Grill, one of the newer businesses of the Coastland which the Walton Griggs's have built into great success and popularity. T. Grady Griggs, a cousin, is head of the flourishing Griggs Lumber and Produce Co. at Point Harbor.

Saturday night was a fine night for the party. Skies were clear, and weather mild. The view on the See **EVENT, Page Eight**

GREETING GRIFFITH

A Rather Entertaining Yarn About a Rising Celebrity Who Spent Seven Seasons With Roanoke Islanders
By GILBERT MILLSTEIN in The New York Times.

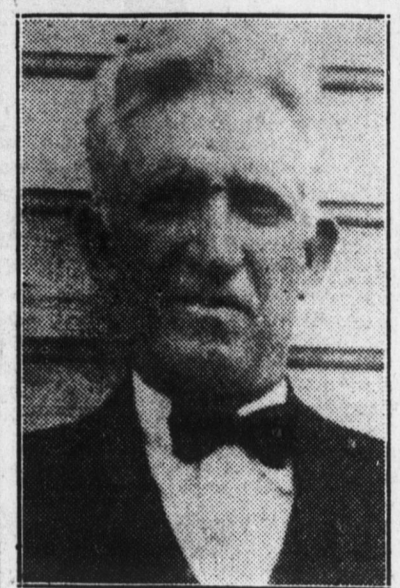
The most authentic dish of black-eyed peas, side meat and collard greens to be served up on the legitimate stage in a parcel of years is Andy Samuel Griffith, a 29-year-old North Carolinian in near-mint condition. Griffith will open Thursday at the Alvin in "No Time for Sergeants," a comedy of Army life in which he plays Will Stockdale, a Georgia wool hat with an intricately innocent mind who triumphs impartially over sergeants, psychiatrists and divisional commanders. The occasion will mark not merely his first appearance on Broadway but also his first appearance in a leading role created from a best-selling novel. This has not been lost on him.

What renders Griffith's condition only near-mint is that while he still says "Ah" for "I," "mah" for "my" and "right purty" for "pretty," he also says "dig" for "understand" or "enjoy," more than likely the result of having been taken to Lindy's, where, as a by-product, he was introduced to Danny Kaye. Nothing he said will be set down phonetically. The meeting with Kaye affected him profoundly. "I thought," he said the other night over bourbon and hotel water, "Lord have mercy."

Griffith is 6 feet 2 inches tall, weighs 185 pounds, has blue eyes, big feet, regular features, a head of independent, light-brown hair and a pretty wife named Barbara, with whom he now lives in a 3 1/2-room apartment in Kew Gardens, Queens, a far piece from Mount Airy, N. C., where "dig" means "dig." He plays the trombone, the ukelele and the bass horn, sings bass and almost became a Moravian preacher, although born a Baptist and married in a copy of an Anglican chapel in Manteo, by a Methodist minister to a Baptist maiden while a Roman Catholic nightclub vibraphonist played the pump organ and a Catholic girl sang. At the University of North Carolina, which he entered as a divinity student and from which he was graduated in 1949 as a music major, Griffith was known as "Deacon." Lord have mercy.

The rise of Griffith is what is invariably termed a romance of show business and will be told in flashback. The immediate cause was a monologue, "What It Was Was Football," which he recorded in September, 1953, at a convention of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Co. in Greensboro, N. C. It had been thought up by

TYRRELL COUNTY LEADER DIES AT FRYING PAN



Columbia.—Funeral services for Winfield Scott Alek Sykes, age 77, who succumbed at the Columbia Hospital on Monday, Oct. 17 at 7:15 p.m. were held at the Primitive Baptist Church on Wednesday, Oct. 19 at 4 p.m. Interment was in the family cemetery in Frying Pan community in Tyrrell County.

Mr. Sykes was the son of the late Rebecca Simmons and John Sykes. He was a native and lifelong resident of Tyrrell County; a retired farmer; member of the Primitive Baptist Church. He served as member of Tyrrell County Board of Commissioners for fourteen years, most of which he served as chairman. He was also a Justice of the Peace for a number of years.

He is survived by two sons: John Sykes of Norfolk and Ralph Sykes of Roanoke, Va.; three daughters: Mrs. Minnie Lee Woodham of Greenville, S. C., Mrs. Martha Elizabeth Zamballa of Norfolk, and Mrs. Lucy Mason, Los Angeles, California. One sister: Mrs. Rebecca Twiford of Norfolk; fifteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

SOUTH ALBEMARLE MEETING FRIDAY AT WILLIAMSTON

Many New Features at First Annual Meeting in Martin County, Oct. 28th

The first annual meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association to be held in Martin County will be on Friday, October 28th, at ten p.m. at the Roanoke Country Club. President Alexander Corey has announced the program.

