

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED THE PILOT AND HERALD OF BELHAVEN AND SWAN QUARTER  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE WALTER RALEIGH COASTLAND OF NORTH CAROLINA

MAIL SHOULD BE  
ADDRESSED TO BOX 428  
MANTEO, N. C.  
NOT TO INDIVIDUALS

VOL. XXV — NO. 18

MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1959

Single Copy 7¢

## MANY SENTENCED TO PRISON FROM DARE THIS WEEK

Lighter Pleas Accepted in Auto Theft Cases; One Prisoner Required to Pay Board

For a long time petty offenders in Dare County have come to look on the court as a joke. Many of them have never had to pay fines, being allowed to conveniently charge them and forget them. Suspended sentence on suspended sentence has been piled up in Recorders court without judgment being invoked, in spite of repeated violations of which the court was aware.

But there are some who will remember for many a day that there are judges who can't be monkeyed with. Judge Chester Morris held Superior Court this week. The term concluded Thursday at noon after having been recessed during Tuesday, but Judge Morris won't be forgotten.

A group of prisoners in the jail Sunday night jammed the sewer line with waxed milk cartons, and flooded the jail, and block off the courthouse toilets. It took two men all day Monday to undo the damage.

The prisoners, delighted with getting off so lightly, set fire in the jail Monday night and this called out the Fire Department. Nothing was done about it. Somehow word got to Judge Morris, and he called the prisoners before him Thursday. Three prisoners involved were given heavy additional time for their part in the offense and a fourth along with the others will stand trial for taking part, when they get back from the roads.

The men, whose names will be found further on in this article giving their offenses and sentences, received additional time for their frolic in the jail as follows:

Charles Edward Wroten was given sentences totaling 20 months more for the jail offense, giving him a grand total of 44 months on the roads.

John T. Payne, who would have had only eight months to serve got 12 months more and will have 20 months in all on the roads.

David Gaskins had six months, and will now have 12 months to serve.

Jon Arthur Williams, who because of his long record of offenses had already drawn the limit, will merely have to stand trial with the other three.

On Monday divorcees were granted Clara Duvall Bladen of Manns Harbor from Richard Frederick Bladen. Mary Williams McKinney, colored of Manteo from McKinley Windley McKinney.

The long-standing cases against Robert Anisley, Robert Lee Garrett and Donald Massie, Norfolk youths charged with several robberies on the beach was again continued because the defendants are serving time in a Virginia prison for subsequent offenses committed in Virginia.

Thos. Gray Scarborough of Avon, who had appealed from a Recorders Court fine of \$125 for driving drunk, and another case of public drunkenness, decided to plead guilty and pay up. The case cost more than had he settled in lower court.

Reuben Smith and Willie Spencer, who had come up from Recorders Court on charges of slashing each other with knives over Louvada Latham, and who Smith has since married, each got \$150 fines assessed, a sentence of 18 to 24 months on the roads, suspended on condition they be good boys for the next four years, reporting to court every year, and proving by the Sheriff they have been good.

The old case against D. A. Rogers Jr., of Manteo was again continued because of the illness of Marvin Daniels, the complaining witness.

Charles E. Wroten of Wanchese, pleaded guilty to have done the job alone of malicious damage, beating out the glasses in Attorney Martin Kellogg's car. He also threw himself on the mercy of the court on two charges of unlawful possession of the automobiles of others, of aiding and abetting a speed exceeding 75 MPH, of public drunkenness, careless and reckless driving.

Wroten got four 60-day sentences on each of four charges against him and one of 18 months for malicious damage to Mr. Kellogg's automobile. He will have a total of 24 months in prison, assigned to work the roads. John Thomas Payne who had been associated with him in unauthorized use of the automobile of Adrian Ayers, was sentenced six months for driving while his permit was in a state of suspension. Six months unauthorized use of automobile, and 60 days for speeding in excess of 75 mph.

David Gaskins, who had accompanied Wroten in the unauthorized See COURT, page Five

## HIGHWAY CHAIRMAN TO SPEAK IN COLUMBIA



COLUMBIA, October 28. — A resolution asking that the Alligator River Bridge be named in honor of Hon. Lindsay Warren of Washington, N. C., now State Senator from the Second District, will be offered at the business meeting of the Southern Albemarle Association Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 4, in this town, according to W. Charles Cohoon, Tyrrell County representative.

President W. J. White of the Association said that the six county meeting in the forenoon would be addressed by J. Melville Broughton Jr., chairman of the State Highway Commission. Both senators and the representatives of the seven counties of the Second District will be here, as well as other officials, and the membership of the Highway Commission has been invited.

Delegates from the six counties of the Association and other visitors will be given a luncheon by See BROUGHTON, Page Five

## RESCUED AFTER BEING LOST IN HYDE CO. WOODS

Stantonsburg Man Lost in Swamp Trip for Help After Boat Swamped Sunday

A holiday ended unhappily Sunday on the shore of Hyde County opposite New Holland when a boat capsized and a couple and their three children, two, four and 16 were at the mercy of wet and cold through the night. Charlie Sutton of Stantonsburg, with his wife, Ruby and the children were in a 16-ft. boat, with outboard motor. The wind shifted, the boat was swamped.

