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THE LOST COLONY OPENS ITS 17TH SEASON SATURDAY

New Director, Many New Leading Characters, Good Choir and Good Organist Put On Creditable Performance

By CATHERINE D. MEEKINS
Opening on Saturday night, June 29, for its 17th season, the Lost Colony got underway at Waterside Theatre on Roanoke Island with a good performance. Considering the fact that the show is headed by a new director, with most of the leading characters played by newcomers to the show, it went remarkably well. Being the opening night, there were a few rough spots that undoubtedly will be ironed out within the week. The chief trouble seems to be that most of the new leads have not yet had time to become accustomed to projecting their voices in outdoor theatre. This is an art not learned on an indoor stage. The music, directed by Elwood Keister for the second year, is a decided improvement over last year's performance. The choir is strong and well-balanced, except for a slight weakness in the blending of the soprano section. Hedley Yost at the organ for the second year gave strong support throughout the show.

A few minor changes have been made in staging, but the show remains practically the same as before. In lieu of a historian relating the struggles of the colony, Captain John White now acts as historian, telling the story in the first person, thus giving it a more personal touch and a more direct appeal to the audience. The part of John White is played by Earle Rankin in a most authentic manner.

The Indian dances, as usual, are colorful, and of tremendous audience appeal. Perhaps they are a little more mechanical this year—somehow they seem to lack the spontaneity that should be there, although they are still well executed. The milkmaid dance remains as it should be—simple and countrylike, with no fancy ballet steps. The Indian solo dancer, Glynn Sprinkle, gives an excellent performance in the part of Uppowoc. John Lehman, returning to the show after an absence of two years, has put in many hours of hard work and instruction as choreographer.

Diane Rousseau, as Eleanor Dare, and William Walsh as John Borden play the female and male leads very well, but need to learn a little more about outdoor voice projection. Walsh's part lacks a little of the fire with which it has formerly been played, but that will improve as the show moves on into the season.

Mary Wood Long plays Queen Elizabeth in her usual dynamic style. Edward Reeves as Sir Walter Raleigh gives the part a courtly dignity. Ray Smith, as "Old Tom," shows a fine understanding of the role, but seems to rush headlong into some of his speeches, without the usual deliberateness which has previously characterized the early entrances. His performance in the final scenes seems to have slowed down to the usual tempo.

Page Williams has stepped into the role of Dame Coleman, the midwife, in fine style. Marjalee Thomas plays Joyce Archard even better than in previous years.

Hal Furr makes a forceful and stately Chief Wanchese. John Meadows plays the part of Simon Fernando well, but could make it a little more colorful. The part of Master of the Queen's Ceremonies, played by Richard Newdick, seemed rather colorless on opening night. Philip Amadas, played by William Watson, seemed to have dictation trouble. Chief Manteo, played by Charles Briggs, showed need for more deliberation and force. Ananias Dare, played by George Perry, was well done, but again the outdoor voice projection problem was discernible. Steve Stephenson plays the part of Father Martin with a fine understanding of the part.

Cora Mae Basnight of Manteo is a natural for the part of Agona, the Indian role played for many years by the late Grace Davis, also of Manteo.

Director Burnet Hobgood, replacing Clifton Britton who was for a number of years director of the drama, has done a terrific job. He has had the odds stacked against him, being new and having so many other new actors working with him, but he has turned out a show of which he may justly be proud.

The realism with which the massacre scene was played was made evident by a small boy in the back of Waterside Theatre. His father moved from his seat and the boy must have thought he was going toward the stage, for he called out in a terrified voice "Daddy, don't go down there. The Indians see LOST COLONY, Page Five

TOWN'S NEW STREET LIGHTS INAUGURATED



THROWING THE SWITCH to officially turn on Manteo's new street lights climaxed a brief ceremony Monday evening in which Virginia Electric and Power Company presented to the town a modern up-to-date street light system consisting of twelve 6000-lumen lights and thirty-six 2500 lumen lights. Mayor Martin Kellogg is shown pulling the ribbon to place the lights in operation as R. H. Goodmon, Vepco's Carolina division vice-president, looks on.

The town has granted Vepco a 30-year electric franchise and has also entered into a 30-year contract with the company for street lighting. This was done in connection with the sale of the Roanoke Utilities electric system to Vepco, which was completed Monday also. (Ayecock Brown photo)

TO PREACH SUNDAY AT WATERSIDE THEATRE



THE REV. GEORGE E. STOKES, Jr., a native of Norfolk and currently rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church at Clinton, will be guest minister at the second in a series of Sunday morning worship services at The Lost Colony's Waterside Theatre near Manteo next Sunday morning.

