

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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

VOLUME XXIV — NO. 2

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1958

Single Copy 7¢

TAXPAYERS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTRIBUTE \$200,000 AT .80 RATE FOR THE 1958-59 BUDGET

Commissioners Set Up \$300,000 Budget This Week; Some Cuts Made in Poor Funds, School Requests Slashed; One Salary Eliminated; Courthouse Fund Cut. Total Valuation Standing at \$25,124,783.

With some \$25 millions left on the books from the controversial new tax appraisal the Dare County Board of Commissioners decided this week to try out an 80 cent tax rate this year, in order to raise about \$200,000 for the county's running expenses. This lacks \$100,000 of being the full amount of the budget, but it is assumed the difference will come in from various sources, including state and Federal funds, intangible, beer and privilege taxes, liquor profits, etc.

The total amount that the Board has approved for spending during the coming year is only \$135 short of being \$300,000 and the largest budget in the history of Dare County. The budget last year totaled \$266,410.17. This year's budget is higher by \$33,554.37, and it looks doubtful there will be enough income to pay off, with further risk running for insufficient safety margin to cover poor collections and corrections yet to be made in valuations.

The bulk of the property will cost its owners more taxes than last year even under an 80 cent rate. A large part of the county will have in addition to this rate, additional school bond taxes to pay. Some heavily populated sections of the county will find their tax burden less.

Some savings have been made. The Clerk of Court's office gets \$650 less; the courthouse fund is reduced by \$4,225; the poor fund, which was set up whereby the county commissioners could give aid to the needy without being bound by welfare red-tape, has been reduced by \$3,765; \$200 has been cut off the fund for feeding prisoners; the elections fund has been cut \$250; the Register of Deeds office has been cut by \$225 due to extra equipment being taken care of in last year's budget; the Veteran's Service officer is reduced by \$1,515; the officer requesting his salary be eliminated by reason of anticipated conflicts in social security, and he has agreed to work without pay, save for travel allowance, which is included in the \$1,894 budget for this year.

School Request Cut \$71,314.07

The schools of Dare County were not granted the sum requested. It was cut more than half, down to a See COUNTY, Page Four

TRAFFIC SURVEY TO FIND OUT IF THERE IS NEED FOR ALLIGATOR R. BRIDGE

On Saturday, Sunday, and Tuesday, July 12, 13, and 15, three roadside traffic interview stations will be operated in the vicinity of Dare County. All motorists passing through the stations will be stopped and asked about the origin, destination, and purpose of the trip which they are making at that time. The survey is not connected with law enforcement, but will be under the protection of the State Highway Patrol.

Locations of the three stations are: (1) on the Alligator River Ferry Boats, (2) On Route U. S. 264, just south of Manns Harbor, and (3) at the West end of the Currituck Sound Bridge (U. S. 158). All motorists are asked to cooperate in answering the survey questions.

The purpose of the survey is to determine the economic feasibility of a proposed bridge to replace the present Alligator River ferries on Route U. S. 64. The New York engineering firm of Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Hall and Macdonald has been engaged by the State Highway Commission to conduct the study. Henry D. Quinby is project engineer in overall charge of the study.

BUILDINGS AT HATTERAS TRANSFERRED TO NPS

The National Park Service is getting a little closer to the Hatteras community. A bill has been passed in Congress which will give to the Cape Hatteras seashore project two buildings at Hatteras. The former weather bureau station which was used for many years by observer Richard Dailey, and the newer building, formerly used by the Coast Guard, and later as a weather station.

The buildings will be used for personnel residence and other purposes.

MADE 100 MPH ON ROUGH ROAD ON HATTERAS ISLAND

Many Complain That It is Dangerous; Some of Its Drivers Are More So

It is possible to drive a car at 100 miles per hour on the rough Hatteras Island highway which is becoming the despair of many citizens who think it is too rough to be safe. This week, Darrell T. Meagall, 21, of Hatteras paid a fine of \$50 and costs on his conviction of driving it at the rate of 100 miles per hour. He was arrested Sunday by Deputy Sheriff Raymond Bassett.

