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CHANNEL IMPROVEMENTS TO WANCHESE AND MANTEO TO BEGIN IN ABOUT 30 DAYS

Low Bid Submitted by LaPorte Dredging Co. of Arlington, Va., for Removal of 2,290,000 Yards Material to Create 12-Foot Channel; Ultimate Job Through Inlet Bar to Cost Over Million Dollars.

Announcement has been made from the Wilmington office of the Corps of Engineers that the long hoped for dredging job into Mill Landing and Wanchese will begin in about 30 days. The initial step in this project will cost \$468,420, and calls for removal of 2,290,000 yards of spill. La Porte Dredging Co. of Arlington, Va. were low bidders. A total of more than one-million dollars is expected to be spent by the time additional contracts are completed, which call for carrying the same depth water out Oregon Inlet.

For a time, there was a grave threat that the Wanchese part of the project would be lost for lack of a public landing, which was required before contract could be let. The law provided that local interests furnish a public landing and dock before the job could be done.

It was a discouraging outlook, but Roanoke Island citizens got to work and assured that sufficient funds would be raised to buy the land whereby the property could be dedicated to public use. Liberal contributions were made by numerous people, and two thirds of the money has been raised. On the pledges made by several people that they would raise the remainder, the landowner deeded the land, and only in this manner was the contract let. The campaign to raise the rest of the money is continuing.

The project is the outgrowth of a citizens' effort begun some 12 years ago, led by the late Alvah Ward of Manteo, and spearheaded through Congress by Rep. Herbert Bonner, despite many ups and downs.

Dr. W. W. Harvey, President, and Wayland Baum, treasurer of the Dare County Waterways Committee, expressed appreciation today to all those whose contributions and pledges had made it possible to get the land required by the Government. Mr. Baum said he hoped those who were able to contribute would do so as soon as possible, as it will be necessary to also build a dock.

D. V. Meekins, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, who assumed all the work required of the Board to assist in this project, said he had assurances from State Highway Commission officials that a road would be built to the public landing without charge against the county's secondary road allotment, and expressed much pleasure at this attitude. He also expressed thanks to the numerous persons who, without charge, had agreed to the use of their property for the spoil areas required by the Government.

Meekins said he believes this project will result in the greatest economic advantage that has ever come to Roanoke Island. It will permit, for the first time in history, the larger vessels up to 12-foot draft to enter a North Carolina port north of Beaufort.

Wilmington, May 21.—The J. A. LaPorte dredging corporation of Arlington, Va., submitted the low bid here Wednesday for dredging the channels from Manteo and See CHANNEL, Page Eight

MANY UNUSUAL BIRDS NOW AT PEA ISLAND

Rodanthe.—In addition to heron of several species, egret and other unusual birds at least 25 pair of glossy ibis are in the sound side rookery of Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge this season, it was stated by refuge officials this week.

It is believed to be the first time so many glossy ibis have ever nested so far north on the Atlantic coast and the rookery is also one of the farthest north for heron and egret.

Visitors are not permitted in the immediate vicinity of the rookery but with binoculars it is possible to see the rare birds as they perform their nesting duties from the Hatteras highway. Even with the naked eye from across the fresh water ponds the birds can be seen flying to and from their nests and as the ponds provide food for the birds, they may be seen often at close range near the highway.

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge is part of Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. It is located between Rodanthe and Oregon Inlet 12 miles north of this Outer Banks village on Hatteras Island.

SUPERIOR COURT CONVENES MONDAY MORNING, MAY 25

Traditional May Term Doesn't Have the Glamor and Excitement That Once Prevailed

The traditional May term of Superior Court, long called the Spring term when there was only one other, the Fall term in October, will convene in Manteo, Monday morning, May 25th, with Judge Malcolm C. Paul of Washington. The opening of Superior Court used to be an event of great and varied importance, particularly the May term and was long looked-for.

In the old days it marked the end of the shad-fishing season, and meant coming to town for a lot of buying, of settling accounts, of meeting old friends. More people attended court terms because of the opportunity it gave for social or business affairs than were parties in litigation. To many, the sessions offered rare, new entertainment, a seldom commodity in the old days in the coastland. Among the many features to interest visitors would be the instructive charge the judge would make to the jury, and from it some considered themselves to have derived vast knowledge of the law. Others got delight from the racy, gusty, earthy oratory of trial lawyers uninhibited by the presence of women, and raw jokes and exciting words never heard in public today were uttered with gusto and often applauded.

For no women would be seen among the spectators in a courthouse in those days. It was truly a man's gathering. In next week's court there will be many women to serve as jurors, and several negroes as well.

Court terms used to bring a motley array of outsiders. Some would be salesmen, peddling books and gadgets, magazines and newspapers. It was the time of the year, when the nearby editors would come to get their subscribers to renew up. There would be hundreds of visitors to the county seat who came at no other time of the year.

