

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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

VOLUME XV — NO. 26

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1955

Single Copy 7c

## SWAIN BEGINS BIG ADDITION TO DRY CLEANING PLANT

Growing Business in Manteo To Be Prepared For Larger Summer Trade

First among business additions in Manteo during 1956 will be the new dry cleaning plant of the Roanoke Laundry & Dry Cleaners, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Swain, and now associated with them are their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Jordan. Foundation for the new addition to the plant was poured this week, and makes for a large addition to the present quarters. A new boiler room and equipment was added during the year. The foundation and walls are designed for two stories as needed.

The space now occupied by the cleaning plant, will be devoted to the dry cleaning equipment. Mr. Swain stated that he was encouraged by the trend in business, and despite all the set backs in the trade caused by the summer's storms, their volume of business showed a 25 per cent increase.

This business, which was formerly operated under the name of Manteo Laundry, has been solely owned by the Swain for the past seven years. It has had remarkable growth, fills a great need in the community, and is one of the largest employers of labor in the town.

## BEARD GROWING AND JAMBOREE PLANNING MEET FRIDAY NIGHT

First in a series of Dare Coast Pirates Jamboree planning meets will be held at The Carolinian Hotel at Nags Head on Friday night, December 30, at 8 o'clock, it was announced today by Orville Baum.

Baum and Julian Oneto are co-chairmen for the beard growing committee. At the meeting definite plans for beginning the beard growing on all males who expect to compete for the regal title of "Pirate King" will be a chief topic of discussion.

"We are hoping to have the contest under way on January 1, thus giving plenty of time for some great specimens of bearded men being ready for the second annual jamboree in late April," said Baum.

The second annual pirates jamboree is scheduled to be held during the week end of April 27, 28, 29.

This year as in 1954, the events will be designed to take place not in one locality but all over the county. Last year the first, and very successful Pirates Jamboree, was presented on the first day at Cape Hatteras, at Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head on the second day and at Manteo and Port Raleigh on the third day.

Events of the first annual jamboree included, the world's biggest salt water fish fry, banker pony and beach buggy races, jeep and nag races, parties and dances, speed boat races and a religious service. This year at least that many events, with probably more added, will be presented.

At the meeting on Friday night the time for starting beard growing as a preliminary to the vacation season launching event will be decided. All interested persons are urged to attend the meeting, it was stated.

## JESSE JAMES MIDGETT, A NATIVE OF WAVES DIES

Jesse James Midgett, 38, the son of the late Clarence and Lydia Midgett of Waves, Dare County and husband of Nora Drummond Midgett of Boston, died Thursday of last week in a Boston hospital. He was a member of Fairhaven Methodist Church and a veteran of World War II. He had been living in Boston for the past ten years. He is survived by a brother, Lawrence Midgett Jr. of Australia, a sister, Mrs. Walker Scarborough of Avon, and by three children: Mrs. Edna Daniels of Fort Sill, Okla., and Misses Elena and Wanda Lee Midgett of Manteo. A funeral service was held in Boston, and the body sent to Twiford's funeral home in Manteo, which directed the burial service at Rodanthe-Waves this week.

## HELICOPTER TAKES MAN FROM WAVES TO HOSPITAL

Daniel B. Midgett, retired Coast Guardsman living at Waves who suffered another attack Monday, was flown by helicopter Tuesday to the Marine Hospital in Norfolk where his condition was reported as satisfactory. He reached the hospital grounds at 12:30 p.m.

## DEMONSTRATION DOINGS IN DARE



In one of our conversations in the office the other day someone commented that if some of us take as long to make our New Year's resolutions as we did to do our Christmas shopping, Christmas-time will again be upon us before we are through. For the New Year this saying is a real challenge to us all: "We are as big as the things that make us mad." (Prochnow) Let's resolve to be big enough so that "things" will not "make us mad" and set an example for our families and neighbors.

In planning for the year's activities of special interest to home demonstration club women, a workshop for making trays has been planned for March. Aluminum is now available in colors as well as the regular finish for our use. Making and remodeling hats is planned for April—not in time for anyone to wear their own Easter bonnet, but in plenty of time for a new spring hat.

A 3-day craft school for craft leaders in each of the counties of the Eastern district is planned for August. This will be held at the Roanoke 4-H camp. This craft school and the one at Camp Schaub, Waynesville, are the only two held in the state.

