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HATTERAS HEARING MARCH 12 FOR CHANNEL THROUGH INLET AROUSES INTEREST IN AREA

Engineers to Meet at 10 a.m. to Learn Needs of Area; A Favorable Report on the Situation Expected to Lead to Great Benefits for Coastland; Development of the Area and Improvement of Fishing Industry.

There is more than usual interest in the forthcoming hearing to be held at Hatteras on Thursday, March 12 when officials of the U. S. Engineer Corps will receive evidence of the need for improvements to the channel leading into Hatteras harbor from Hatteras Inlet.

This due to dependency of numbers of persons in need, is considered the most important harbor on the Outer Banks, serving as it does the heavy shipping of the entire island and a large fishing industry, is in need of improvement and deepening to conform to the existing depth in the inland waterway.

A depth of 10 feet for this project has been proposed, but evidence will now be reviewed showing need for a depth of 12 feet.

Leading a committee of citizens of the community in preparing information to present to the Engineers are M. L. Burrus, Donald Oden and others. They will furnish blanks for the use of all boat owners or other interested persons.

A delegation from the Dare County Waterways Association is expected to attend this meeting, A. H. Ward, Jr. said this week.

The project has been worked for a long time. Continued efforts in Congress by Rep. Herbert Bonner succeeded in July 1957 with a bill in favor of deepening the channel to ten feet. In July 1958 he got approval of a survey for the 12 foot depth.

This harbor is one of the most important on the whole coast, and of particular value to the economy of Dare County and Hatteras Island. It can be instrumental in great development from the area, and the encouragement of a tremendous seafood industry from ocean waters.

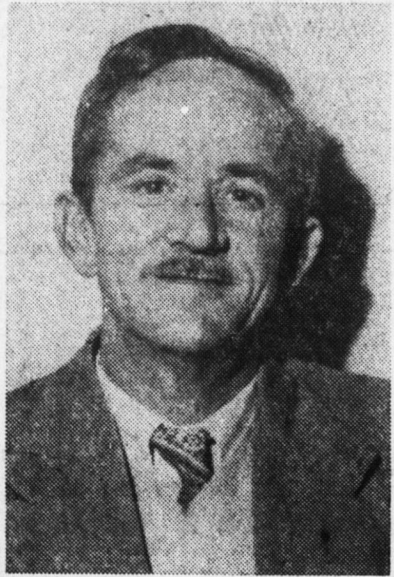
The outcome of the meeting planned for March 12 can be of more serious importance to the whole area than at this time may be realized. Considerable effort is now required to collect suitable data for this hearing. Here is some of the information needed:

In order to determine whether economic justification exists for possible improvements of Rollinson Channel and of the channel between Hatteras Inlet and Hatteras Harbor, it is desired to obtain detailed data on items specified in the Notice. Information on the project as a whole is desired and also for specific vessels. Accordingly, each boat operator is requested to furnish the following data on all boats, if over 5 feet loaded draft, now using or desirous of using proposed improved channels at or near Hatteras. Complete the applicable blanks in accordance with use of vessels. Information desired is not limited to that requested below.

I. Terminal and Transfer Facilities: a. Brief description of existing wharves and docks. Needs in way of harbors, slips or basins, wharf or pier areas, and available frontages of wharves, docks, or piers under municipal and other public control. Same information for private facilities. b. Information on number of boats which use port for refuge harbor—number which use port while waiting for outside weather to clear up, or prospective number if improvement is accomplished.

II. Benefits Expected From Improvement of Channels And Basin: a. Savings in operating costs due to increased project depths—specify. b. Value of increased catch due to availability of more adequate channels and basins. Edible fish and shellfish. c. Decrease in spoilage due to more or better channels and harbors (estimated in pounds of fish or shellfish). d. Prevention of storm damage to vessels because of access to harbors through new or improved channels (this should be given for each class of vessel, including number of vessels suffering storm damage and cost of repairs). e. Reduction in damage to hulls, rudders, and propellers, by class of vessel, due to more adequate channel (furnish information on number of vessels damaged, type of damage, and cost of repairs). f. Statement concerning increased safety and convenience to navigation, including possible saving of lives, resulting from adequate channels and basins. g. Same information as in "b" above is requested for additional vessel that would be added to present fleet.