The Lost Colony Chorus under direction of Dr. Elwood Keister, with George E. Perry at the organ, will provide the music and anthem for the services.

After graduating from Maury High School, Norfolk, and Lees-McRae College in Banner Elk, the Rev. Mr. Stokes received his AB degree from the University of the South, Sewanee, Tenn., where he made Phi Beta Kappa in 1947, was a member of The Order of the Gownsmen and also a member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity there. He received his Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va., June 1950.

Prior to his call to the Clinton Parish, he served as minister of Haymarket Parish in the Diocese of Virginia, where he served as president of the Prince William County Council of Churches and was secretary of the Valley Conference. See SERVICES, Page Five

DARE TEACHER ALLOTMENT FOR COMING YEAR GIVEN

The allotment of teachers for the 1957-58 school year for Dare County's schools by the State Board of Education was announced this week by Mrs. Mary L. Evans, county superintendent. This allotment is slightly revised from the tentative allotment made earlier by the state.

Several changes in schools are to be made as a result of the state's allotment, which is as follows: Manteo, 10 elementary and 7 high school; Manns Harbor, 1 elementary; Kitty Hawk, 4 elementary; Wanchese, 4 elementary; Stumpy Point, 1 elementary; Cape Hatteras, 8 elementary, 4 high school; and Roanoke, 2 elementary, 1 high school.

Manns Harbor lost one teacher this year, resulting in the fourth grade being assigned to the Manteo school and thus leaving only grades one through three at Manns Harbor. Because of crowded conditions at Manteo, the state agreed to assign a teacher to Stumpy Point again for one more year only. This year's allotment also results in the loss of one teacher at Kitty Hawk.

4-YEAR-OLD GIRL KILLED WALKING AT NAGS HEAD

Debbie Brock, a four year old Elizabeth City girl who lives on Harrington Road, was fatally injured Tuesday night about 9 o'clock at Nags Head when struck by a 1949 Oldsmobile, driven by Robert Bruce Best, 17, of Kitty Hawk. Best who was southbound, struck the child while she was walking on the road.

Best was released by patrolman W. E. Brown, and allowed to go to his home at Kitty Hawk pending complete investigation of the circumstances.

The child, taken to Elizabeth City hospital in an ambulance, died on arrival at the hospital.

The mishap occurred 50 feet south of the Nags Head Beach Club.

The little girl was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Brock and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Leary of Camden, formerly of Nags Head.

MANTEO LINESMAN HURT IN ACCIDENT FRIDAY

Raymond Wescott of Manteo, linesman now for Virginia Electric and Power Company, suffered a fall from a pole on which he was working directly behind Fearing's Cafe in Manteo Friday morning at 9:20 a.m. His fall was broken somewhat by a guy wire on which he fell but which caught him in the middle of his back. Preliminary examination by Dr. W. W. Harvey did not disclose any broken bones, but he was transferred to Albemarle Hospital in Elizabeth City for further examination and treatment.