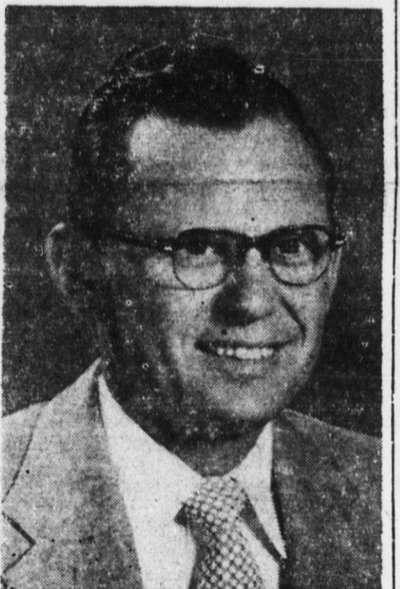
The six county association will hold its 21st annual meeting. It was organized in 1935 at Columbia, with Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington as members. The Association has been continuously active, and in 1953 Martin and Beaufort counties became members.

The address of welcome will be by former Senator Robert H. Cowan, Mayor of Williamston, followed by responses from the Association vice-presidents of the six counties, the recognition of distinguished guests and the presentation of the speaker.

Music at the morning session will be by the Green Wave Band of Williamston High School, and the Jamesville Glee Club. Governor Luther H. Hodges will deliver an address and lunch will follow.

After the lunch, a business session will convene at 2:15 p.m. This session lasts about two hours, and after reports are heard, new business is transacted, closing with election of officers for the coming year. This year the President is from Martin, and by established rule will return to Washington County next year.

TYRRELL LEGISLATOR OPENS A NEW STORE



DELBERT M. SAWYER, hardware merchant who is Tyrrell County's representative in the Legislature, this week opens his new hardware store in Washington, N. C. and cordially invites the public of Hyde, Beaufort and adjoining counties to visit him and this store. See ad in today's paper.

SAWYER OPENS BIG HARDWARE STORE IN WASHINGTON

Winsteadville Native Establishes One of Largest of Its Kind in The Coastland.

One of the largest hardware stores operating in the Coastland is the new Sawyer Hardware Company in Washington, which begins serving the public this week. Its proprietor is Delbert M. Sawyer, one of the ablest hardware men in this section. Mr. Sawyer, who is a native of Winsteadville, has a wide acquaintance in mercantile circles. For many years he was associated with the late Fred Voliva of Belhaven, and some 15 years ago, they established the successful Tyrrell Hardware Co. in Columbia.

Mr. Sawyer's new store is located on U. S. 264 near the John H. Small High School, this high-See **SAWYER, Page Eight**

WARNS CHILDREN DANGER IN FOLLOWING FOG MACHINE

The danger of following the mosquito fogging machine, as it goes about highways and streets on Roanoke Island, is indicated in statements made by Robert K. Gunn, district sanitary inspector. Mr. Gunn says while the spray itself is calculated to be harmless, the machine creates a dense fog and even the driver's vision is obscured. Children chasing the machine may run out across the road, and it might be easy for a child to be hurt, either by the driver of the machine or some other person following. It is better to keep a safe distance behind the machine.

ON HIS WAY TO VISIT OLD FRIENDS BUT DIED IN DUKE



CLINTON S. WARD, a native of Roanoke Island, who died Thursday afternoon, of last week in Duke Hospital, Durham at the age of 65, where he had gone for treatment of a heart ailment, had planned to come to Manteo for a long visit with old friends this fall. He retired some seven weeks ago to his home in Laurelton, L. I., after 50 years of employment in the maritime trade. He had served in the Navy, and when he retired was port steward in charge of purchases for Gulf Oil Corp. in New York. He was the son of the late Henry B. and Mary Eliza Baum Ward of Roanoke Island. Beside his wife, Eleanor, he is survived by a son and daughter, Mrs. T. A. Vince and Daniel Ward of New York; by a brother, George W. Ward of Union, N. J., and two sisters, Mrs. J. W. Dunnington and Mrs. Cora Barron, both of Washington, D. C.

Funeral and burial was near his home on Long Island, N. Y., and included religious and Masonic services, Oct. 16 and 17th. Mr. Ward's career, which took him into many parts of the world during the past 50 years, was the subject of a detailed article in the August 16 issue of the Coastland Times.

THIEVES HIT TWO PLACES IN HYDE. SHERIFF REPORTS

W. H. Spencer's Service Station Entered Last Thursday Night; J. M. Long's Shop Hit

Two separate break-ins have been reported in Hyde County during the past week, according to Sheriff Charlie J. Cahoon; little evidence as to the identity of the thieves has been found.

On Thursday night of last week, the front door of W. H. Spencer's Service Station at Scranton was pried open. In addition to a large quantity of merchandise, \$238 in cash was reported missing. Items of merchandise taken included flour, sugar, milk, tobacco, hose, socks, and canned goods.

The second robbery occurred on Friday night, when the latch was cut off the shop of J. M. Long near Engelhard; on this occasion, the robbers took a heavy-duty torch and welder, a tool box of plumbing tools, and a roof of copper wire.

JARVIS T. GRAY DIES

Jarvis T. Gray, 56, husband of Mrs. Emma Morgan Gray passed away Monday at his home in Avon after several months illness.

Besides his wife he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Oscar Gray, of Norfolk, Va.; four sons, Jarvis Gray Jr. of Norfolk; Ralph Gray of California; Harold Gray and Warren Gray of the home; one sister, Mrs. E. F. Scarborough; three brothers, Burgess Gray of Avon; Hilton Gray and Charlie Gray of Virginia Beach; seven grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at St. John's Methodist Church by Rev. Aaron Tyson, pastor, assisted by Rev. Lester Jarrett, pastor of the Assembly of God church and Rev. Jimmy Hearn, visiting Evangelist.

The choir, composed of members of both churches with Mrs. George W. Meekins as pianist sang, "No Night There," "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" and "God Will Take Care of You." "Abide With Me" was sung at the grave.

Pall bearers were: Luther Hooper, Fred Gray, Sr., Walker Scarborough, George W. Meekins, Willard Gray, Sr. and Joe Williams.

MURDER CASE UP AGAIN FOR TRIAL IN DARE COURT

Regular Term Convenes Monday 24th; Special Term Required In January

The regular fall term of Dare Superior Court which convenes Monday, October 24th will again try John Davis Scarborough for the murder of Ephraim Daniels Jr. A trial was held in May this year, but a jury, in the face of definite evidence, persisted in a mistrial at great expense to the county.

It is now going to be necessary for the county to hold a special term of court in January, in hope of clearing a docket congested by terms of court wasted by jurors who hang up cases. Another case, Melvin Leon Evans, for this reason, is to be tried the third time next week. He is charged with drunken driving.

Several appeals from Recorders court judgements have come up, and will be heard next week. Clayton Bowser and Frank Stewart are charged with larceny; Slate Ambrose is charged with violating game laws; Doran Mitchell Washington and James Bryant are charged with larceny; John Herbert Bowser is charged with non-support of his illegitimate child; Fred Smith is up for drunken driving; J. Arthur Williams for a traffic violation; Jerry Bell McCleese, ditto; James Batten, Colas Edwards and Bernice Armstrong of Elizabeth City are charged with larceny of an automobile.

TO LAUNCH ALBEMARLE SCOUT DRIVE TUESDAY

Senator Elton Aydtlett of Elizabeth City Heading Campaign for Funds This Month

Senator N. Elton Aydtlett, Chairman of the 1956 Boy Scout Finance drive for the Albemarle District announced today that plans have been completed to participate in a one day, state-wide coordinated drive October 25. The drive will kick off at 7:30 a.m. Tuesday morning with "Early Bird" breakfasts in each of the 7 counties making up the Albemarle District.

Senator Aydtlett, in his opening remarks at a meeting of the chairman of each of the 7 counties, said, "It is indeed an honor for me to serve as chairman of a drive for the Boy Scouts of America. The Boy Scout Movement is doing a tremendously successful work in training the youth of our country."

"I sincerely hope to achieve the same success and get the same fine cooperation that Judge Chester Morris has had as chairman of this drive in the past few years. Judge Morris is an ardent supporter of Scouting and has often said that if every boy could receive Scout training we could practically close our juvenile courts and institutions and eventually our prisons."

Aydtlett added, "Attorney General J. Lindsey Almond, who spoke at a meeting of all campaign chairmen in the House of Representatives on September 28, said, 'For 13 years I presided as judge over a busy court. Many cases of juvenile delinquency came before me. Not one of them involved a Boy Scout. I have discussed the matter with many other judges. All of them bear the same testimony.'"

Aydtlett said, "It is a pleasure for me to join hands with Gov. Stanley of Virginia, who is serving as state chairman of the campaign, in our slogan for this year—'Support Juvenile Decency.' I See **SCOUTS, Page Eight**

MRS. C. R. HOPKINS, DARE NATIVE DIES IN ELIZ. CITY

After a two weeks illness, Mrs. Louvenia Midgett Hopkins, 62, died in Elizabeth City Saturday. She was a native of Manns Harbor, and removed to Elizabeth City about 31 years ago, when her husband established the well-known plumbing business. She was the daughter of the late John P. and Sarah Mann Midgett. She was a member of the Eastern Star and a member of the City Road Methodist Church.

She is survived by her husband, Charlie R. Hopkins; one daughter, Mrs. Hugh C. Morris; one son, Charlie R. Hopkins, Jr., all of Elizabeth City; one brother, V. G. Midgett, of Manns Harbor, and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at 3 p.m. in the chapel of the Twiford Funeral Home by the Rev. D. J. Reid, pastor of the City Road Methodist Church, assisted by the Rev. W. W. Finlator, pastor of the First Baptist Church. Burial in Hollywood Cemetery.