LEADS HATTERAS GROUP ON NEW CLINIC PROJECT



Upwards of 60 citizens of Hatteras Island met Tuesday night at Buxton in the High School to discuss the probability of erecting a modern building to house the island's health center activities which have been carried on for some ten years in the old radio station given to the county by the Navy. Age and condition of the building has reached a stage which forecasts early abandonment, and the community might be without a needed medical facility. Citizens have become aware of the "kelihood that without a medical clinic, they would also be without a doctor.

NEW FERRY BOAT IN OPERATION TO OCRACOKE ISLE

Highway Commissioners and Engineers Visit Area and Make Plans for Summer

Ocracoke, Feb. 16.—One of the two new ferries assigned for use at Hatteras Inlet is now making the daily run from Hatteras to Ocracoke, replacing the W. B. Umstead. This is the "Ocracoke," sister ship to the "Hatteras" which is at a Norfolk shipyard and is said to be 78% reconditioned at this time. These two ferries will make the Hatteras Inlet run this coming summer when tourist trade warrants. The new "Ocracoke," arriving here last week Thursday, surprised people, though many heard the news of its coming shortly before arrival time and were down at the Park docks to see and board it. It is similar in design but slightly larger than the Umstead and is equipped with a longer ramp. The ramp well is cut considerably farther back in the boat than was the old one, affording a more gradual slope with less danger of damage to the underworks of automobiles. It is especially designed for easy and safe access from the beach. A mechanical winch replaces the old chain hoists. Seating space for passengers is double that of the old ferry and the rest rooms and lounge are steam heated.

On Thursday, Feb. 12th, Highway Commission Chairman James Melville Broughton, Jr. and secondary roads director, Harold Makepeace, flew down from Raleigh to inspect repair work on the Ocracoke highway. While here they met with members of the Ocracoke Civic Club's Roads Committee and discussed problems and possibilities for locating a permanent landing site for the ferry. Repeated storms and shifting channels, and especially the damage to the road by Hurricane Helene, have made it necessary for the ferry to abandon the Hatteras Inlet route and come all the way down through the sound to Silver Lake Harbor at Ocracoke, a 3 1/2 to 4 hour trip. Until the permanent landing site can be chosen for a ferry slip, the mats are being replaced on the road at the upper end of the island so as to reach the Hatteras Inlet landing point used last summer. Present at the meeting were Monford Garrison, Chairman, Thurston Gaskill, R. S. Wahab, Wahab Howard, Benjamin E. Spencer, and Theodore Rondthaler.

CONSIDER MEANS TO GET CLINIC FOR HATTERAS ISLAND

Growing Needs of Area Discussed Tuesday Night at Buxton; Plans Continue

William Gibson, Hatteras hotel owner who is treasurer of the Health Center trustees, presided at the meeting and read a letter from State Health authorities which told of the hazards of the old building, and offered some suggestions and a plan for a new structure up to standard.

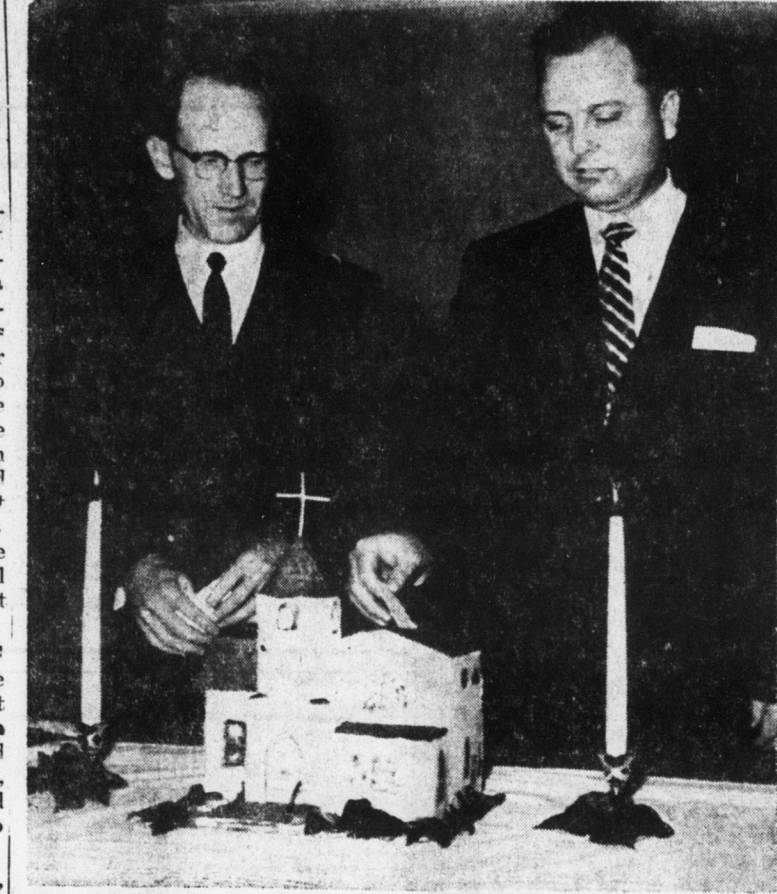
W. H. McCown, county attorney, was present and answered questions concerning the legal steps essential to establishment of the desired objective. Also attending this meeting were Woodrow Edwards, George Fuller and Victor Meekins of the County Board of Commissioners. For several years the county has been contributing \$3,500 annually from tax funds to aid the upkeep of the clinic.

