

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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

VOLUME XXII — NO. 35

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 1957

Single Copy 7¢

## COASTLAND NEWSPAPERS PLAN BIG EDITION REVIEWING GAINS AS APRIL CELEBRATION OPENS

The biggest celebration yet held in Dare County is planned for a three-day period beginning April 24th, and the week ahead, Coastland Newspapers plan a large illustrated edition reviewing gains that have been made in the Southern Albemarle Counties during the past 25 years.

This material will be carried in The Coastland Times of Manteo, the Hyde County Herald and The Belhaven Pilot. It will be lavishly illustrated with pictures and articles dealing with those individuals and firms who have had a part in making the recent wonderful history and progress of this region.

It will carry advertising of and stories about those contractors, and other firms and individuals who have executed the big projects that have been completed, including roads, bridges, memorials and other large construction jobs.

All firms and persons who are interested in taking part in this Coastland Progress Edition should immediately address Coastland Newspapers, Box 428, Manteo, N. C. It will be an issue of these pa-

pers which many people will treasure as souvenirs of an important event.

We expect to carry articles reviewing the history of this region, and of those organizations and activities which have done most to develop it. We want articles about the Lighthouse Service, the Coast Guard, the Army and Navy, Air Force, and many other branches of the Service as they apply to this region. We expect to carry reviews of progress in schools, in transportation, tourist accommodations, etc. Don't forget to write us or phone us.

## WRIGHT MEMORIAL ROADS TO BE RESURFACED SOON

Kill Devil Hills.—The circle driveway, trails and other roads in the immediate vicinity of Wright Brothers National Monument are due, it was stated today by Horace Dough, superintendent of the NPS reservation where the first airplane flights were made on December 17, 1903.

"Contractors interested in doing the improvements may be interested to know that bids for the construction job will be received at the Memorial Monument headquarters this week," said Dough. They will be opened at 2 o'clock on Thursday February 28.

"Specifications for the contract may be seen at our office," he added. The paving material to be used, or for which bids are being received include sand asphalt and bituminous paving.

The driveways and trails have seen heavy traffic in recent years due to the annual increase in number of persons who have visited the site. In addition to the magnificent pylon-styled monument at the top of the Hill, the properties now include replicas of the Wright Brothers hangar, living quarters and workshop of 1903. The latter are located near a granite boulder which marks the actual take-off point of the first flight and three subsequent flights by the Wrights in their powered-airplane on December 17, 54 years ago.

## IMPORTANT WEATHER STATION TO BE READY BY SEASON OF 1957

By AYCOCK BROWN

Cape Hatteras.—Installation of equipment for one of the most important U. S. Weather Stations in the world is now taking place here at Cape Hatteras and when the Hurricane Season rolls around during late summer, as the Hurricane Season does each year along the Atlantic Coast, everything will be in readiness for detecting potential or approaching storms. C. A. Wardman is observer in charge of the new facility which he says will be designated as the Weather Bureau Office, Cape Hatteras, "as we feel this name most effectively pin points our location for public relations purposes."

For the most part this new bureau office with all of its modern devices for checking the weather for which Cape Hatteras is famous, regardless of whether it is the sub-tropic Gulf Stream tempered climate that causes citrus fruit to grow easily along with tropical plants of various kinds, or the blustery storms, that occasionally envelope the region, will be the operational devices used in recent years at the old weather bureau office in Hatteras Village, some seven or eight miles southwest of the new location.

There will be certain observations continued at Hatteras, it was stated, such as a cooperative temperature and precipitation recording sub-station and also a storm warning station. Both of these Hatteras village projects will be handled by Damon Gray Sr., of Hatteras.

## Largest Radar

The new station here will maintain its key position in the Bureau's hurricane warning network. "Our radar is still the largest storm detection set in existence being equalled only by two similar sets recently installed at Nantucket and San Juan," said Wardman.

"We trust that we will be able to obtain information from the radar that will be valuable not only for immediate purposes, but which will also be of value in the eventual development of improved hurricane forecasting procedures," he added.