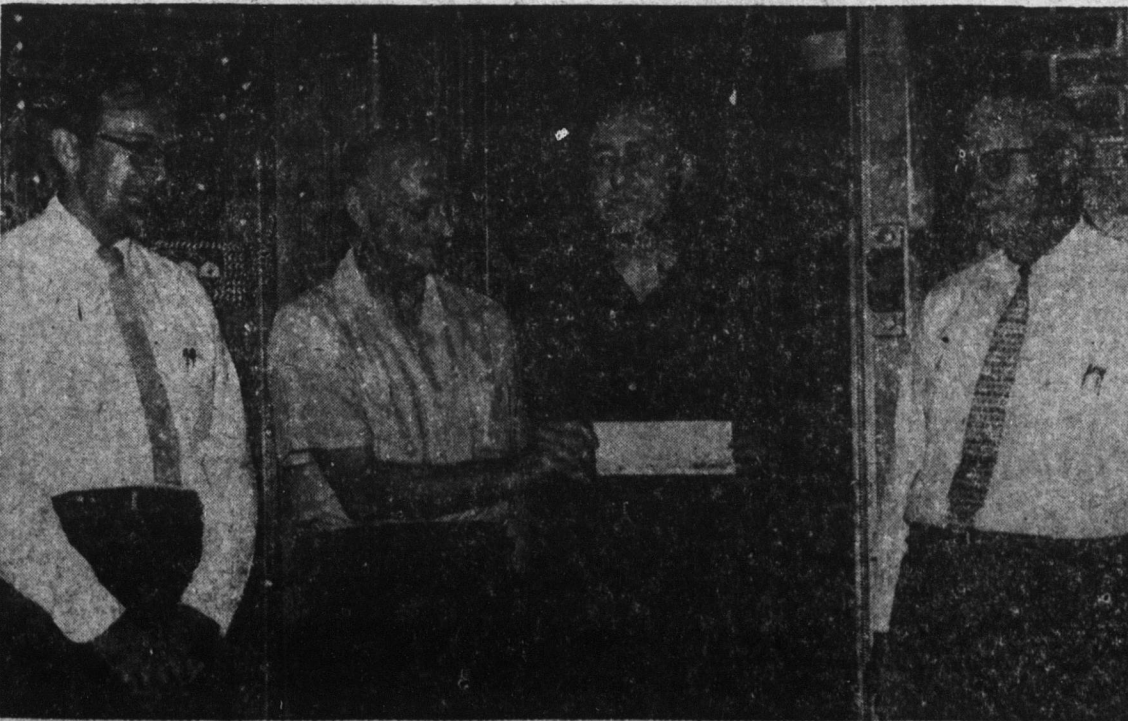
GOVERNOR GOES BACKSTAGE AT LOST COLONY



TWO OHIO NATIVES met and exchanged greetings backstage at the special governor's preview performance of The Lost Colony on Thursday evening of last week. Ohio's Governor William O'Neill, at left, is shown with Ray Smith of Cleveland, Ohio, who this year plays Old Tom Harris in the historical drama.

In addition to Governor O'Neill, other governors who attended the special performance as guests of Governor Hodges of North Carolina were: Stephen L. R. McNichols of Colorado, Herschel C. Loveless of Iowa, George Docking of Kansas, Orville L. Freeman of Minnesota, George B. Timmerman, Jr. of South Carolina, William G. Stratton of Illinois, J. Hugo Aronson of Washington, John E. Davis of North Dakota, Joe Foss of South Dakota, and George D. Clyde of Utah. (Ayecock Brown photo)

VEPCO COMPLETES PURCHASE OF ROANOKE UTILITIES SYSTEM



A BRIEF CEREMONY held Monday at noon at the Bank of Manteo officially completed the sale to Virginia Electric and Power Company by Roanoke Utilities of Roanoke Island's electrical distribution system, which was begun thirty-three years ago by W. B. Fearing and the late M. K. Fearing and was operated by the Fearing family until Monday.

Pictured at the passing of Vepco's check for \$200,000 as the basic payment for the system are, left to right: M. K. Fearing, Jr. and W. B. Fearing, vice-president and president respectively of Roanoke Utilities; R. H. Goodmon, vice-president of Vepco's Carolina division; and W. R. Pearce, cashier of the bank, who was waiting to accept the check for deposit.

The Fearing's began their system in 1924 with a diesel generator at Manteo. Their lines were extended until they reached 16 miles up the beach to Nags Head in 1936, when they began buying power wholesale from Vepco and sold their beach lines to the larger company. (Ayecock Brown photo)

GOVERNOR AND MRS. HODGES WELCOMED



A HEARTY WELCOME is extended to North Carolina's Governor Luther H. Hodges, left, and Mrs. Hodges by Earle Rankin, Governor White in the Lost Colony cast, on their arrival at the Manteo Airport by plane Thursday morning of last week. Governor Hodges came to Manteo from the National Governors Conference in Williamsburg, Va., and governors of eleven other states accepted his invitation to visit Dare Thursday and Friday for two days of sight-seeing, fishing, and rest and relaxation. (Ayecock Brown photo)

BIG SUNFISH LANDED BY CANNADY IS RELEASED

Capt. Buddy Cannady, skipper of the cruiser Wahoo, lassoed an ocean sunfish estimated to weigh more than 500 pounds Monday, and towed it to Oregon Inlet. After many had seen the fish, he towed it back to the Inlet and released it while it was still alive.

DARE'S OUTSTANDING FARM AGENT RESIGNS



ROBERT S. SMITH, Dare County farm agent since July 1945, resigned this week for health reasons. He plans to remain in Manteo where he has a home, along with his wife and two young sons, Spencer and Paul. His successor has not been named.

Born and reared in Pitt County, Mr. Smith graduated at State College and went to Warren County Jan. 1, 1940 as assistant county agent. He remained there until he came to Dare County.

One of Mr. Smith's projects has benefited the entire state. When the Navy abandoned its facility on Roanoke Island, he enlisted the interest of a Manteo newspaperman, Victor Meekins, with the result that the Roanoke Island 4-H Camp was established in 1946. An average of 5,000 4-H Club boys and See SMITH, Page Five

SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS TO BE HELD AT MANTEO JULY 9 TO AUGUST 16

The Roanoke Island School of Fine Arts, sponsored by the Roanoke Island Historical Association, is scheduled to be held this year from July 9th through August 16th. Registration for the school is to be held this Saturday, July 6, between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. at the Community Building in Manteo.