To get an earlier start on the holiday season in 1956 a "Christmas Idea" demonstration is planned for October. This will be designed for men, women and children.

No matter the day, month or hour, you are likely to find the women of the house in the kitchen. One of her kitchen jobs is freezing and whether she has a big family-size freezer or a small one in her refrigerator—what should it smell like? Cold and clear with no odor is your answer. We don't even want good odors in the freezer—much less foul odors.

Keeping odors out is easier than getting them out. To keep them out use frozen-moisture-vapor resistant frozen-food containers, and close the packages and containers tight. Hold the temperature at zero degrees or below.

If you find it's necessary to get odors out, remove food, disconnect freezer, defrost. Place a bowl containing 2% ammonia in freezer, close lid. Let stand over night or several hours. Then remove ammonia and wash freezer with strong soda water and rinse. Be sure all trace of ammonia odor is out and the freezer is cold again before replacing the frozen food.

As usual Dare County club women will assist Mrs. Helen Baum in the Polio drive during January. Local club chairmen are: Mrs. Edgar Perry, Kitty Hawk; Mrs. Zelma Brinson, Frisco; Mrs. Edna Barnett, Buxton; Mrs. Martha Dough, Collington; Mrs. Billy Tillett, Wanchese; Mrs. Ella and Lucretia Midgett, Rodanthe-Salvo-Waves; Mrs. Rosa Foster and Edna Garrish, Hatteras; Mrs. Ezeta Reber and Mrs. Millicent Mann, Nags Head; Mrs. Dorothy Taylor, Manns Harbor, and Mrs. Jasper Hooper, Stumpy Point.

## WILLIAM D. ROGERS, 73, DIED WED. IN NORFOLK

William Daniel Rogers, 73, husband of Mrs. Lillie Toler Rogers and son of the late Edward P. Rogers and Mrs. Sarah Perry Rogers, a lifelong resident of Kitty Hawk, died Wednesday, the 22nd in a Norfolk hospital.

He was a member of the Primitive Baptist Church at Kitty Hawk.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Nellie L. Beacham of Kitty Hawk and Mrs. Ben B. Shannon of Manteo; four sons, Hermon L. Rogers, Willie C. Rogers, Edward L. Rogers, all of Kitty Hawk and Lewis P. Rogers of Long Island, N. Y.; three sisters, Mrs. John F. Fuleher of Jarvisburg, Mrs. Audrey C. Harris of Kitty Hawk and Mrs. T. W. Pomeroy of Norfolk, Va.; seven grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

## HATTERAS MAN PROMOTED TO T-SERGEANT GRADE



T/SGT. ALBERT L. AUSTIN of Hatteras, son of Mrs. A. Burrus and the late Ernest Austin, after five years of army service, has been promoted to grade of T-Sergeant, and commended by his commanding officer, who said in a letter to the soldier's mother: "This promotion was given because of Austin's ability, willingness to assume responsibility, and devotion to duty . . . achievement of this type not only reflects credit upon the individual himself, but on the family as well . . . you are to be congratulated on the fine record which resulted in this promotion."

## HATTERAS BREAKWATER BIDS TO OPEN JAN. 24

Notice has been given by the office of District Engineer in Wilmington, that sealed bids will be opened on January 24th for the building of a breakwater and further improvement to the harbor at Hatteras.

This project has been a long time in the making, but due to the persistent work of Congressman Herbert Bonner over a period of years, it is now about to materialize and will be completed in early 1956. Leading citizens of Hatteras have taken part in this movement. It was finally authorized by Congress last year.

## COMMERCIAL BOAT SPACE IS ENLARGED AT INLET

Oregon Inlet Fishing Center where up to 50 sportsfishing craft berth during the spring, summer and autumn months has become a haven for commercial fishing craft, fish and shrimp trawlers, this winter. Up to 100 boats have used the facility as a place to berth or anchor at times this winter.

The basin at the Fishing Center has recently been greatly enlarged to accommodate more sports and commercial boats. The work of dredging additional facilities has been done by Capt. Toby Tillett, who has the fishing center leased from the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Additional parking space for autos will also be provided before another sportsfishing season begins.

