

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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

VOLUME XXIV — NO. 24

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1958

Single Copy 7¢

RESOLUTION BY DARE BOARD AND COMMITTEE NAMED TO ADVOCATE INLET BRIDGE

Fuller, Stick and Edwards Head Committee to Continue Promotion of Project as Prime Essential to Economy of Outer Banks; Oregon Inlet Channel Needs Also Receives Consideration Monday.

At the meeting of the Dare County Board of Commissioners Tuesday, a resolution calling for united effort in behalf of bridging Oregon Inlet was presented by Commissioner David Stick, and unanimously adopted. Mr. Stick's resolution set forth that "the ferry service is unsatisfactory and a deterrent to the furtherance of the tourist industry on which the residents of Hatteras Island and of the county are now dependent for a livelihood.

Messrs. Stick, George Fuller of Buxton, and Woodrow Edwards of Waves were named by the chairman as a permanent committee to go forward with continuous effort in behalf of the project. In time, contacts will be made with all agencies which may have a common interest in making a reality of this project. Mr. Stick's resolution says further:

"The construction of a toll-free bridge over Oregon Inlet is of utmost importance to the future well-being of the citizens of Dare County; and that such a bridge is essential to the proper development of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore in which both the State of North Carolina and the United States of America have a vested interest."

Among other business transacted by the Board Monday was appointment of Robert F. Gibbs, as Civil Defense director in Dare County, preparatory to organizing the county for this work.

The Board heard Lawrence Swain, Chairman, and Alvah Ward Jr., of the Dare County Waterways Committee discuss the channel problem at the inlet, and accepted plans for enlarging and aiding the committee through active interest in getting improvements made to Oregon Inlet Channel at this time. Representatives of the Corps of Engineers office in Wilmington met with the committee Wednesday for further discussion of the problem. Woodrow Edwards was appointed to represent the Board on this committee.

The Board, on the recommendation of Tax Supervisor Pennell Tillet, named the following tax listers: Nags Head Township, Mrs. Lucy Midgett; in Wanchese community, Miss Doreen Midgett; Croatan Township, Mrs. Florence Jones of Manns Harbor; East Lake Township, Mrs. Nina Basnight, Atlantic Township, Mrs. Oscar Sandelin; Kennekeet Township, Mrs. Mellie Edwards, and in Hatteras township, Mrs. Edna Gray.

Martin Kellogg, Jr., Co. attorney, inspected the bonds of various offices, and the Boards ordered these brought up at the next meeting for approval and some increases.

The Board will meet again on December 22nd for the purpose of drawing a jury for the January term of Superior Court, and such other business as may properly come before it.

The Chairman noted that it would be well to invite the public to read the posted minutes of the Board at the courthouse and in the office minute book, to observe the new system which records how every member of the board voted on the people's business affairs. This system it is hoped will prevent claims later by persons whose actions might be misconstrued.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT MANTEO HIGH, DECEMBER 19

A Christmas program will be staged by the Manteo High School at 12:30 on Friday, December 19, just prior to the school's closing for the holidays. The public is invited to attend.

Replacing the usual Christmas parties in the school, a joint program is being put on, and under the large Christmas tree will be placed baskets of food to be given needy families. Each child is asked to contribute something for the baskets, which will be presented to Mrs. Goldie Meekins, Dare County Welfare superintendent, for distribution.

Each grade will take part as follows: ninth grade will furnish ushers; 10th grade will make up the chorus; eleventh grade will type the programs; and the twelfth grade will conduct the Bible reading and the presentation speech.

THRILLING STUNTS SET UP FOR FIRST FLIGHT ANNIVERSARY

By AYCOCK BROWN
Thrilling aircraft demonstrations, music by Elizabeth City's colorful high school band, the placing of wreaths at the base of the national monument atop Kill Devil Hills and an array of dignitaries will mark the 55th anniversary celebration of the Wright Brothers first flight at the actual site of the happenings which the ceremonies commemorate next Wednesday, December 17.