The school is sponsored each summer by the association in connection with the annual presentation of the historical drama The Lost Colony, with the purpose of providing instruction in the theatre arts, supplementing the training of the company of The Lost Colony, and training residents of Dare County for future participation in this drama of their county's history.

The faculty is made up of members of the staff and company of The Lost Colony. The list of instructors and the classes they will teach is as follows: Dr. Elwood Keister, Voice Class; Miss Nancy Francis, Children's Chorus; Miss Ellen Walter, Advanced Dance Technique and Beginner's Dance Technique; Miss Kathleen Hartsock, Dance for Children; William I. Long, Stagecraft or Playwriting; Mrs. Irene Rains, Costume Execution; Dr. Elizabeth Welch, Voice and Diction; and Mrs. Mary Long, Make-Up for the Stage.

Classes are open to any member of the company of The Lost Colony and to any permanent or temporary resident of Dare County. There is no tuition fee, and attendance is voluntary, but because each class has certain objectives to attain and serious See FINE ARTS, Page Five

BIDS ON NEW ROAD IN DARE EXCEED STATE ESTIMATES

Highway Commission Last Thursday Withholds Approval of Bids for Relocation of U. S. 158

Approval was withheld by the outgoing State Highway Commission Thursday of last week on the low bids opened two days earlier for the project to relocate Highway U. S. 158 on Dare County's beaches. Further consideration of the bids was ordered because the total of the low bids exceeded by \$247,627.77 the amount set aside for the work.

Chief Engineer W. H. Rogers Jr. said it was possible that the additional funds needed might be obtained from those allocated for primary roads. The problem was left for the new highway commission taking office July 1.

The project calls for the grading and paving from a point 1.4 miles east of Currituck Sound Bridge for a distance of 15.3 miles south to Whalebone, for which F. D. Cline Paving Company of Raleigh bid \$888,777.77. For moving the buildings, Crouch Brothers of Mooresville bid \$62,650.

SAILOR STATIONED AT BUXTON KILLED IN WRECK THURSDAY

Dare County's seventh highway fatality this year, the second this week occurred at 1:15 a.m. Thursday morning on the Nags Head-Oregon Inlet highway near the Oregon Inlet ferry dock. James Lee Stuart, 19, stationed at the Naval base at Buxton, was killed instantly when his speeding car went out of control and overturned.

According to Patrolman O. L. McCullen, the investigating officer, Stuart was driving a 1952 Ford south at an indicated speed of 90 to 100 miles per hour when he entered a curve and lost control of the car, which then swerved back and forth across the road for a distance of 1200 feet before overturning in the sand. Stuart died instantly of a crushed head, and the car was described as a total loss; a passenger in the car, another sailor stationed at Buxton, escaped without injury however.

According to the patrolman, some whiskey and also empty beer cans were found in the car. The car belonged to Stuart's mother, who lives in Muskegon, Michigan. The victim's father is reported to have been killed in the Korean conflict.

BIDS OPENED FOR NEW MANTEO HIGH SCHOOL

Contracts Held Up Because Electrical and Plumbing Bids Exceeded Estimates; To Be Re-Advised

The letting of contracts for construction of the new Manteo High School was delayed Tuesday afternoon when the Dare County Board of Education found that low bids for both the electrical and plumbing work exceeded the estimated amounts.

Rejecting all bids for the electrical and plumbing work, the board decided to revise the specifications and to advertise for new bids on these two phases to be opened on July 25. In the meantime, the board is holding in abeyance bids for the general contract for the building.

At Tuesday's meeting, the board also approved contracts for two new teachers for the coming school year: Mrs. Hilda Ballance at the Cape Hatteras elementary school and William W. Tarkington at the Manteo elementary school.

MRS. MARIA M. LEWARK DIES IN NORFOLK SUNDAY

Mrs. Maria Midgett Lewark, 76, died Sunday morning at 11 o'clock in a Norfolk hospital after a short illness.

She was a native of Rodanthe but had been living in Manteo for the past 68 years. She was the daughter of the late Bannister and Sabrina Midgett and the wife of William V. Lewark. She was a member of the Mt. Olivet Methodist Church.

Besides her husband she is survived by two sons, William D. Lewark and Rondal O. Lewark of Manteo; three sisters, Mrs. Orenda Simpson, Mrs. Colinda Barnett and Mrs. Nettie Midgett of Manteo; one brother, Etheridge Midgett of Freeport, Long Island, N. Y.; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the chapel of the Twiford Funeral Home in Manteo by the Rev. Louis A. Aitken, pastor of Mt. Olivet Methodist Church.

Burial followed in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery.