

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## OLDEST AND BEST OUTDOOR DRAMA, THE LOST COLONY OPENING ITS 18TH SEASON

Many Competitors Have Sprung Up About It, But Time Never Dims The Lustre Nor Takes Away Appeal of Paul Green's Matchless Story of Mystery Surrounding First Settlements By English in the New World.

Saturday night of this week marks the most important event that takes place each year on Roanoke Island, and in fact a mighty important event to all North Carolina. This week it will be the opening of the 18th season for Paul Green's matchless outdoor drama, The Lost Colony, which is presented nightly except Mondays, through July and August on the site the first settlements.

The Lost Colony was the first outdoor drama in the country, presented first in 1937, when President Roosevelt came to see it, and continued each year except for the interruption of World War II. The number of people who have seen it now runs to millions; its success as a tourist attraction soon set other towns a-ferver for something like it. And usually the other regions who have established outdoor dramas turned to Paul Green, our beloved North Carolina genius, for help in writing their dramas too.

Now, barely 100 miles away, three similar shows are operating in Virginia. First established was "The Common Glory" at Williamsburg. Last year nearby at Jamestown, a new one "The Founders" began business. This year Virginia Beach opens up "The Confederacy."

Western North Carolina long ago caught the cue, after seeing what The Lost Colony did to boost tourist business on Roanoke Island. And it is presenting some three outdoor dramas in the mountain regions where greater accessibility to tourist volume has brought huge success.

Free Bridge Built Lost Colony Plans had been considered for some years to establish The Lost Colony, but toll bridges and ferries had long been a deterrent for it was feared that no great volume of traffic would come to a region that penalized its visitors. But See DRAMA, Page Twelve

## BOAT RACES IN MANTEO HARBOR SET FOR JULY 4

An interesting schedule of speedboat races is being planned for July 4 in Manteo's Shallowbag Bay. This event is being sponsored by the Dare Power Boat Association, and begins with time trials at 1:30 p.m. There will be 30 to 35 boats racing in five divisions, all outdoor unabated, with some good contests promised. Ellsworth Midgett, Jr., Commodore, welcomes everyone to the holiday event.

## JUDGE MORRIS MOVES SWIFTLY, CLEARING 25 CASES FROM DOCKET

Some good has come out of the tangle of the congested docket of civil litigation that has gathered about in the Dare County courthouse for some 30 years, in that Judge Chester Morris, moving with determination and dispatch this week has flung out about 25 of them. The cluttered up mess which has no doubt cost thousands of dollars by being in the way, and delaying terms of court time after time through many years, is somewhat relieved. In this lot were cases 30 years old, some of the litigants on both sides dead, as well as their attorneys and many of the witnesses.

Judge Morris, an old favorite and neighbor in Dare County was hearing testimony read in a civil action Thursday, in which both parties to the suit preferred to have the case to his judgement rather than a jury. The case involved a strip of land 50 feet wide, extending several hundred yards from the Muddy Marsh-at Cape Hatteras to the Pamlico Sound. The Plaintiff is the late Parley Neal Miller whose immediate heirs are Mr. and Mrs. James S. Turner, versus Eph Midgett et al. The defense, supported by the written testimony of many witnesses was underway Thursday and hearing the testimony was expected to consume most all day. Several other minor cases were heard this week. A case in which Earl Green et al was suing C. C. Duvall for damages growing out of a collision involving Mr. Green's car and Mr. Duvall's fish truck, resulting in serious injuries to occupants of the car, appears to have been settled out of court.

## LOST COLONY SPEAKER



BRUCE CATTON, distinguished journalist, author and editor of American Heritage Magazine, will deliver a short pre-performance address at the 18th season premiere of The Lost Colony in Waterside Theatre at Manteo, on Roanoke Island, Saturday night, June 28. He will be introduced by Dr. Robert Lee Humber of Greenville, Chairman, Roanoke Island Historical Association board of directors, the drama's sponsor. (Lost Colony Photo)

## BRUCE CATTON WILL SPEAK AT DRAMA OPENING

American Heritage Editor To Launch Lost Colony Season Saturday

In a short pre-performance address, Pulitzer Prize Winner Bruce Catton, editor of American Heritage magazine will launch the 18th season of Paul Green's symphonic drama "The Lost Colony" here in Waterside Theatre, Saturday night, June 28.

The distinguished journalist, author, historian and top authority on the Civil War will be introduced by Dr. Robert Lee Humber, Greenville, chairman of the Roanoke Island Historical Association's board of directors.

Catton is a native of Michigan. He graduated from Oberlin College, and during World War I he was a gunner's mate third class in the Navy. He holds an Honorary Doctor of Literature Degree from Oberlin—and from the University of Maryland, Wesleyan University, Dickson College, Olivet College, Gettysburg College, and Harvard University, as well, plus a Doctor of Civil Laws degree from Union College.

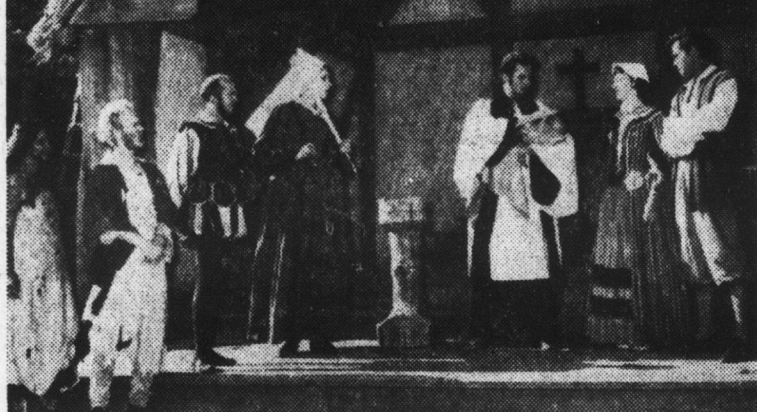
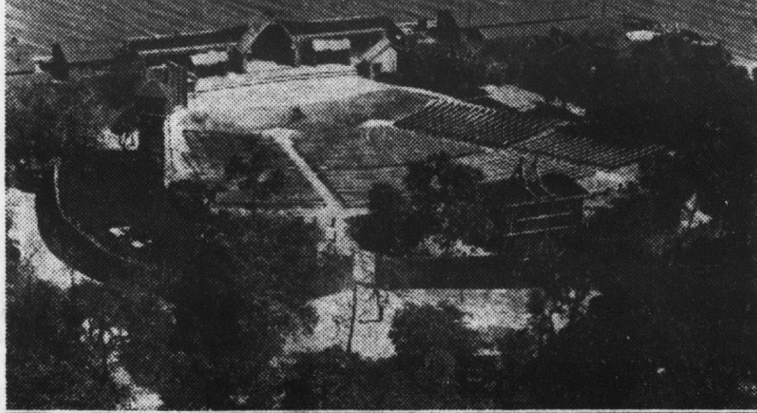
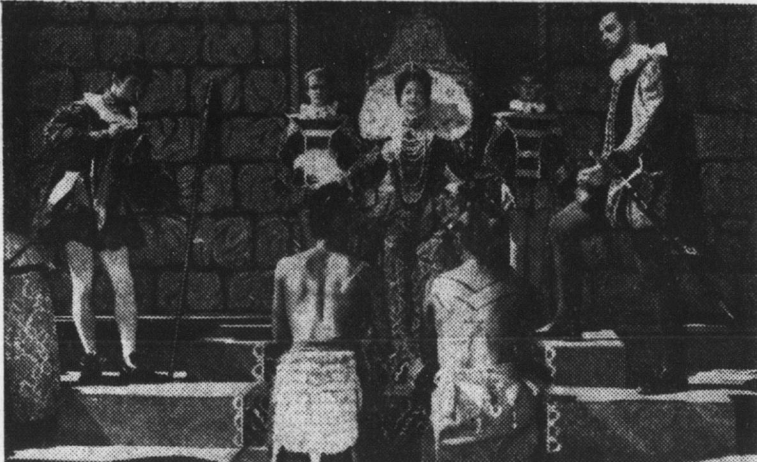
His journalistic career has included reporter jobs in Cleveland and Boston and other newspapers. For 15 years he did special editorial work for the Scripps-Howard chain of newspapers and their syndicates. In World War II he served as director of information for the War Production Board and later in a similar capacity he was with the Departments of Commerce and Interior, before leaving in 1947 to write his first book "The War Lords of Washington"—an account of the WPB trials. Since early 1930s he has been collecting Civil War narratives. From his collection he developed ideas for the trilogy of books on the War between the States, which won for him the coveted Pulitzer Prize in Literature. In 1954 he moved from Washington to New York to help found and edit American Heritage, the bi-monthly magazine of history.

The pre-performance program Saturday night will begin at 8 o'clock. Fifteen minutes later the lights of the theatre will blaze forth on the opening scene of The Lost Colony. The drama will be presented nightly, except Mondays, through August 31.

## WILLIAM C. OWENS WAS NOT FINED FOR DRINKING

William C. Owens of Wanchese, who was listed in the Recorders Court news of last week, was in the wrong column. He was charged with reckless driving but by mistake it was made to appear he was charged with drunkenness. We regret the mistake that was made and any embarrassment that might have been caused him. He doesn't drink, he is 17, and is working at a man's job on a tugboat in Norfolk.

## STAGE SET FOR LOST COLONY OPENING SATURDAY



The stage is all set for the 18th season premiere of Paul Green's symphonic drama The Lost Colony in Waterside Theatre at Fort Raleigh near Manteo on Roanoke Island Saturday night, June 28. Performances will begin nightly at 8:15 o'clock, (except Mondays) through August 31.

An exception to the opening time will be made on Saturday when Bruce Catton, distinguished journalist, historian and author, will make a short address after being introduced by Dr. Robert Lee Humber, chairman of the Roanoke Island Historical Association's board of directors. The speaking preceding the colorful and exciting premiere will begin at 8 o'clock and continue only for 15 minutes.

Under the direction of Clifton Britton The Lost Colony of 1958, after three weeks of day and night rehearsals, will this year be more like the drama during the heights of its popularity in the early 1950's. There will be no changes in the script, but Britton has given assurance that the scenes and the acting this year will be better than ever before.

The Lost Colony is the story of English-speaking America's beginning in the New World during the reign of the first Queen Elizabeth nearly 400 years ago. Two colorful scenes from the drama with Waterside Theatre in center are shown above, as Queen Elizabeth is introduced to the Indians Manteo and Wanchese, and as Virginia Dare, first child of English parentage born in the New World is baptised. (Lost Colony photos by Aycock and Brantley Brown)

## Uncle Dock From Duck Says— Only Real Wealth We Have is Our Children; Its Foolish to Allow Them to Go to Waste.

Dear Mr. Editor: I didn't write you a letter last week for me and the Old Woman took a little trip. Got back Sunday, tired and disgusted, for anything good I saw away from home, we got much better right here. But I do want to tell you that I think you are now on the right track like you never been before, and that is when you go to talking about what we ought to do about our schools. I say to you Mister Editor that we haven't been trying to do for our schools, and a lot we have thought we were doing did 'em more harm than good.

Why it's actually getting so nobody wants to be on the school committee any more. Now that, I lay mostly to this all-fired fever for consolidation. Used to be when every neighborhood had a school, there was competition to get on the school committee in order to get the teacher to board. Teachers soon learned it was the smart thing to board at the home of one of the committee.

My old woman wouldn't let 'em board at our house and so I never got on the committee.

Mr. Editor I do want to say that we being all poor folks more or less in this part of the country, about the only real wealth we got is our children. About the only thing we can leave them when we die is an education. Not many of our children will be able to find money enough to go to college, so about all the learning that 90 per cent of 'em can get is a high school education. There's no reason we can't give 'em a good one if we try. You might say it's because I live in a small neighborhood, when I say I don't believe one child should have more done for it than another; or to put it the other way round, I don't think we ought to stand for any child having to

take less than the rest of them. What we ought to do is to do away with the special school bonds, and put all the bills share and share alike on all people, and distribute the money to all schools equally for each and every child. There is too much of this "special business." We ain't supposed to have any special privileges, and nobody is any specially better than anybody else unless he makes himself so by hard work and decent conduct. If we are going to be Christians, we should quit saying: "Let's vote bonds to give the children of our See DOCK, Page Twelve

## EDGAR CREEF, EAST LAKE NATIVE DIES IN NORFOLK

Edgar Lennon Creef, 67, died Thursday night of last week in a Norfolk hospital after an illness of two years.