## Completely Modern

The new station will be completely modern and this will be reflected by some of the new equipment being installed. New wind, pressure and temperature recording equipment will be available here in the near future, it was stated.

"In addition we are installing a 20 kw. generator for use during periods of commercial power failure and will retain our 1,000 watt radio transmitter for emergency communications and facsimile transmissions. We will be connected to at least one national teletype weather network which will enable us to provide warning service to residents of this area and summer vacationists," said Wardman.

## HYDE MAN NAMED HEAD OF N. C. FARM WRITERS

Thos. E. Spencer, Engelhardt native who began his newspaper career with the Hyde County Herald and is now on the staff of the Washington Daily News, has been named President of the N. C. Farm Writers Association which recently met in Raleigh. Thos. E. is noted for his civic spirit, and his excellent farm coverage for his newspaper.

## NEARLY 200 ATTEND DINNER GIVEN BY EASTERN STAR

Roanoke Island Chapter Entertains  
Masons at Shrine Club  
Saturday Night

Plates were served to 184 persons at the Roanoke Island Chapter, Eastern Star No. 79 dinner given Saturday night at seven o'clock at the Shrine hall at Nags Head, and several hours of entertainment were enjoyed, including a humorous play on Masonry staged by Mrs. Lois Bridges, who is the Worthy Matron of the Chapter.

The dinner was under the direction of Mrs. S. E. Midgett, chairman, and consisted of baked ham, with trimmings and liberal desserts.

Pastors of churches of the area were invited, and those attending were Mr. Cholerton of the Manteo Baptist, Mr. Stephenson of Stumpy Point, and Mr. Warren of the Wanchese Methodist; all of whom responded with brief remarks. H. O. Bridges, master of Wanchese Masonic Lodge and worthy patron of the Eastern Star, was master of ceremonies.

Mrs. Bridges gave the address of welcome, and the response was made by Seldon Midgett, Master of the Manteo Lodge. The dinner was considered one of the most successful affairs of its kind held here. Several visiting brethren attended.

## MRS. EMERSON ROGERS, 73, DIES AT HOME IN DUCK

Mrs. Med Rogers, 73, died Tuesday at 12:20 a.m. at her home at Duck after an illness of two days. She was a native of Currituck County and had been living in Duck for the past 36 years. She was the daughter of Charlie and Cynthia Farrow Rogers and the wife of Emerson Rogers. The couple had been married 57 years.

Mrs. Rogers was a member of the Powells Point Baptist Church. Funeral services were conducted Thursday at 2 p.m. at the home in Duck by the Rev. Woody Barnes.

## WINS CERTIFICATE FOR DRIVERS' LICENSE COURSE



MRS. SYBIL D. ETHERIDGE of Manteo, Drivers' License Examiner for the Highway Safety Division has recently been awarded a certificate certifying her completion of the course in Driver Education at the Institute of Government of the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Mrs. Etheridge, who has been with the Division for about four years, is entering with zeal into the stepped-up highway safety program in this state, which is emphasizing at this time a course in driver education.

The administrator for this area of the Highway Safety Division is Elton R. Peele and he has recently been given a Certificate of Achievement Award for outstanding performance in driver licensing for the state of North Carolina for the year 1955. This speaks highly for the efficiency of the personnel on his staff, which includes Mrs. Etheridge of Manteo, who is represented here by a portrait which does not show her in uniform. The award coming to this division represents the highest achievement in this field for North Carolina of any of the other states in the United States for the year 1955, and is the first time North Carolina has achieved first place in the nation in this driver licensing program.

## COQUINA BEACH, NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM TO OPEN

Coquina Beach, the first of several day use areas planned for Cape Hatteras National Seashore will open during the Spring of 1957, it was stated here today by Allyn Hanks, NPS superintendent. About the same time the new natural history museum in the former keepers quarters of Bodie Island Lighthouse will also be open to the public.

Coquina Beach is distinguished for its ultra-modern designed sun shades of giant laminated timbers which partly cover a large decking area. Also attracting attention at the Coquina Beach area are the multi-colored bath houses.