## FUNERAL OF W. D. ROGERS

Kitty Hawk.—Funeral services for William D. Rogers, who died Thursday of last week in a Norfolk hospital, were conducted Sunday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock in the providence Baptist Church at Kitty Hawk, Rev. A. B. Ayers, of Williamston and pastor, officiated.

The casket was covered with a pall of white carnations and fern. "Amazing Grace" and "A Few More Days on Earth To Spend" were sung by Mrs. Hilda Gard Perry, Mrs. Nellie Perry, Mrs. Bowin, Mrs. Laura Perry, Mrs. Jesse Perry, Mrs. Bertie Beacham, Mrs. Jennie Beasley and Mr. Handy. Pallbearers were Jesse Perry, W. R. Toler, Curtis Perry, Eldridge Beacham, W. T. Beacham, and Lionel Shannon. Burial followed in the Austin Cemetery at Kitty Hawk.

## ROY BRICKHOUSE, TYRRELL NATIVE DIES IN NORFOLK

Roy Odell Brickhouse, 61, of 1804 Portlock Road, died in a Norfolk hospital this week, after an illness of four years. He was a native of Columbia, and had been a resident of South Norfolk for 19 years. He formerly was employed by the Richmond Cedar Works. He was a son of the late Jasper and Jennie Meekins Brickhouse, and husband of Mrs. Annie Oliver Brickhouse. He was a member of the Methodist Church in Columbia, and of the Woodmen of the World lodge in South Norfolk.

Surviving besides his wife, are a daughter, Mrs. William Smithson, of Shawboro; a sister, Mrs. Madeline Goodwin, of Raleigh, and a grandchild.

## OBSERVANCE OF OLD CHRISTMAS JANUARY 5th AT RODANTHE

There will be a celebration at Rodanthe on the eve of Old Christmas, Thursday night, January 5th. The celebration will take the form of a play arranged by some of the ladies of the community, followed by an oyster roast.

Old Christmas, or Epiphany which falls on January 6, is still observed in some of the Eastern countries, and some parts of Europe, as the true anniversary of the coming of the Magi. In fact the observance continued in some parts of England, although the calendar had been changed, as many people held to the theory that although the calendar may be changed by legislative decree it still doesn't change the anniversary.

The custom of observing Old Christmas came down through many generations on the North Carolina coastland, being handed down by the early English settlers. Fifty to 75 years ago the celebrations were pretty general, but gradually went out of style. It has remained longer at Rodanthe than elsewhere for a good reason. There being two communities at this spot, separated by about two miles and of equal size, it used to be custom for one community to play host to the other at Christmas time, and the favor was returned some ten days later when "Old Christmas" rolled around.

In more recent years, publicity about the event has aroused much interest in distant localities and many people have desired to come to Rodanthe to take part in the event. For a long time it has been the occasion of a neighborhood get-together—a time of good fellowship. Various citizens of the community take part in arranging the affair. The rampage of "Old Buck," a strange horned beast, creates much interest and merriment.

Mrs. Nora Herbert, chairman of the committee on planning for the annual Old Christmas celebration at Rodanthe-Waves on January 5, was in Manteo Wednesday gathering material for a Negro Minstrel, which will be one of the amusing highlights of the event this year.

The celebration this year, to be held in the schoolhouse at Rodanthe, will include in addition to the Negro Minstrel, carol singing, music and square dancing and of course, the traditional appearance of Old Buck the wild bull of Cape Hatteras Woods, which of late has received about the same amount of publicity as Nashua, the famous race horse which sold for over a million dollars early in December.

The Old Christmas celebrations at Rodanthe are not private affairs. Everyone is invited, and judging from some of the crowds present during the event in recent years, just about everyone who can get there accepts the invitation. There is usually no charge of admission except for the square dance and minstrel, and the fee is so small that it is hardly noticeable. Monies thus collected help defray expenses.

A finale to the celebrations each year is a big oyster roast. This phase of the celebration is held in the schoolhouse yard.

It is folks like Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, the Levene Midgett family, the Herbert Midgetts and others in the Rodanthe-Waves area who have helped keep alive the traditional Old Christmas celebrations each year. Each of those mentioned and others too in the communities are now busy making ready for the celebration. And you are invited to attend.

## ANOTHER EAST LAKE NATIVE DIES IN ELIZABETH CITY

Thomas Sanderlin Owens, 66, owner and operator of the T. S. Owens Fish Market, died Thursday, Dec. 22 while fishing his nets on the Pasquotank River.