A retired painter who formerly worked at Norfolk Naval Shipyard, he was the husband of Mrs. Rennie Sawyer Creef. He was a native of East Lake, Dare County, the son of the late James Washington and Mrs. Tib Basnight Creef.

He had been living in South Norfolk for 35 years and was a member of the Chesapeake Avenue Methodist Church.

Surviving besides his wife are two sons, Otis O. Creef, Lynnhaven, and Donald H. Creef of Norfolk; a daughter, Mrs. Aubrey Todd of South Norfolk; a sister, Mrs. Mary Muse of Elizabeth City; four brothers, Otis Creef of Manteo, Van Creef of Elizabeth City, Sheldon B. Creef of South Norfolk, Sam Creef of Norfolk, and seven grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Graham Funeral Home. Burial was in Riverside Memorial Park.

## PARK ENTRANCE ROAD CONTRACT IS \$317,213.15

Five-Mile Entrance to Cape Hatteras Seashore Area to Be Built

A contract is being awarded to Ballenger Paving Co. to build the five and a quarter mile entrance road to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, at a cost of \$317,213.15, Supt. Robert F. Gibbs said this week. The contract is subject to approval by the director of NPS. Only two bids were received. Ballenger has built many other roads in this area.

Superintendent Gibbs said that this contract will further develop the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area and is in line with the MISSION 66 program proposing preservation and adequate development of the National Park System by 1966 when the National Park Service will observe the golden anniversary of its establishment.

The contract will cover the construction of a Park Entrance Road to the National Seashore overlands owned by the Federal Government. It will form a natural and easy approach from the new State Highway now under construction between Whalebone Junction and Wright Memorial Bridge.

Construction will be of stone base with triple bituminous surface. See CONTRACT, Page Twelve

## OCRAOKE PLANS BIG JULY FOUR CELEBRATION

Ocracoke, June 24—The annual July 4th celebration at Ocracoke is being planned for. Various interested persons are working on entertainment for the many relatives and friends who always come home for the holidays and this year from all indications hotels and cottages will be filled to capacity with visiting tourists.

On Friday, July 4th, there will be Pony Penning at about 9 to 9:30 a.m. At 11 a.m. there will be the annual Flag Raising Service at the Schoolhouse, after which the women of the Methodist Church will sponsor a big dinner, which will be served in the school library and adjoining classrooms from 11:30 to 1 p.m. Baked beans and ham are the main dish with trimming and dessert of course. That night there will be an old-time square dance, also one on Saturday night and other events, including a Community Sing, are being planned for the weekend holidays.

## NEW BY-PASS BRIDGE OPEN FOR TRAFFIC IN COLUMBIA; MAIN STREET IS CONCERNED

New Concrete Bridge And Wide Street Open For Traffic Costing Close to Million; Continued Operation of Main Street Bridge Considered Essential to Life of Community.

## JESTERS ENJOY DARE JOURNEY ON WEEK END

Shriners Entertained at Arlington Hotel and Dare County Shrine Club

Some 88 members, and their wives, of the Royal Order of Jesters, an organization made up of men who have been most active in the work of the Mystic Shrine had a royal week end at Nags Head, with some of them fishing, some taking part in a dance Saturday night at the Dare County Shrine Club, and all enjoying a seafood dinner at the Arlington Hotel, where the party stayed.

The group, all members of Sudan Temple in New Bern were from Eastern Carolina, and they began arriving Friday. Among this group were many notable men, mostly officers or past officers of the temple. In the party were Potentate Otis M. Banks of Cary; past potentates Lester Gilliken of New Bern, Dick Bundy of Greenville, Sam Toler of Rocky Mount, Clarence Parker of Belcross, George Waters of Goldsboro. The Dare County Shrine Club which retained an orchestra four months ago in anticipation of this party, entertained them on Saturday night. The club has 55 members, of whom 33 are Dare County shriners.

## WANCHESE RURITANS TO HOLD BAKE SALE

The Wanchese Ruritan Club is sponsoring a sale of home-baked pies, cakes and other goodies Saturday, June 28, all proceeds to purchase equipment for the Little League ball team. It is scheduled for 2 p.m. at the Methodist Church, but in the event of bad weather will be at the schoolhouse. All Ruritan members reminded to furnish something for this sale.