Women of local church circles saw a means of making money, and made use of court term by setting up places to serve dinners, sometimes as low as 25 cents for a full meal. Itinerant photographers set up their tents, or operated in the open air. In campaign year, various candidates would speak during the lunch hour, or hold speaking meetings at night.

All this has passed from the scene. Oratory has almost gone from the courtroom. The spicy details of most cases have long before been dissipated in the public See COURT, Page Eight

NEW C. G. COMMANDER PAYS FIRST HATTERAS VISIT



ADMIRAL PETER V. COLMAR, New Commander of the Fifth Coast Guard District, with headquarters in Norfolk, succeeding Admiral H. C. Moore, is shown here on his first and recent inspection visit to Cape Hatteras lighthouse. Shown with him, pointing, is CWO Melvin Midgett, who is group commander of the stations on Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands.

CONVERSE GRADUATE



MISS DOROTHY CRUMPACKER of Manteo will be a candidate for a Bachelor of Arts degree at the sixty-sixth annual commencement at Converse College, Spartanburg, S. C., Monday, May 25.

Miss Crumpacker, her parents and guests will be entertained on Sunday at a buffet supper in the college dining room and a reception at the home of Converse President and Mrs. Oliver C. Carmichael, Jr. On Monday they will attend the annual senior luncheon following the graduation exercises.

A major in English, Miss Crumpacker is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Crumpacker. Her minor was art, and next year she plans to attend the Philadelphia Museum College of Art in Philadelphia, Pa., where she will work toward a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. Miss Crumpacker is a 1956 graduate of Manteo High School.

UNCLE DOCK FROM DUCK WRITES: Notes That Year Has Gone By and Wonders How County Officials Will Keep Promises

Dear Mr. Editor:

I have just been looking over some old copies of your paper printed a year ago, and reading some of the ads the candidates put out about what they would do if elected to office. It has caused me to wonder what they are going to do about keeping these promises, now that the time has come for making up a new budget.

So far as I have seen, the new crowd has been in office going on six months, and I can't recall a single instance where they have moved to cut any expenses. I know a year ago, the auditor was saying the county was running in the hole, that the Board was spending more money than they were taking in, and I guess the new crowd is doing the same.

I read over again, where just about all the candidates said they would not only reduce expense, but stop waste, and if they couldn't cut taxes, they would see they didn't go any higher.

Now a lot of us who are up against it making a living would like to know how you can make good the promises to keep taxes down, if you are going to keep on spending at the old rate.

If the county had too much hired help a year ago, that were getting too much pay, or were not needed, it seems to me the same situation exists right now. We ain't seen where nobody was fired.

Most of us who have to work all the time for a living can't see why we have to pay taxes to keep so many people in jobs. It wouldn't be so bad, but from all accounts, none of them put in a full week, and all of them take off a lot of holidays, but they get paid just the same.

We ain't seen yet where anyone of them has volunteered to give a single day's work free of pay, in order to help get things straight-

ened out.

It seems a poor rule that won't work both ways. How is it, that those who have enjoyed the good jobs, instead of being willing to take a little cut when we poor taxpayers are in a jam, insist instead of being paid more money every year?

Well, it seems to a lot of us, the fellows who promised so much ought to get down to business and make good some of these promises. According to what they said, they knew when they went in office that waste was going on, and expenses were too high.

We'd like to see where something has been done about it.

Are we going to get the same old treatment that comes every year, with taxes raised higher, and more people hired. I understand a lot of people who are drawing money from the county, take our money but ain't willing to pay their own taxes. In fact, I have heard on pretty good authority, that some who draw fat pay owe taxes for as many as 12 or more years back.

Mr. Editor, do you think that kind of thing is a fair deal to us who fork up the money? What kind of officials do we have, who allow things like that to go on?

Now I'd like to know if the promises made so liberally a year ago are going to be kept, or are taxes going to go up again. I'd like to know if all of the same help is going to be kept on the payroll, the lock, stock and barrel, just like they've been doing?

If the men who run this county wish to find out just how much some of this help is worth, let them go out and try to get the same amount of pay, for the hours, or the same days, or take a 20 per cent cut in pay, to help we poor folks in this kind of a time.

You can bet your life they won't See DOCK, Page Eight

HATTERAS LIGHT TO GET \$40,000 FACE LIFTING JOB

New District Commandant of Coast Guards Pays Visit to Historic Structure

Quoting an Admiral directly when he is off-guard is taking an unfair advantage of him and so the historians will have to make out somehow without knowing precisely what Rear Admiral Peter V. Colmar said when he stopped, apparently aghast, at the threshold of Cape Hatteras Lighthouse on his first visit as Commander, Fifth District, U. S. Coast Guard.