The first steps toward financing a new building which would cost an estimated \$35,000 to \$50,000 would be the establishment of a district, and the group present voted that this be done, and in a few days petitions will be circulated for this purpose. This being done, it will be in order for a Board of Trustees to submit a plan to the voters, as well as a plan for its financing through a bond issue.

If sufficient voters ask it, an election may be called whereby a choice can be made whether the island may lose its health center, or vote a special tax on the property of the district to provide the new clinic.

There have been some reports of interest among Ocracoke Island people in joining such a proposed district, whereby the 800 citizens See CLINIC, Page Four

A HOMETOWN BOY COMES HOME TO PREACH



REV. WILFORD D. WISE left Manteo six years ago to enter the Methodist ministry and his home-folks and members of Mt. Olivet Church in Manteo have been following his career with interest.

Last week they had him here to preach in the home church for the first time and he was well received and pleased a large congregation with his sermon on prayer, a timely topic at this season in Methodist activity. Mr. Wise, 43, is the son of Mrs. Bertha Wise and the late Claude Wise of Manteo, and was born at Stumpy Point. He is a graduate of Manteo High School, and Louisburg College. During World War II he served in the 95th Infantry, one of three brothers all near each other in the Battle of the Bulge in Europe. During which time a brother, Gerald who also served on this front, was killed. Returning home he took an active part in church work, studied and prepared himself for the ministry. The third brother mentioned is R. Willis Wise, who is a prominent church leader and aspirant to the ministry. Rev. Wilford Wise's first assignment was at Bath for two See WISE, Page Four

MT. OLIVET HAS A SPLENDID BIRTHDAY 70TH ANNIVERSARY

Manteo Methodists Honor Old Members and Enjoy Sermon By One of Their Number

In spite of inclement weather, Mt. Olivet Methodist Church celebrated its 70th Anniversary Sunday, with 225 in attendance at the morning service. At that service, the Rev. C. Freeman Heath, Supt. of the Elizabeth City District Methodist Churches, presented certificates of appreciation and cross pins to six members who had joined the church prior to 1900. They were: Miss Ozella Payne, Mrs. Mabel E. Jones, Mr. Dennis Evans, Mrs. Eugenia Wescott, Mrs. Belva Daniels, and Mr. G. Bright Midgett. Also presented with pin and certificate was Mrs. Caroline Midgett, the church's oldest member at 92 years, and mother of the late Julian Midgett, one of the two men from the church to enter the ministry.

The Rev. Wilford D. Wise, as See METHODISTS, Page Four

JAMBOREE BOOSTERS AROUSE INTEREST THROUGH TRAVEL AND APPEARANCES ON T.V.

Coastland Talent Giving Time to Join Caravans Across State To Invite Visitors to Fourth Annual Three-Day Festival Planned at Hatteras, Nags Head, Kitty Hawk April 25th.