## GREAT BLUEFISH LIKE THESE COME BUT SELDOM



Unless you have been fishing in the vicinity of Wimble Shoals, 22 miles southeast of Oregon Inlet, since June 8, you've probably never seen bluefish so large that four weighing a total of 55 pounds makes a shoulder load for Capt. Billy Baum of Wanchese, skipper of the cruiser "Kay" of Oregon Inlet Fishing Center. The four fish he is shouldering is part of a Gulf Stream catch made one day last week by a party of Raleigh and Washington, D. C. anglers, who also caught yellowfin tuna going to 35 pounds each and a few dolphin. Since June 8, when the great schools of great bluefish were discovered at Wimble Shoals off the N. C. Outer Banks, more than 1,000 have been caught by anglers aboard Oregon Inlet-based boats, and the fish have ranged from nine and half to 16 pounds each—none smaller and none larger. The average has been 12 to 14 pounds each. (Photo by Aycock Brown).

The new concrete bridge and by-pass in the town of Columbia on U. S. 264 is open for traffic, and presents a great convenience for the traveling public. The whole job cost upwards of a million dollars, and allows the motorist to whiz through town without having to pause. Little publicity has attended the opening of this new bridge on a route which offers a 50 mile saving in traffic between Raleigh and Manteo, or a 25 mile saving between Manteo and Washington by way of the easy ferry schedules on Alligator River.

Ordinarily the opening of a new bridge of the importance of this one at Columbia calls for a considerable celebration, but such has not attended the completion in this case. In fact there has been almost no newspaper publicity about the bridge. This situation apparently has grown out of the apprehension along Main Street which accommodates some 90 per cent of the commercial activity of the Tyrrell County capital. This situation was born out of the great concern since the State Highway Commission began to make a study of the proposed bridge some three years ago. U. S. 264 has always led smack through Main Street in the heart of town, past the courthouse. Here one might find all the direction signs at the intersection with NC 94 which leads southward to Hyde County, and here was always the ferry schedule. But last week all the signs were taken down and moved a block south to the new by-pass, and this is something that has aroused the concern of the Main Street merchants.

Good Faith Agreement When the Highway officials came to town to discuss the improvement of U. S. 64 public opinion was overwhelmingly in favor of keeping the old bridge, and the road through Main Street. There is merit in the argument. It is the nerve center of the town's commercial life. Heavy investments have been made through the years in construction of business property. From this property comes the larger part of Columbia tax income, and of course an important contribution to the Tyrrell County treasury as well.

As in most small towns, and in particularly in old towns, Main Street is none too wide for today's needs. In fact the highway people figured out that to meet specifications whereby expenditure of Federal money might be permitted, it would be necessary to widen it some 30 feet, and that meant some 14 feet would have to be sheared off all the buildings on either side of the street for a distance of at least four blocks, and there were other expensive complications. The Highway people didn't want to pay for the property to be destroyed and rebuilt. None of the citizens felt able to bear such terrific expense incident to the comfort and convenience of the nation's traveling public. It meant putting everyone out of business for months at a time while work went on; a considerable loss, financially unbearable to many, and to others it would mean they wouldn't have sufficient store space left in order to continue in business.

Recognition was given to the possibility that the building of a new by-pass would mean virtual confiscation for several types of business on this street, which carried the hotel, three filling stations, a drug store, cafe, etc. Highway people said they would build the new bridge, for the convenience of tourists in a hurry who wanted to get through town, but they wouldn't penalize the Main Street merchants, so they would keep open, and maintain as an alternate route, the Main Street bridge.

Columbia merchants bowing as ever to the demands of progress, acceded to this good faith agreement, and were happy that their time honored route would remain on the map. They were relieved on being assured that Main Street would not become a dead-end street in which they would never see a See BRIDGE, Page Twelve

## PAYNE'S ADDRESS SOUGHT

The Selective Service Board of Dare County is seeking information as to the whereabouts of William Clifton Payne, who is registered with his address as Manteo. Anyone knowing the present address of Mr. Payne is asked to contact the clerk to the board in Manteo.