A native of East Lake and of one of the old families, now all gone, he had been a resident of Elizabeth City for the last 62 years, he was the son of the late George W. and Ellen Sanderlin Owens. He resided at 904 Raleigh Avenue. He was a member of the First Methodist Church, a member of the official board since he was 19 years old, a member of the Men's Bible Class and a member of the Mens Fellowship Club.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Bessie Hall Owens, two daughters, Mrs. Howard E. Warns, of St. Petersburg, Fla. and Mrs. Edward S. Pasbody of Portsmouth, Va.; a son, Thomas Sanderlin Owens, Jr. of Elizabeth City; a sister, Mrs. Curricula Scarborough of Washington, D. C.; a brother, R. D. Owens of Elizabeth City and two grandchildren.

## THE HIGHER THE FEWER

There's Always Plenty of Room At The Top  
By NANCY J. MIDGETT

The old year being in its final days of waning, at least as far as the man made calendar is concerned, the deeds and decisions of these past three hundred and sixty four days are in their results even now a part of the coming year, I sat down with Me and had a serious think, and in fact spoke very firmly to Me about the short comings in behaviour, deed, thought and word during those past 1955 days and the many thousand before that.

Me of course, had all the usual excuses to offer; all those placating things one says to friends to make their conscience feel better even when our inner judgement says in a loud voice "No! it wasn't the right thing to do". It is funny how many and varied the excuses we can think of for our own actions and those of our friends but let other folk outside the magic circle do exactly the same thing, and for all we may know with more provocation, and we howl to high heaven about their meanness, wrongdoing, etc. When I say it is funny I mean 'funny peculiar' not 'funny ha ha!'

Now that both I and Me are getting older, we realize that New Year resolutions are not the simple things they seemed once upon a time. It isn't enough to just save one's pennies, quarters and dollars, although that in itself at times comes near to the working of miracles these days. It isn't just to have two pieces of candy a week instead of two a day. Nor is it to remember to say "Thank you" for anything given and "if you please" when asking. These all help but are more the outer show of the inward grace that is in fact the core that has to be worked on and that is truly hard labor in the hustle and bustle of the days around us. It can become a labor of love when we get into the habit of it. I read or heard somewhere that it is as easy to make good habits as bad if you start soon enough and I never have thought up an argument against it, but the knowledge of what are good habits and what are bad must be there first.

As not a single human on this earth today can be perfect, the best we can do is to do the best we can; not the best Tom or Jack or Johnny is doing; they have to work out their own life and the fact that Jack has done such and such and got away with it, doesn't make it right or even worth trying. We could be harming ourselves beyond measure even if we got away with it too. That is one of the weaknesses that I spoke to me about but each and all have their own problems and neither I or Me feel in a position or have at any time the right to stand in judgement. I will admit I find my tongue doing a whole lot of trying to judge though and in the end all that I get out of it is a rising blood pressure and churmed up innards and a mighty large feeling of shame when that same person or persons who have been the topic of conversation do me a good turn.

It all brings me back to the New Year, still observed with much more to do in Scotland than it is in England, and the lines, much quoted, by a great Scot, though not a great success as a man by the standards of society, morality perhaps and purpose in living, as enclosed in his mortal body. The spirit of the man and the spirit and courage he has roused in others long after his death is a better monument than any headstone, any fortune shown on the records of a bank, any property left only to his family heirs which so often leads to ill feeling, quarrels and heartache. "Oh wad some power the gify gie us To see ourselves as others see us! It wad frae monie a blunder free us An' foolish notion."

## \$9,174 ALLOTTED FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL IN DARE COUNTY IN 1956

Dare County's allotment of \$12,324 for mosquito control work this year was not all used up. It got started late, and although the work was carried on until a few days ago, only approximately better than \$9,000 was used.

The Board of Commissioners is advised that the budget for 1956 will be about \$9,174.

## DISASTER RELIEF FUNDS ALLOWED ON 7 PROJECTS IN DARE COUNTY \$42,785.00

Federal Funds Granted for Manns Harbor, Roanoke Island, Stumpy Point, Kitty Hawk, Avon and Frisco, About One-Fourth of Sum Requested. Work May Not Get Underway Before Warm Weather.