Other court cases tried this week by Judge W. F. Baum made a lengthy string, and yielded about \$640. In the \$5 fine and costs cases were John Dudley Stevenson of Langley Field for ignoring a stop sign; Allen Roy Robinson of Raleigh, who failed to give proper signal; Luther Mayo Mann of Manteo, J. E. Shumane Jr., Portsmouth, Va., wrong signals; Simon Lee Cooper, Swan Quarter, improper passing; and Gilbert McLaughlin of Lynchburg, Va. R. W. Edwards, Murfreesboro, improper exhaust.

For speeding in a 35 mile zone the following were fined the number dollars in excess of 35, which is set opposite their names: Wallace D. Carson, Jr., Lynnham, Va., \$15; Victor Ahmed Malik, Edenton, Sallie Cecil, of Portsmouth, Va., \$12. Frank A. Coley, Norfolk, \$18. Edward Lake Barrett, Richmond, \$10; W. A. French Jr., Huntington, W. Va., \$10; Solomon E. Cherry, Roxobel, \$12; Richard A. Bright, Columbus, O., \$17; Sherwood J. Jones, Whaleyville, Va., \$10; Billy F. Forbes Jr., Mamie, \$15; E. Earl Cooper, Manteo \$12; Clayton E. Allison, Pittsburgh, \$10; Gene Rogers Alligood, Elizabeth City, \$35; W. E. Powell Jr., Suffolk, \$12; David L. Daughtv, Norfolk, \$20; W. R. Cooper, Windsor, \$12; C. L. Brantley, Roanoke Rapids, \$15; R. D. Gaimel, Colington, \$20; Arthur M. Farmington, \$10; Ervin Lee O'Neal of Hatteras, \$10.

Fines of \$100 and costs were charged Harvey Lee Sawyer of Norfolk and G. A. Parks Jr. of Elizabeth City for driving while drunk. Parks paid \$5 extra for driving too close.

For reckless and careless driving \$25 fines were assessed against Howard N. Mayon of Portsmouth, Va., Edward P. Austin of Hatteras, Constantine Ambrose McCarthy of Portsmouth, drunk on the highway, \$25.

Robbers Bound Over

Leonard E. Gibbs and Robert E. Gibbs Jr. of Elizabeth City were each bound over under \$2,500 bonds, held for probable cause in the robbery of Butler's grocery of Elizabeth City for driving while drunk. They will be tried at October Superior Court.

Ray Baker, an escaped convict, who was recaptured in Hyde County, was held for Superior Court, and remanded to the custody of the Carrutuck Co. prison camp.

UNCLE DOCK FROM DUCK WRITES: Approaching Season Reminder of Early Education Gained on a Watermelon Boat

Dear Mister Editor:

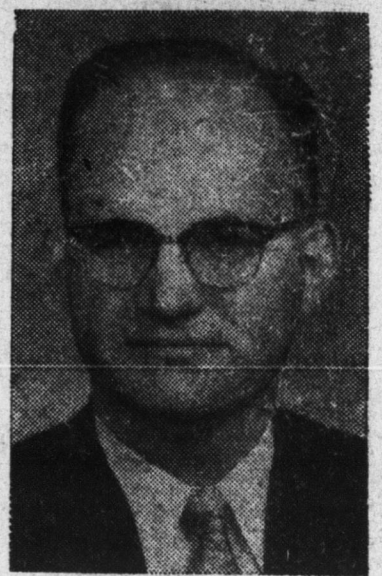
This is the time of the year when the watermelon season ought to get underway. It is one of the things that remind us we are not as efficient as we used to be, for every year it seems like they come along a little later. When I was a boy, we would be pulling melons by now and this year I ain't seen one bigger than cucumbers.

Maybe the reason we don't have melons early these days is because the novelty and excitement of melon season has wore off before it starts, what with so many of them already coming in a month or two ahead of time now that motor trucks can get here overnight from Florida.