The ceremonies begin at Kill Devil Hills at 10:30 o'clock and conclude with a luncheon in Dare County Shrine Club at Nags Head at 12:30 o'clock. Senator A. S. Mike Monroney will deliver the address at the luncheon following remarks by National Park Service Regional Director Elbert Cox. The Senator, a gifted speaker, hails from Oklahoma and in the U. S. Senate he is one of the leading figures having to do with civil and military aviation. Bob Smith and Raymond Westcott are in charge of the luncheon for the sponsors and Shrine Club's Crippled Children Fund.

The Air Force will provide part of the exciting aerial demonstration when 11 F-100 Century Series jets fly southward over the monument in a "lost buddy" memorial formation. The Air Force planes, led by Major Paul P. Hoza of the 333rd Fighter Squadron of the 4th Bomber Wing, Seymour Johnson AF Base, Goldsboro are part of the Tactical Air Command of Langley AF Base at Hampton, Va. They will be flying in excess of 400 miles an hour, (more than 10 times the speed of the Wrights first flights
See STUNTS, Page Four

HOW MacNEILL GOT THE MAYFLOWER CUP

(Editor's Note . . . Ben Dixon MacNeill came to Dare County in 1937 to report the opening of The Lost Colony for the Raleigh News & Observer. At the direction of the late Frank Smethurst and the late Josephus Daniels he strove with it through the pages of his first years and afterward he succumbed to the lure of the Coastland and put a decade into the writing of "The Hatterasman" which last week was awarded the coveted Mayflower Cup for the best book produced in North Carolina this year. This is his first and only account of how it happened.)

There are so many share-holders in this year's Mayflower Cup that, when I look at it, I have a feeling of guilt when there is just my name on it. There ought to be hundreds of names on it, along with the fingerprints of the former President who handed it to me with a homely gesture, the memory of which I shall cherish even when I've worn out the cup by just looking at it.

Although I had been getting ready for the presentation for fifty three years I went through it in a sort of daze that did not begin to clear until I was off stage and there was my nephew and namesake, who I had last seen when he visited me on Roanoke Island twenty years ago. And right behind him was Mary Blanche Meekins, shy and amazingly pretty. She was also kind; she kissed both my withered cheeks.

Before she had finished these pleasant ministrations Governor Hodges was there, off stage, and he carried my nephew, who had arrived from Fort Wayne, Indiana in the nick of time to see the doings, over to present him to Mr. Truman, who at once spotted his Michigan speech. He grew up in Michigan and graduated from the University there . . . And in the background, waiting helpfully upon my need as they have for these thirty five years, were Dudley and Ida Bagley. Their names ought to have been on the cup my nephew was carrying for me. Without them there had been no book—and no me.

How many more I just don't know. The vast ecstasy of possession of the cup I had experienced fifty three years before, when I was 15, in a cotton patch in my native Scotland county. It was on
See MacNEILL, Page Eight

REBEKAHS TO MEET

The Manteo Rebekah Lodge will meet Monday night, December 15, at eight o'clock. Each member is urged to attend and to bring a gift of food for a needy family.

MYSTERY OF WHAT GOT THE SAND BAR AT OREGON INLET

Engineers Say Channel Was Filled By Sand Coming From the Sea and Not By Spoil

The local fishermen appear to be all wrong, according to engineers. The sand shoal at Oregon Inlet pumped out to the westward of the channel in 1957, most of which has disappeared, didn't go back into the channel, the engineers say. Nobody knows where it went then; it's gone, but the engineers say the channel was filled up by sand which came in from the seaward shoal, eastward of the dredged cut.

Old fishermen took note of the circumstance that as the shoal left by the dredge fast disappeared, the channel fast filled up. The natural conclusion was that westerly winds and ebb tides naturally took the sand back where it came from, which was only a short distance away. But it evidently went somewhere else, the reports of the engineers show.