Coquina Beach and the Natural History Museum are the newest attractions of the now famous Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Previously a museum of the Sea had been established at Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, also a scenic parkway from the highway to the Point of Cape Hatteras. On Ocracoke harbor facilities at the former Naval Section Base have been completed.

Throughout the National Park Service Area between Nags Head and Ocracoke sand fixation projects to combat erosion are now underway.

## CHRISTIAN WORKERS SCHOOL IN MANTEO ON MARCH 3, 4 AND 5

The Dare sub-district Christian Workers School, to be held at the Mount Olivet Methodist Church in Manteo March 3, 4 and 5, will be participated in by the Manteo, Wanchese and Kitty Hawk Methodist churches and the Dare Charge, comprised of East Lake, Manns Harbor and Stumpy Point.

The teachers, who will arrive Sunday and the subjects to be taught, are Rev. Thomas A. Collins of Raleigh, "Christian Beliefs"; Mrs. H. R. Odum of Gibson, "Understanding Teenagers"; and Mrs. J. H. Lanning of Plymouth, "Home and Church Co-operating in Childrens Work". The classes will be from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., with two periods of 50 minutes duration, running concurrently, individuals being able to attend the class in which they are interested.

Hostesses to the teachers during their stay in Manteo will be Mrs. R. D. Sawyer, Mrs. Burwell Evans, Mrs. John Garrison and Mrs. Elmer Midgett. Supper will be served each night at the church and will be provided by the churches participating to the teachers and members of the board and their wives and husbands.

## A GREAT CITIZEN WHO KEPT ON WORKING IN SPITE OF HIS YEARS

A tragic death occurred to Oscar Lucian Hall, of Currituck this week. Though 87 years old, he kept on the job at the store of E. R. Johnson of Currituck, with whom he had been associated for so many years. But while trying to light a fire in the store's stove, he suffered severe burns, and died in the Albemarle Hospital Saturday evening. He was burned Thursday morning.

He was a native of Elizabethtown, a former Duplin County resident, but had been a resident of Currituck for the past 50 years. He was the son of the late Lucian James and Sarah Melvin Hall and the husband of Mrs. Anna Leola Hall.

He was a retired postmaster of Currituck, having served in that capacity for over 35 years. At the time of his death he was employed by the Johnson Store.

He was a member of the Pilmore Methodist Church of Currituck.

Besides his wife, he is survived by a sister, Mrs. Lena Hall Stephens of Elizabethtown.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at 2 p.m. in the Pilmore Methodist Church by the Rev. R. Dennis Ricks, pastor. Burial was in the Bagley Memorial Cemetery, Moyock.

## LAUNCHING OF MISSION 66 HIGHLIGHTS NATIONAL PARKS YEAR

Launched with the blessing of President Eisenhower and the Congress, the National Park Service's MISSION 66 was singled out by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton in his annual report to the President as the event of greatest significance to the National Park System during the fiscal year which ended on June 30, 1956.

The report on this 10-year conservation program for the System, the Secretary points out, was completed early in 1956 and "represents a distillation of the contributions of literally hundreds of men and women", employees of the

## 1,000 SPECIAL GUESTS INVITED; BEAUTY QUEEN TO BE CHOSEN CROATAN BRIDGE DEDICATION

Plans Made Feb. 27 For Free Dinner to Be Provided 1,000 Persons, and Principal Ceremonies at Manns Harbor to Be Followed By Boat Races at Manteo; Pirates Jamboree Continues.

## MACK ETHERIDGE ISSUES CALL TO WANCHESE FOLK

Communities Civil Defense Supervisors  
Urge Attendance of Citizens at  
School March 4th

There's to be a meeting at Wanchese schoolhouse Monday evening, March 4, in the interest of the Civil Defense program, and Mack Etheridge, who is supervisor for this community, has issued a plea urging attendance which is about as strongly worded as could be done. Mr. Etheridge has issued his call to all male citizens of Wanchese, ages 15 to 100. It's an important matter and we urge everyone to read this, and to attend the meeting.

"Since I have been appointed Supervisor for the civil defense of Wanchese, I feel that it is my obligation to forward the following information.