But the new Admiral's actions, disclosed this week, speak just as clearly for him: The Lighthouse is going to have a face-lifting. It is going to be cleaned and repaired, inside and out, and by the end of the summer the historic structure will look like it used to and maybe even better than it did when Capt. Unaka Jenette turned it over to the National Park Service 21 years ago.

Nobody has known for sure during the past 20 years whose business it was to keep the Lighthouse looking like it was built to look. It has never been owned by the Coast Guard since it was turned over to the Park Service just a few weeks before the Coast Guard absorbed the old Lighthouse service in 1938. The tower was abandoned because it looked as if nothing could save it from toppling into the ocean. The light was returned to the tower nine years under an agreement that did not make clear who did the house-keeping and maintenance.

Next day after he got back to his headquarters Admiral Colmar invited Robert F. Gibbs, superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, to come to lunch with him in Norfolk. By the time they got to their after-lunch coffee the two had agreed: The Coast Guard will clean up and maintain the outside of the tower and the National Park Service will mind the interior.

By now the undertaking for both has become a considerable project and the total cost of it will range to upward of \$40,000. The inside has to be sand-blasted and painted, and the outside has a lot of repainting to be done. And some new paint applied, a new railing around the sight-seeing platform at the top. Mr. Gibbs is also engaged in doing some needed landscaping on the grounds, and, perhaps equally important, the two men speak very highly of each other.

Admiral Colmar succeeds Admiral Harold C. Moore as commander of the District and that in itself is an undertaking of considerable magnitude. Moore was one of the most effective and at the same time popular commanders ever to come to the district. There were many who wanted him to become Commandant but he has gone to the West Coast to command that and the Pacific ocean in a command that ranks just under that of commandant.

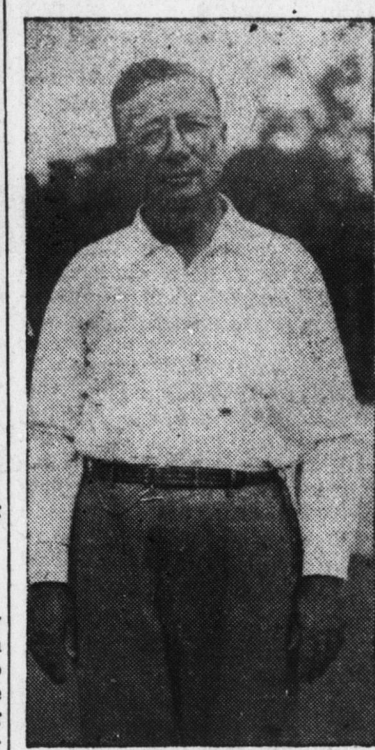
The new District Commander, at 51, is the youngest man ever to command the most active district in the Coast Guard. He came down from Washington as chief-of-staff to Admiral Moore and with the duty as commander already assigned. He is an engineer and they call him "the Rickover of the Coast Guard." He is rated as its ablest electronics scientist.

On his get-acquainted visit to Cape Hatteras group Admiral Colmar came almost unannounced and the crew discovered right away after his helicopter landed that there was nothing stuffy about him. See LIGHT, Page Eight

BIG DEEP WATER FISHING CLUB FORMED AT HATTERAS BACKED BY MUCH INFLUENCE

Hatteras Marlin Club, Inc. To Take Over Blue Marlin Docks and Restaurant and Plans Large Development; Membership Includes Many Prominent Men of N. C. Interested; Was Begun by Styron and Wilkins Five Years Ago.

CAPE HATTERAS SCHOOL HONORS BELOVED TEACHER



CAPE HATTERAS HIGH SCHOOL P. T. A. sponsored a turkey dinner Tuesday night in honor of Charles P. Gray who is retiring after 42 years of teaching.

After the blessing by Rev. Ray Sparrow, Mrs. Hilda Brown gave a detailed account of Mr. Gray's achievements in a well prepared speech in his behalf. After the dinner complete with apple pie and ice cream served banquet style, Mr. Gray was presented with a lovely gift. Mrs. Violet Austin gave a hearty toast and the 24 guests including Mrs. Velma Barnett, P. T. A. president sang: "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow." Mr. Gray responded appreciatively and stated that he would miss the teachers and the work.

ADDITIONAL MAIL VIA COLUMBIA FROM MANTEO

Congressman Advised of Additional Schedule To Be Tried Out Before Curtailment Considered

Recently we published an account of tentative plans for curtailing mail service into Manteo from Elizabeth City and Norfolk. Congressman Herbert Bonner got a number of letters from patrons of the Manteo postoffice, asking him to object.