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner, who has been a tireless power working for the Inlet since the project began, has been urging the Corps of Engineers to action recently because the ferries and fishermen have been handicapped by shoal water. The following letter, he recently received from Col. Stanley G. Reiff, acting assistant, Chief of Corps of Engineers is printed for information.

"Dear Mr. Bonner:
"Further reference is made to your recent correspondence concerning the development of shoals in the vicinity of Oregon Inlet, North Carolina.

"Oregon Inlet is approximately one mile wide. A deep water gorge about 800 feet wide is located on the southerly side. A massive shoal area extends southeasterly a distance of 4,000 feet from the northerly side of the inlet. Just inside Oregon Inlet a much larger
See MYSTERY, Page Eight

WANCHESE GIRL IS NOW GRADUATE NURSE



RUBY YVONNE GALLOP, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elton F. Gallop of Wanchese, who has received registration in the field of nursing, is a graduate of Manteo High School, class of 1955. She completed her education at DePaul Hospital School of Nursing. On September 1, she received her diploma and wrote state board examinations in October. Last week she received her registration in the state of Virginia.

She is now employed at DePaul Hospital in Norfolk, and making her home there.

MIDDLE EAST CLOTHING DRIVE TO END SATURDAY

The public is reminded that the drive for clothing for Middle East relief, being conducted by the Manteo MYF, will come to a close Saturday. Anyone having clothing to donate, is asked to take it to the church parlor before then.

ODEN TO LEAVE HATTERAS LIGHT PLANT JANUARY 1

Co-op Manager Has Been With Organization Since It Began; Loss Regretted

The loss of Herbert Oden of Hatteras as manager of the Cape Hatteras Membership Corp., who has resigned to enter private business is considered a heavy blow to the co-op, according to Capt. Geo. H. Meekins of Avon, the president. Mr. Oden has been with the system since it organized, and has worked day and night to make it go. He will enter the oil business of M. L. Burrus Oil Co., as a working partner.

The light plant located at Buxton has grown until its six motors have a capacity of 1,700 kva, while its peak load now doesn't run above 800. It has a system 35 miles extending from Hatteras to Rodanthe, and served 638 consumers. Its total business is nearly \$55,000 a year. In eight years it has experienced a steady growth, its rates have not been increased. Good service has been maintained
See ODEN, Page Five

SEVERE DAMAGE RESULTS FROM AUTO COLLISION

Damage of about \$2,500 resulted and severe injuries occurred in collision of two cars at Manns Harbor Saturday night. A Buick driven by Floyd Hooper of Stumpy Point was run into by a Ford and demolished. Mr. Hooper was riding with his wife, a teacher in the Manteo school. In the Ford were Louis Richard Roe of Manns Harbor, I. B. Gibbs and Luther Berry of Engelhard. Roe said Gibbs was driving, but some doubt has been expressed and that Roe might have been driving. Patrolman Arthur Fields is investigating the case. The Hoopers escaped with slight injuries, but Gibbs and Berry were taken to the Elizabeth City hospital for treatment for cuts.

RELIEF FOR SCHOOLS COMES WITH APPROVAL OF NEW ABC BOARD IN OFFICE THURSDAY

Urgent Need for Funds Finds Available Help to Tide Schools Over Until Taxes Come in to Pay off \$14,000 in Bills Overdue; Schools Fund Short From Overspending for Other Purposes; New ABC Board Sworn in Thursday.

NEW WINDOW BOXES GIVEN DARE LIBRARY



MRS. JAMES C. BARDIN, President of the Roanoke Island Garden Club, and Mrs. A. Q. Bell planting the new window boxes recently presented to the Dare County Library by the Garden Club and Mrs. Bell.

Growing plants and flowers add to the beauty and interest of any home. The home of Dare County's excellent collection of library books
See LIBRARY, Page Eight

Dare County had an avenue to turn to this week when it found itself in desperate need for more than \$14,000 to pay off urgent bills for the operations of the schools, some of the bills being six months old. The next day help came from an advance from the county's ABC profits which enabled the burden to be lifted until taxes started coming in.

ABC Superintendent Robert H. Midgett, with the approval of the new ABC officials considered it worthy to render substantial aid to the schools, in keeping with the promise made to the people when the ABC stores were established, in 1937. At that time the claim was made that the income from the ABC system would go for the support of the schools and the needy. The system has developed until it has given the county a sizeable sum each year, but the funds have not always been spent in the direction intended, after getting in the hands of the County Board. Ten thousand dollars in a single instance has been diverted in a case of unnecessary spending. Today one half the profits, regardless of what they may grow to be, is given carte-blanc to the Dare County Tourist Bureau.

On Monday of this week, as the result of the action of the Board of Commissioners in spreading out representation on the three-man ABC Board, one man is now allotted to Nags Head Township, one to Hatteras Island and one to Atlantic Township. Terms of all the Board members had expired anyway, so the Dare Board named the following members: Leigh D. Haswell of Manteo, Chairman, for a term of three years; Joseph Curtis Gray of Kitty Hawk for a term of two years, and William (Scotty) Gibson of Hatteras for a term of one year. The new Board met Thursday of this week and organized.

It is fortunate for the county schools that the Board had a surplus of operating capital following the slack season at the end of the tourist business. The stores carry a stock valued at close to \$70,000 and has operating capital of about \$40,000. It was from these undivided profits, the property of all the people of Dare County, that an advance was made to help the schools.

The new County Board this week said henceforth it is their desire, since the Control Board is a public agency, to hold their meetings when convenient in a public space where the citizens might know what is going on. For 21 years they have been held in the back room of a store, and no notice is given the public.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board was established in 1937 as the result of the efforts of those who believed legal control of the sale of liquor was better than bootlegging with all its attendant evils, which during prohibition days enabled gangsters and other criminals to attain enormous power. It is the duty of the ABC Board to encourage temperance, to bring bootleggers to justice, and to encourage decency among drinkers. Fortunate for Dare County has been the tourist trade which brings two thirds of the business of these stores to Dare County, so that like in most other things, Dare County's income is largely from sources outside the county, making a lighter burden on the citizens.

In the bootlegging eradication program in Dare County, the retiring ABC Board has kept two men employed to catch bootleggers: M. C. Mitchell of Manteo, and Clarence Hassell of Manns Harbor who have the sole responsibility throughout the year to carry out the Board's policy and instructions.

When the Board was first organized, it consisted of M. L. Daniels and Guy Lennon of Manteo and J. E. Culpepper, a brother-in-law of Mr. Daniels at Nags Head. Mr. Lennon and Mr. Culpepper remained on the Board until their deaths. When terms of all members ran out recently, there was on the Board C. S. Culpepper of Nags Head, a nephew of Mr. Daniels, and Ralph Davis of Manteo. The decision of the County Commissioners to decentralize the ABC board made a change in personnel necessary, they, and some of those appointed preferred not
See SCHOOLS, Page Eight

NEW OFFICERS OF CAPE HATTERAS ANGLERS CLUB ELECTED FRIDAY NIGHT



Newly elected officers of the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club are shown above. They are: (l to r) Jesse Stamey, island NPS ranger, president; Mrs. Kitty Lourie, vice president; Mrs. Kitty Lourie, Cape Hatteras Sportsman Center, secretary; Albert W. Philbrick,

president and Dewey Parr, treasurer. All are residents of Buxton. Elected at the annual banquet on Friday night which drew an attendance of approximately 40 persons, the new officers succeed President Edgar Hooper of Buxton; Wheeler Ballance, vice-presi-

dent, Hatteras, and Hayes Fulcher, Buxton, treasurer. Mrs. Lourie, who had succeeded Mrs. Ormond Fuller as secretary during the past year, was re-elected to that post. A review of the club's activities during the past year was given by Hooper and plans for 1959 in-

cluding the second annual club-sponsored fishing tournament were discussed. The anglers club has about 180 members, many of which are non-residents of the island who consider the island as their favorite fishing locality. (Photo by Claude Rogers, Virginia Beach.)