"If and when there is a third world war, it is predicted that Norfolk, Va., will be one of the eight principal targets for the hydrogen bomb. This bomb, as instructed by Mr. Robert Gunn, civil defense commander, will demolish Norfolk.

"Our National defense authorities are under the impression that we will be alerted within two to five hours in advance, and when this happens it will mean the entire evacuation of Norfolk.

"Every attempt possible will be made to direct the vast mobile movement through Elizabeth City, and southward. However, it is expected that fifty thousand or more would follow route 158, leading into Dare County.

"There will be no electricity, telephone or out-bound mobile transportation. The only means of supplies may depend on our fishing fleet.

"It has been estimated that our stores have a one-week self supporting stock for its local people. If the aforementioned becomes a reality, it would leave us in a critical situation. Imagine fifty thousand refugees entering into Dare County, and it with only enough supplies to support itself for about one week. Undoubtedly, there will be panic, rioting, looting, etc.

"Every town and village from See DEFENSE, Page Five

When the William B. Umstead Memorial Bridge, spanning Croatan Sound between Roanoke Island and Manns Harbor, is dedicated on Thursday, April 25, it will be one of the biggest celebrations of its kind ever held along the North Carolina coast, if plans of the committee meeting in Manns Harbor on Wednesday are carried out. Members of the committee included persons who have long been supporters and officials of the Southern Albemarle Association and other interested citizens of the Dare Coast.

The tentative invitation list for official guests at the event includes approximately 1,000 persons. Broken down this list contains 300 members of the Southern Albemarle Association, 100 persons connected with the Highway and Public Works Commission, the Elizabeth City High School Band, 100, the State Legislature of 150 persons, many expected to bring their wives, the National Park Service, 50, Coast Guard, 25 other special guests and additional bands if possible to obtain same.

It was decided that concession meals would be available in addition to the special meal for the 1,000 or more invited guests.

It is planned to have a sound system available at the speakers' platform and W. S. White of Manns Harbor will see that the platform is built.

Invitations will go to press, radio and television outlets to have representatives at the dedication and many have already indicated they would be present.

Arrangements for feeding the special guests is being worked out with a firm in Edenton that will supply choice of barbecued chicken or pork.

It is planned to have a parade including at least one large float on which the queen and attendants, See CELEBRATION, Page Five

## 70 ATTEND DINNER OF HATTERAS ISLAND OES

Wives Feed Husbands at Miro Lodge  
Saturday Night; C. P. Gray,  
Speaker.

Despite much illness and many absences from the island, the attendance at the Eastern Star dinner at Miro Beach Lodge, Rodanthe, Saturday night, was almost equal to the membership of the Chapter.

Mrs. Alethia Meekins, Worthy Matron, presided, and Charles P. Gray of Buxton, made an inspiring address, reciting the benefits that have come to the Outer Banks during his lifetime.

Mrs. Meekins called upon all past Matrons and past Patrons, who made brief remarks. These included Mrs. Cedric Midgett, Anderson Midgett, R. A. Job, W. W. Edwards, A. H. Gray Jr. and several others. A. H. Gray led the devotions.

Some 70 people heard Mr. Gray describe how the Outer Banks had gone forward from small schools, operated a few weeks in the summer time, to a modern school attended by the children of all the villages. He told of his going away to Elizabeth City to school in Alfred Farrow's sailboat some 50 or more years ago, when it took nearly a week to get from Avon to his destination, being weather-bound at Wanchese for several days. He recalled the good road and frequent ferry service, which enables one to breakfast at home, lunch in Elizabeth City and be back at home before night.