SECOND SALE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY SET FOR MARCH 5

Disposition of Building and Grounds at Manns Harbor Center of Interest

A second sale at the courthouse door of the building and grounds of the discontinued school at Manns Harbor has been ordered for March 5th, at the courthouse door, by the Dare County Board of Education, the bidding to start at \$1,100. The property consists of a building appraised for insurance at \$25,500 and some four acres of choice land on Highway 264 and 64.

Interested in obtaining the property for a playground is a group of citizens who had expected to obtain title for some small sum and who placed a bid of \$1,000 at the sale held earlier this month. But there are other citizens of Manns Harbor who say the property should bring some reasonable price to be used for the continued benefit of the pupils of the area. While there are many citizens of the community who desire the property to remain of community use, there are many others who have communicated with this newspaper, and who for obvious reasons do not wish their names printed, insist that the community could not be expected to assume so heavy a financial burden of maintaining a property which would cost a large sum to keep up. Some ten years ago the county through the Board of Education gave the community a building for public use, and which has been improved and kept up as a community center through the efforts of club women, Ruritan Club members, and other public spirited citizens, but this has been done at great effort, and some disappointment to the hard workers who have carried the burden.

In three communications to this newspaper, the following statements have been made: 1. "Many of us think that if the property is sold, the Board of Education should stipulate that it bring a fair price. If less than a fair price is accepted on the basis it is sold to persons representing themselves as buying for the com-

Plans move along toward arousing interest in the forthcoming three-day Pirate Jamboree fifth annual appearance on the Dare Coast from Kitty Hawk to Hatteras, beginning April 25th. Local talent has begun to schedule its appearances across the state to take part in TV and radio programs, according to Aycock Brown, publicity director.

On Tuesday, February 24, a trip to Washington will see costumed "buccaneers" of the Dare Coast participating in a big street parade celebrating the 27th anniversary of Radio Station WRRF. W. H. McCown stated that a minimum of four car-loads of pirates in costume is desired for this trip. Plans are to leave Manteo not later than 10 o'clock and arrive in Washington (traveling via Engelhard and Belhaven) not later than 1 p.m. The parade starts at 2 o'clock. Arrangements may be made for radio and television appearances.

Another tentatively planned trip, according to McCown, will be to Raleigh on Thursday, February 26 to attend the N. C. Travel Council meeting, to leave the Dare Coast early Thursday morning, and tell Raleigh about the Jamboree, and visit Governor Hodges. Arrangements are being made for radio or TV appearances in Raleigh. "It is hoped that we will have at least four car loads of pirates from Hatteras and the Dare Beaches-Roanoke Island area for this trip. Costumes should be worn," he said.

The Jamboree is represented in Charlotte at The Sportsman's Show this week via Julian Oneto who is in charge of a Carolinian Hotel booth there. Oneto wears his buccaneer costume daily and will appear at a Rotary Club meeting. See JAMBOREE, Page Eight

HEAVY, HEAVY WHAT HANGS OVER THEE, DEFENDANT?

Nothing But a Thirty Day Road Sentence Suspended By Paying on Installment Plan

Suspended sentences to the extent of four months on the roads were given Ellis Ray Berry, 24, of Manteo Tuesday by Judge W. F. Baum in Recorders Court, also time to pay up in installments fines totalling \$75 plus court costs.

On one count he was charged with putting sand in the gas tank of the car of Chief of Police M. C. Mitchell, which cost \$6.50 to clean out; for this Berry got a 30-day road sentence a \$10 fine and court cost, and the \$6.50 bill.

For being drunk and disorderly and assaulting officer Mitchell, 30-day sentence, \$25 and costs, on the first count; on the second count \$15 and costs; on a charge of assaulting officer Dan Cannady, \$10 and costs, and repairs to Mr. Cannady's glasses \$5.

For damaging Lloyd Midgett's taxi in the care of Harry Hayman, he got a 30-day suspended sentence, a \$5 bill for repairs to doors.

Dorian M. Washington, negro, was found guilty of being drunk and disorderly at the home of Elizabeth Owens, got a 30-day suspended road sentence, a \$25 fine. For knifing Emmerson Scarborough another suspended sentence, total assessment \$57.20 on installment plan, \$10 per week. This defendant had been in court a week before and found guilty of other serious offenses.

W. F. Mathias, 16, Nags Head, \$15 for speeding. O. V. Gray of Stumpy Point, \$5 for driving on wrong side of the road. Roy Gray, Jr., 19, of Hatteras, \$15 for speeding.