LIONS CLUB STAGING PRE-CHRISTMAS DANCE AT NAGS HEAD DEC. 20

Manteo Lions began last week selling tickets to their annual dance and Christmas party, scheduled for Saturday, December 20 at Nags Head Shrine Club.

This affair is one of the social highlights of the Christmas season, and is open to the public. Advance sale tickets are priced at \$1.00, door admission set at \$1.50. A gala affair is promised by the committee headed up by Lion H. A. Creef, Jr. Many prizes, favors, a program and live music are promised. Tickets are available from all Manteo Lions. Proceeds will help finance the club's community betterment activities.

FBI IN WASHINGTON EMPLOYS SEVERAL DARE CO. PEOPLE

Several Dare County young people in recent years have been employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in its huge Washington, D. C. headquarters. Among these many thousand workers from Dare County now are Miss Merilee Tillet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Tillet, and Miss Ruth Cudworth, daughter of Mrs. Alma Cudworth of Wanchese. Also Brantley Twiford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Twiford of Stumpy Point.

DARE RECORDERS COURT NEWS FOR THIS WEEK

The following cases represented the grist of Dare County Recorders Court at its weekly term Tuesday.

Melvin R. Moore of Virginia forfeited a \$35 bond when he failed to appear to answer a reckless driving charge.

Chas C. Funderburk for improper equipment, \$5 and costs.

John Harvey Lucas, Plymouth, 55 miles in a 35-mile zone, \$50 and costs.

T. N. Williams, reckless and careless driving, \$25 and costs.

David W. Gaskins, Wanchese, improper exhaust and lights, \$5 and costs.

James McClellan Midgett of Rodanthe, \$5 and costs for failing to report an accident to his car.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING CONTEST

The outdoor lighting contest being sponsored by the Manteo Woman's Club, and to be judged on the evening of December 23, is attracting a number of entrants. The club hopes many more will take part in the outdoor lighting contest. Application blanks can be obtained from the VEPCO office in Manteo. Attractive prizes are being offered, and the local winner is eligible to enter the national contest.

PIRATES JAMBOREE PLANS FOR 1959 TO BE MADE DEC. 17

Plans for the annual Dare Coast Pirates Jamboree of 1959 will be discussed at a meeting to be held in Dare County Shrine Club on Wednesday night, December 17 at 7:30 o'clock, it was announced this week by Alvah H. Ward, chairman of the steering committee which presented the fourth annual Jamboree in late April this year.

Tentatively planned for the last week end in April as a Dare Coast spring vacation season launcher, the Pirates Jamboree of 1959 is expected to be designed somewhat like those presented in the past. The event each year have brought widespread publicity to the Dare Coast and already the Dare County Tourist Bureau which serves as news agency for the Jamboree has received requests for advance story material.

Dolores B. Jeffords who did a story about the Jamboree last year in The New York Times wishes to use the Jamboree as an opening feature of the Outer Banks in a vacation story she is now preparing. All who are interested in the vacation business are invited to attend the meeting on Wednesday night, December 17.

PTA CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Christmas program of the Manteo P.T.A. will be held Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the grade school. Miss Holland Westcott will be in charge of the program "Christmas for the Children". The first grade pupils from Mrs. Midgett's and Mrs. Leppard's rooms will take part in the program.

Mr. Ayers will discuss problems concerning the athletic program of the high school. All parents are urgently requested to attend this meeting. Refreshments will be served.

NEARLY \$20,000 TO CHRISTMAS CLUB MEMBERS

To nearly 300 customers of the Bank of Manteo's Christmas Savings Club went \$19,300 recently as the club paid out to its members money saved during the past year. The club has grown by several thousand dollars volume over the past few years, but the increase this year was negligible.

Most of the bank's customers of the plan are from Roanoke Island, and were happy to get this additional money just before Christmas.

The bank has already started the club for 1959, but anyone wishing may still join.