I got a lot of my early education from experiences on a watermelon boat. In those days, the farmers used to boat the melons offshore in a skiff to some fellow who had a schooner, and he'd freight 'em to Norfolk for a nickel apiece. Many a time I have worked all day from sun to sun, toting melons out of the field for 50 cents, and then I would be allowed to go to Norfolk on the melon boat when she left.

It was quite a bit of excitement, that trip through the canal, and after we tied up at Roanoke Dock, we could go ashore and see the sights and wonders of the city. It was a noisy place, what with the racket of wagon wheels on the cobblestones of the market, and the clang, bang and grinding of

TO SPEAK SUNDAY AT FORT RALEIGH



Murfreesboro. — Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, president of Chowan College, will speak at the traditional Sunday Morning Worship Service in the Lost Colony Waterside Theatre on July 13.

The prominent young educator-preacher, who has just completed his first year as head of the 110-year old institution in Murfreesboro, is a native of Cleveland County.

Prior to assuming the top administrative post at Chowan, Dr. Whitaker had been director of religious activities for Baptist students on all North Carolina college campuses, and had served on the faculty of several Christian colleges.

BELHAVEN FIRM GETS CONTRACT \$98,000 NPS JOB

Johnston Builders To Erect Cape Hatteras Improvements; Water Tank Job \$11,620

A contract to erect two comfort stations and a garage and shop for the sub-maintenance area of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore at Cape Hatteras has been awarded to Johnston Builders of Belhaven, for the sum of \$98,150 according to Robert F. Gibbs, NPS Superintendent. Also included in the contract is the necessary planting and landscaping for the facilities.

To provide the necessary water for this facility, a contract has been entered to with a Louisville, Ky. firm to provide a 25,000 gallon elevated water storage tank at Cape Point, to cost \$11,620.

With reference to the larger contract Mr. Gibbs said it will further develop the Campground at Cape Point and provide the necessary maintenance area for servicing all the facilities on Hatteras Island, 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.

FULL INFORMATION ON BEACH WATER SYSTEM AVAILABLE

Office Maintained At Kill Devil Hills To Supply Information To Citizens, Says Chairman

Full information is available to any person interested in the proposal to establish the much needed water supply on the Dare Beaches, Chairman Pat Bayne of the Dare Beaches Sanitary Board advises. The office is located to the west of the road opposite Sanford Gregory's store, and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mr. Bayne advises, that the total outlay of funds in making surveys, exploring for water, and preparing the necessary briefs, legal expenses, etc. have been only \$14,000 since the project began in 1949; and no taxes have been collected for this purpose since 1955. The total collected has been \$16,000 and all bills are paid, with some \$2,000 remaining on hand to take care of all expenses, including the election which is scheduled for Sept. 6.

When the election was held in 1953, the district had an opportunity to get the system built for about \$800,000 with a large contribution from a Federal grant, on which the law has expired. At that time the bond issue was defeated principally because of opposition in the Kill Devil Hills municipality where many people gained the impression the town itself could establish a water system and derive a profit by sale of water to other areas on the beach.

The present proposal for bonds includes \$40,000 for a fire fighting system which it is estimated would effect sufficient saving in fire insurance premiums to ease the burden of taxes on owners of buildings. The saving on insurance is estimated to run from 28 to 56 per cent, depending on class of construction.

The issue to be voted on September 6, calls for \$1,140,000 for the water service and \$40,000 for fire fighting equipment and apparatus. See WATER, Page Four

CASUALTIES END HYDE-DARE RACE WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Two Cars Wrecked Near Manteo After 90 Mile an Hour Chase By Patrolman

John Alexander Meekins, 17, of Manteo, and Albert Freeman 22, of RFD Engelhard, may not have any landing field to race on but they were doing their best to win glory for their counties of Hyde and Dare, when their race ended Wednesday night at a speed of 90 miles an hour, as charged by Highway Patrolman D. W. Corey.

Due to Patrolman Corey's interference, the young colored men are in jail in Manteo, held in default of \$500 bond. Both their cars are out of commission in a roadside ditch of a dirt lane that leads west from U. S. 158 at the neat looking village sometimes called little Kinnekeet, about three fourths mile north of Manteo.