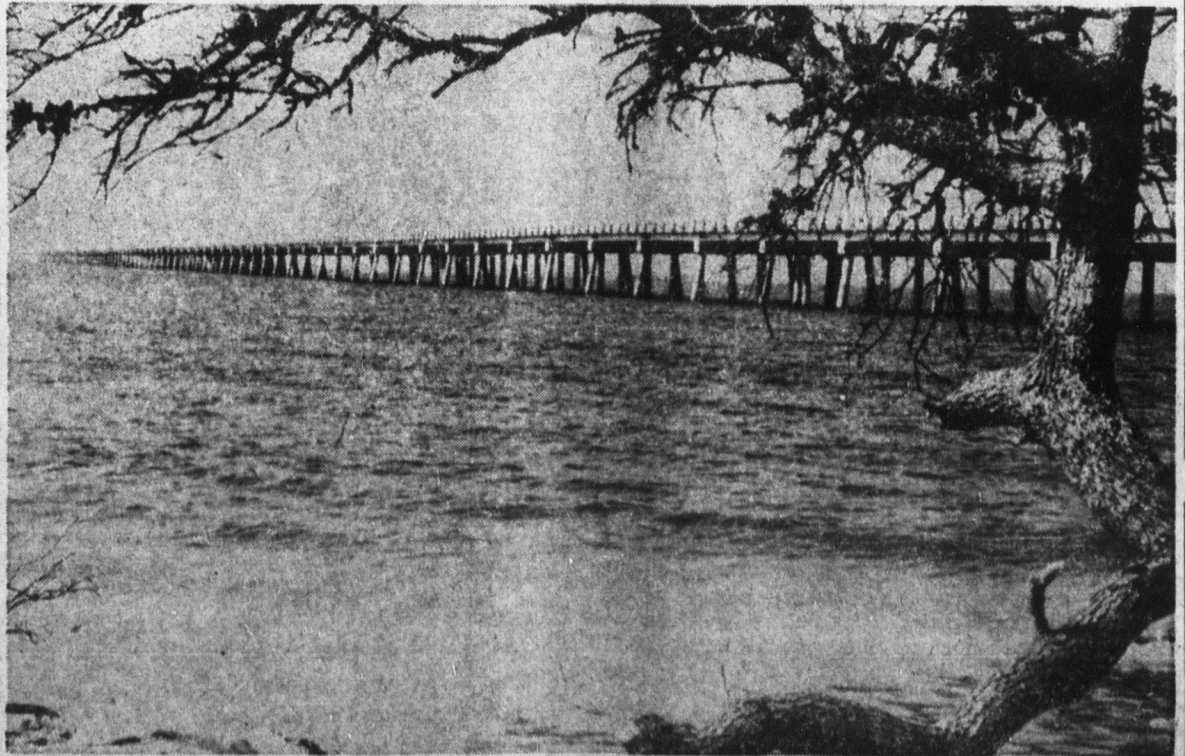
He called attention to the civic unity and interest which prevails today, and the great improvements in the homes, which are all commencing to appear.

See O.E.S., Page Five

## EPISCOPAL AUXILIARY PANCAKE SUPPER MARCH 5

Under the sponsorship of the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Andrews by the Sea, a Shrove Tuesday pancake supper will be held at The Carolinian Hotel on March 5. The event comes on the eve of Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. Everyone is invited to attend the supper and many special guests are expected this year to meet the Rev. and Mrs. Robert W. Turner, who will have arrived to take over the rectorship of St. Andrews. A nominal charge for the pancake supper is made, the profits going to the work of the church.

## UMSTEAD MEMORIAL BRIDGE TO BE DEDICATED APRIL 25



A HUGE CELEBRATION IS PLANNED, and 1,000 guests will be invited to a special dinner at Manns Harbor on April 25th, when the new bridge over Croatan Sound is dedicated. The bridge went into use in December of 1955. It is 2.7 miles long and cost \$3,900,000. It is a toll free bridge, built by the state of North Carolina; T. A. Loving Co. of Goldsboro being the contractors. (Ayeock Brown photo)

## \$350 QUICK MONEY RAISED FOR POLIO

The "toll bridge" for benefit of polio fund raised \$352.75 after expenses of \$6.25 and proved a shot in the arm since Dare County's quota in this drive had not been met. This affair was staged jointly by the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Roanoke Island on the Roanoke Sound bridge.

Mrs. Balfour Baum, chairman of the polio drive, stated this week that total collections, excluding the "toll bridge" funds, amounted to \$1129.74, far short of a \$1500.00 goal set for this county. She expressed her appreciation for this boost, and added that with money from three small communities which have not reported, the goal should be reached.