TWO CHANNEL BASS NETTED AT HATTERAS

An oft-quoted sign of Spring is word from Hatteras of the first channel bass of the season. Two this week were taken in nets of commercial fishermen. Wheeler Ballance reported on Wednesday that Fulford Peele aboard the trawler Mizzi boated one of the bass off shore on Monday when the crew also caught some 90 or more boxes of trout.

Another channel bass, one that weighed 55 pounds, was taken in the beach nets of Zack Austin. It was caught near Hatteras Inlet. The first channel bass are taken in nets usually about three or four weeks before an angler lands the first of the season.

NORFOLK SINGERS TO APPEAR IN MANTEO MONDAY NIGHT



THE WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE SINGERS will appear in a musical program Monday night in Manteo High School auditorium. The three pictures above are, left to right: Director Harold G. Hawn; dramatic soprano Athena Bassil; and baritone Robert Randolph.

INQUEST IN DEATH OF MRS. GRACE WARD TO BE HELD MONDAY NIGHT

The postponed inquest in the death of Mrs. Grace Ward which had originally been planned for Friday night of last week is definitely set for Monday night, Feb. 23 in the Dare County courthouse at 8 p.m., Coroner James M. Vannote said this week.

There has been much interest in the case, inasmuch as the young mother of three children was found dead of bullet wounds in her home near Manteo on the morning of Friday, February 6th. She had been struck by three bullets, one in the wrist and two in the body.

Sheriff Frank Cahoon considers it a case of suicide, but referred the investigation to an agent of the State Bureau of Investigation. Solicitor Walter Cohoon and SBI Agent Edwards are to be present at the hearing Monday night. In view of the wide interest in the case, a large crowd is expected.

BAKE SALE SATURDAY

A bake sale will be held Saturday, February 21, at Rogers' Bar-B-Que Shop in Manteo, by the Manteo Rebekah Lodge. Sales will begin at 10 a.m. and the public is invited.

WILLIAM AND MARY SINGERS IN MANTEO

Will Present Varied Program Monday Night in Manteo's High School Auditorium

An evening of live music, featuring the William and Mary College Singers of Norfolk, Va., will be presented at 8:15 Monday evening, Feb. 23, in the auditorium of Manteo's new high school.

Excerpts from "Oklahoma," "Carousel" and "Traviata" will be heard during the evening.

Lovely Athena Bassil, who is a dramatic soprano, will sing the female roles. She is soloist at one of the Navy chapels in Norfolk.

Robert Randolph, who is in leading choir, will sing the baritone parts. The tenor, Henry Bernick, is also soloist at two of Norfolk's leading churches.

The director is Harold Hawn, of the music faculty of William and Mary, and also minister of music in a Norfolk church.

John Halvorsen, minister of music in a Norfolk church, and former assistant organist for The Lost Colony, will play the accompaniment. The program has been designed to appeal to lovers of all types of music, and a large crowd is expected to attend. Admission charges will be nominal.

LOYD MIDGETT, POPULAR TAXICAB MAN, DIES TUES.

A long illness claimed Lloyd Midgett, 47, a popular citizen of Manteo, who died at the family residence at 4:20 p.m. Tuesday. He was a popular citizen, and had been engaged in the taxi business in Manteo for several years and operated a grocery store at Wanchese. For many years he was employed by Capt. Tom Baum on the Croatan Sound ferries. He was a member of the Manteo Baptist Church.

He was a native of Powells Point, Currituck County, and had lived in Manteo for the last 35 years. He was the son of Mrs. Sallie Coefield Midgett, and the late John W. Midgett.

Besides his mother, he is survived by his wife, Mrs. Elnora Gallop Midgett; two daughters, Mrs. Minnie Siebert and Miss Linda Midgett, all of Manteo; one brother, Louis Midgett of Norfolk, and one grandchild.

The funeral services were conducted at 3 p.m. Thursday in the Manteo Baptist Church by Rev. W. E. Cholerton, the pastor, assisted by Holiness minister Ernest Etheridge of Wanchese. Songs, "Whispering Hope" and "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" were sung by the church choir. The casket was covered with a pall of red and white See MIDGETT, Page Eight