Judge Wash Baum in Recorder's court next week may not decide who won the race. It appears both drivers were disqualified, and it was never determined how fast they might have gone had not they ran in the ditch while being pursued by the patrolman.

COMMISSIONERS BENEFIT BY COSTLY TAX APPRAISAL

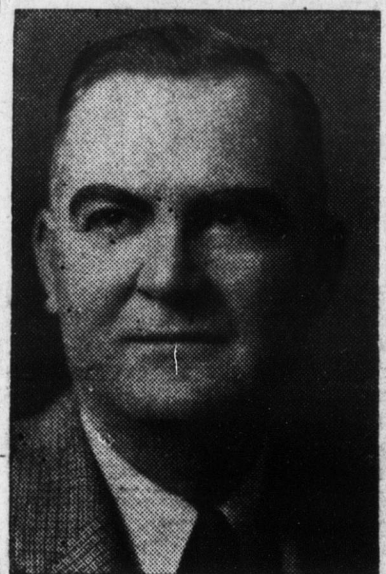
Month by month, the cost of the \$22,000 New Jersey tax appraisal job continues to climb, and it is costing more than ever in history for time spent by the Board of Commissioners, most of whose work is in straightening it out and discarding the greater portion of it. It has previously been reported how the Board paid itself \$1,050.00 for the month of May. Now they have paid themselves \$561.10 for the month of June, and they are meeting several days during the month of July. For June their payments were as follows: Duvall \$129.50; Swain \$48; Perry, \$62.00; White \$163.20 and Midgett \$158.40. Plus \$100 worth of postal cards at the time, and additional expense in the office of the tax supervisor.

The much talked about county audit for the year ending June 31, 1957, which there was great promise in May of being complete right away, has not yet been presented to the Board, although the Board made payments on the job during June totaling \$475.00, on a \$1,200 contract. The audit, which is being approved on a basis of \$5 an hour, did not have approval by the County Advisory Commission in Raleigh until May 25th. At this time a contract was also approved for \$1,800 to audit the books for the year which has just ended on June 30th.

LOST COLONY IS REPORTED FROM MANY QUARTERS AS BEST IT'S BEEN IN YEARS

In Nearly Two Week's Operation of 18th Season, Most Opinions Express Approval of Big Improvements in Script, Scenery, Costumes and Actors. Show Started Auspiciously on June 28th for Two Months Run.

COLUMBIA MAN NAMED FOR MARSHAL AGAIN



B. RAY COHOON, the former Sheriff of Tyrrell County has been named for another term of U. S. Marshal for the Eastern district of N. C. Marshal Cohoon, a Republican succeeded the late Ford S. Worthy of Washington on his retirement some four years ago. President Eisenhower recently signed the new appointment.

"I plan to continue the impartial service which has been a tradition of the marshal's office for many years," said the veteran law enforcement officer.

Cohoon's career both as sheriff and marshal have been marked with controversy. It took a ruling See COHOON, Page Four.

TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION WILL CONTINUE APPEAL FOR BETTER APPRAISAL

The Dare County Taxpayers Association expects to continue its appeal for an equitable appraisal of Dare County property, by carrying a number of glaring and discriminatory cases to the State Board of Appeals in Raleigh, Walter D. Perry of Kill Devil Hills, the Association chairman said this week.

W. H. McCown, attorney for the Association appeared before the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, and stated the position of the Association in regard to appraisal appeals, and the Association's position on negotiating an adjustment of the sum promised by the Board in payment for the appraisal, which was made by an out of state firm for a contract price of \$22,000.

The Association has contended that the remaining \$11,500 unpaid on this contract has not been earned, in that the job was too sketchy, incomplete, inequitable, and the county has been put to unreasonable expense because of the nature of what had been done.

Mr. McCown found the Board not inclined to do anything further this year toward adjusting the assessments. The Board has wiped off eight and half millions of a total of 15 millions since the citizens offered objections and began organizing.