## MANTEO BOY SLAYS A MIGHTY MALLARD DUCK

Manteo—Largest mallard duck ever seen in this section was killed Monday in the marshes of lower Nags Head by Coy Tillett Jr. It weighed six pounds and nine ounces, and the size compared with that of a Canada goose in weight. It measured 30 inches from the tip of its bill to the tip of its tail and had a wingspread of almost one yard.

There was no mistaken identity. It was a male "greenhead" mallard and was identical in coloring and marking to a smaller mallard young Tillett killed on the same day. The smaller one weighed two and three quarter pounds.

The North Carolina Book of Birds lists weights of adult mallard ducks as ranging from two to three and 3/4 pounds. The species, not as numerous as some other wild ducks which winter along the North Carolina coast is seldom seen in large flocks. They prefer ponds in marshes to open waters of the sounds. L. B. Turner, manager, Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge on Hatteras Island, about 10 miles south of where Tillett bagged his big duck reported approximately 600 mallards there last week.

Tillett did not eat this duck. Instead his father, Coy Tillett Sr. gave the large mallard to Clark Stratton on Christmas vacation to take to Richmond for mounting. Stratton is one of the officials of the regional office of the National Park Service in Richmond.

## FUNERAL OF GEO. M. WISE HELD AT STUMPY PT. FRIDAY

The final services for George M. Wise, 69, of Stumpy Point, who died suddenly on Wednesday of last week were conducted at the Bethany Methodist Church at 2:30 p.m. Friday, and concluded at the graveside in the community cemetery. The church was packed with mourning friends.

Rev. A. L. G. Stephenson, the pastor, paid high tribute to the life of the deceased. He recounted his many years of service to the community, and numerous instances of personal aid he had given to those in need. Mr. Stephenson made an appeal to all to take inspiration from the life of Mr. Wise, and carry on the good work. In this manner, he said, we can help to discharge the obligation owing a great friend of the community. He said Mr. Wise's life should be an inspiration to all present, and an example that should be remembered with gratitude.

The profuse floral offering gave indication of the high esteem in which Mr. Wise was held. Several hymns were sung, with Mrs. Gertrude Wise, accompanist.

A large attendance from Wanchese Masonic Lodge was present at the graveside, and lecture for this funeral was delivered by F. M. Cahoon of Manteo, former Master of the Lodge. Mr. Wise had been a member of this lodge for more than 30 years. He was also a 32nd degree Mason and member of Sudan Shrine temple of New Bern.

Mr. Wise suffered a heart attack last week, while en route to Norfolk with his family. He died almost instantly. He had been engaged in the fish business all his life. For many years, he travelled the length of the Atlantic Seaboard in the interest of Northern Fish dealers. Some 30 years ago, he established his own business, the Fishermen's Exchange at Stumpy Point. This business had continued through thick and thin to furnish the community with a dependable market. Last year, with his son-in-law as partner, they completed a new plant, replacing one last some years before. The son in law, Horace Hooper, was taken ill shortly after the death of Mr. Wise and was in the Belhaven hospital at the time of the funeral.

## SHERILL L. MIDGETT, HYDE NATIVE, DIES IN NORFOLK

Sherill Lee Midgett, 45, for several years a resident of Stumpy Point and for the past 15 years a resident of Norfolk, died Friday in a Norfolk hospital. He was the husband of Mrs. Lida Payne Midgett, formerly of Stumpy Point. Mr. Midgett was a native of Gulroek, in Hyde County, and was employed by the Southern Fish Co. of Norfolk.

Besides his wife, he is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Glenyce Lee Bowers of Philadelphia, Pa., Mrs. Linda Lou Daye of Morehead City, N. C., and Miss Gloria Marie Midgett of Norfolk; one son, Sherill Lee Midgett, Jr. of Norfolk; one sister, Mrs. Mabel Dwell of Franklin; one half brother, Dan Midgett of Norfolk; three half sisters, Mrs. Darcy Etheridge of Wanchese, Mrs. Dave Ballance of Lowlands, and Miss Sylvia Midgett of Norfolk; his stepmother, Mrs. Clydia Midgett of Norfolk and one grandson, Billy Bowers of Philadelphia.

The funeral was conducted at Twiford-Derry funeral home in Norfolk and burial was in Riverside Memorial Park Monday of this week.

Polio Patients Need Help!  
Join the MARCH OF DIMES  
January 3 to 31