Mr. Bonner advises us that he had a call May 14 from W. L. Crawford, regional director of the Postoffice Department, Atlanta, Ga., who advises that instead of curtailing any of the service at this time, the postoffice department has put on an additional route, coming east from Columbia via Manns Harbor and arriving at 7:50 in Manteo, each morning. It will leave Manteo at 3:45 in the afternoon for Columbia. After it is seen how this service operates, then the department may look into rearrangement of the service to Elizabeth City and Norfolk.

Postmaster Ben Shannon reports that fine cooperation in this connection has been rendered by R. Jack Williams, field service officer working out of the postoffice department in Raleigh.

Mr. Shannon said Thursday that a proposed change in the late Sunday night mail from Norfolk has been approved generally, in that the mail which formerly came after 8 p.m. on Sunday nights would now arrive at 10:20 a.m. on Sunday morning, which will be worth more to patrons of the Manteo postoffice. The office will remain open however, as late as usual on Sunday nights, he said.

MEETING MONDAY NIGHT TO ORGANIZE LITTLE LEAGUE

A final meeting will be held at the Manteo Courthouse at 8 p.m. on Monday, May 25 to organize the Coastal Little Tar Heel League. The Kitty Hawk community has already indicated its desire to have a team. League President, G. P. Hultman urges all parents of boys 9 through 12 to give this summer program their support. The interest of the Manteo Rotary Club which has cooperated in this program, is appreciated, Mr. Hultman has stated.

Another chapter in the history of the Blue Marlin Docks and Restaurant owned by Walter J. Wilkins of Norfolk and Capt. Edgar Styron of Hatteras was written last week with the incorporation of a club which will buy the docks and plans additional expansion.

Governor Hodges is interested in this new big game fishing club, known as the Hatteras Marlin Club, Inc. The Governor presided as honorary chairman at an organization meeting held Thursday night before the filing of incorporation papers.

The property, which the club announced it will buy, has modern docks, and a deluxe restaurant on the former homeplace property of the late Capt. Homer Styron. His son, Edgar Styron is disposing of his interest, retaining the large boats, but Mr. Wilkins will remain as Vice-President of the Club.

In addition to buying the property, the club will provide a field research station, so that members of the association in their offshore fishing activities can also cooperate with marine laboratories studying big game fish.

It is anticipated that the club will sponsor an international blue marlin fishing tournament next year at Hatteras. Plans for this are in the formative stage at present.

The Governor, an enthusiastic fisherman himself, said he believes the publicity resulting from the club's activities will benefit the state's effort to attract more fishermen and more fishing cruiser owners to enjoy the excellent salt water fishing offered by North Carolina.

Elected officers were, president, Charles F. Johnson, Asheville; vice presidents, Irwin Belk of Charlotte, Earl N. Phillips of High Point; and Walter J. Wilkins of Norfolk, Va.; treasurer, Torrence M. Hemby, Jr. of Charlotte.

Serving as directors along with the above officers are J. W. York of Raleigh; C. M. Vanstony, Jr. of Greensboro, Hubert Rand of Durham; Robert M. Cushman of Aberdeen; James H. Mills of High Point; I. F. Rochelle of Roanoke Rapids; Ross H. Walker of Richmond, Va.; Al Pfeuger of Miami, Fla.; John Youngblood of Fletcher, and Oscar Burnett of Greensboro.

BLUEFISH ARE SWAMPING DARE OCEAN ANGLERS

Anglers who used to bring hand cooling ice boxes to pack their bluefish catches in are now using wash tubs as one of the greatest runs of these fishes in many years moves towards what some are describing as an all-time peak. Most of the blues are being caught by anglers trolling from charter or private boats at Oregon and Hatteras Inlets, but fantastic catches have also been made by surf anglers.

Starting in early May the first catches were bluefish averaging two pounds and often weighing three, four or five pounds per fish. During the past week the size of the fish has decreased to three quarter and one pound averages but the catches have totaled hundreds of fish daily. On Saturday at Oregon Inlet 6,000 were landed. On Sunday more than 10,000 blues were caught.

CHEST X-RAY SCHEDULE GIVEN FOR DARE COUNTY

The visit of the mobile chest X-Ray unit to Dare County as part of the massive chest X-Ray survey, has been scheduled as follows:

Manns Harbor, at the Methodist Church, May 23; Hatteras at Atlantic View Hotel, May 26 and 27; Buxton, at the school house, May 28 and 29; Manteo, opposite the Chevrolet place, May 30, June 1 and 2; Wanchese, at Ralph Tillet's store, June 4; Kill Devil Hills, at the postoffice, June 5; and Kitty Hawk, at the postoffice, June 6.

Everyone from the age of 15 and up is urged to participate in this survey. There is no charge, there is no undressing, and the whole process takes only a few minutes. It has been proven from past experience to have been well worth the small amount of time and trouble to have these X-Rays made.