Chairman Perry said the campaign for members of the Association will continue. Because of lack of time, only a few of the taxpayers, who were embraced in the most glaring areas of discrimination have been contacted and sufficient clerical help in this busy season has not been available to carry on the work. However, many taxpayers have joined and made contributions of from \$5 to \$50 to assure employment of counsel. Mr. Perry said a would soon get acknowledgements of their aid, and a complete report on results to date, and plans for the future.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM TO BE EXTENDED TO GUM NECK

Some 50 rural applicants for telephones are to have their ambitions realized after many years of effort. Construction forces are scheduled to begin work soon on this extension of the Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company from Columbia, 12 miles away, according to L. D. Worley, local manager for the company. The community has been seeking telephone service for the past eight years.

By VICTOR MEEKINS

The Lost Colony, now in its 18th season, if not better than ever, is the best show it's been in many years. It began on Saturday night, June 28th, and it will run through August 31, every night except Mondays. It opened with a good sized crowd for the first night, and it's had several good nights since.

This writer is not a competent critic of the theatre, art or literature, hence we have delayed writing about the Lost Colony until we could hear several other opinions. In the nearly two weeks since the show opened, we have heard many people express opinions and without exception they have agreed with ours.

Most people who are wise show-ers operate on the same basis as the ordinary fellow, and just about everybody who's going to invest three dollars in a show wants to wait a week or ten days until everything gets to running like clockwork. Opinion is widespread that it is necessary to have at least a week's waiting period before all the kinks are ironed out, the actors at ease, with everything falling into place.

There has been some talk in prior years that the Lost Colony, by changing its script in search of thrills to compete with TV and movies for the delight of the young, with its battles with Indians, the firing of a lot of blank cartridges and the overdone verbosity of John Borden's lovelorn, had gotten too far from the original show.

The original show had a way of getting down deep into one's heart, of sending the blood to the brain and making the skin tingle like nothing else in this world.

The more they cut out of this original show through the years in search of the kind of thrills one sees constantly on his 21-inch screen, the less voltage was left in the show to set up one's blood pressure and make love of country spout out.

It was the most inspiring thing a fellow could see, and it made him proud he was an American, proud of his country's history, and made him want to have a part in great deals, and noble causes like comes with the third mint julep.

That's the kind of a show they have just about got out this year, and this writer is glad he saw it on opening night, and expects to go back to it.

A Community in Debt

More than any place in the Coastland, Roanoke Island stands See PAGEANT, Page Four

RUSSELL A. GRIGGS, PIONEER BEACH HOTEL OWNER DIES TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Russell Aubrey Griggs, 82, popularly known as "The Skipper," who, with his wife, the late Bernice Hampton Griggs, pioneered 25 years ago in building the Croatan Hotel, died Tuesday afternoon at 12:30. Death came at the Lane Nursing Home near Woodville, where he had been cared for since last year, shortly after the death of his wife. He had been in failing health for several years.

Mr. Griggs was highly regarded, and the couple had a wide circle of friends, during their long life of serving the world of tourists and sportsmen who came to their door, both at Hampton Lodge in Waterlily and Croatan at Kill Devil Hills.

He was the husband of the late Bernice Hampton Griggs and son of Alvertie and Mrs. Elnora Parker Griggs, a lifelong resident of Currituck County, and Kill Devil Hills.

He was a member of the Pilmore Memorial Methodist Church, Currituck, and resided at Kill Devil Hills for 25 years.

Surviving are one daughter, Miss Jeanette Gray, of Kill Devil Hills; two sisters, Mrs. Arthur Baum and Mrs. Walter E. Williamson, Sr., both of Norfolk; three brothers, Van B. Griggs, of Coinjock, N. C.; Rawden E. Midgett, of Washington, D. C., and William G. Midgett, of St. Petersburg, Fla., and several nieces and nephews.

The body was taken to the Pilmore Memorial Methodist Church for funeral services Thursday at 3 p.m. Burial was in the Hampton Cemetery, Waterlily, Church Island, N. C.