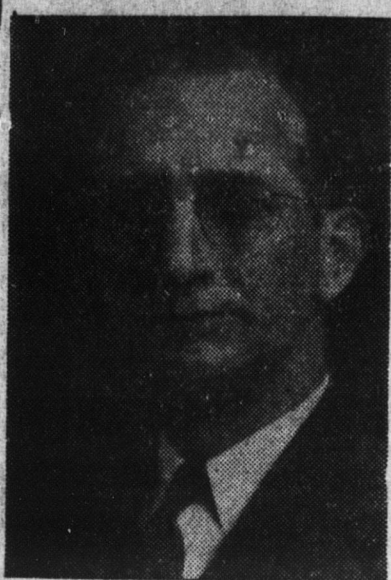
The party got ashore, the children being Ruby Day 16, Deloree 4, and Donald Lee 2. Sutton took off through the swamp to get help and told his folks to stay where he left them. Geo. Jennett was oystering nearby. He took them off the shore in his boat, and turned them over to Elmo Swindell of Swan Quarter who took them ashore and reported the mishap to Sheriff Charlie Cahoon who instituted a search for Mr. Sutton.

Mr. Sutton had gone off through the thick growth. His family did not see him any more.

Residents of Hyde County and four carloads of people from Stantonsburg came to help in the search. A ample reinforcements soon were added. Two fixed-wing aircraft, a Coast Guard helicopter, and four boats joined the search. Bloodhounds from the State Prison camp at Creswell were called to the scene, and also a detachment of Marines from Cherry Point.

It was a detachment of Marines See PLIGHT, Page Five

## CLYDE BURGESS, LEADING BELHAVEN MERCHANT DIES



CLYDE M. BURGESS, 61, who had been identified with the mercantile life of Belhaven for nearly 40 years, died Thursday afternoon at his home on Main St., following a critical illness of several weeks. He had operated department stores in Petersburg, and Danville, Va., and about six years ago gave up his Virginia interests following failing health, and devoted his full time to his Belhaven store which he has operated about 20 years. It was one of the community's largest clothing stores.

He married the former Mabel Clark of Blackstone, Va., in 1927, who survives. Also two sons: Samuel Burgess of Wilmington, and Clyde Burgess Jr., of Richmond. He has two brothers, Ed Burgess of New York City, and John Burgess of Raleigh, and a sister, Mrs. B. F. Daniels of Garner. He was born in Hyde County, the son of the late Matthew and Mary Fortescue Burgess.

Mr. Burgess was a member of Trinity Methodist Church and a member of the local Rotary Club until poor health forced his retirement. He held membership in the Elks Lodge of Danville. He had served in various civic capacities, and was a former Belhaven Alderman.

Rev. Lester Bissett, assisted by Rev. Oscar Williams conducted funeral services in Paul Funeral Chapel Sunday. Burial was in the Belhaven community cemetery.

## CARNIVAL POSTPONED

The Halloween Carnival, planned by the Manteo Elementary School P.T.A. for Friday night, has been postponed for several weeks. Further announcement will be made and the party will take the form of a Fall Carnival.

## HARBOR ADDITION TO PROJECT SOON AT MILL LANDING

Length Increased 90 Feet Through Congressman's Efforts; Extra 16,200 Sq. Ft.

Following efforts of Congressman Herbert Bonner to get the Corp of Engineers to enlarge the harbor at Mill Landing, announcement has been made in the past two weeks that 90 feet will be added to the length of this project, which is soon to be dredged to a depth of 12 feet. While this is not all that was being asked, it will add 16,200 square feet northward on the project.

The rights of way were donated by Mack Etheridge of Wanchese; and by Victor Meekins of Manteo who bought the tract of marsh across Mill Creek in order that the necessary harbor expansion. Meekins, as chairman of the Board of Commissioners has spent personally some \$800 to guarantee the community this harbor, determined that it should not be lost when the Government refused to build it after the sponsors had failed to make good on their pledges, he organized a campaign which raised \$2,000 to buy land for a public dock on the side of the original project farther south along the creek. With the help of Dr. W. W. Harvey, chairman of the Waterways Committee of the county, Wayland Baum, Harry Baum, and Willie Etheridge Jr., the campaign for funds was taken to enough people and the funds were pledged to buy the docksite and meet the deadline, otherwise the harbor project would have been lost.

When the recent addition of 90 feet was approved, it was again necessary to have the land donated, which will be cut away by the dredge. Meekins said he didn't have the heart to ask anyone for any more money, and paid for the land himself. Mack Etheridge donated his interest without charge, also.

About \$1,600 of the required sum for the public landing site was contributed by business interests in Manteo, Elizabeth City and Virginia.

Larger contributors at Wanchese consisted of Wayland Baum, Mack Etheridge, and Ronald Tillett with \$100 each. Contributions of \$50 each, came from James Griggs, Willie Etheridge Jr., H. L. Davis, while other citizens gave other sums of varying amounts. A few additional pledges have not been paid, and when they are in, a full report with letter of thanks is to be issued, it is stated.

In a letter to Victor Meekins on April 14th, Col. Harry Brown, of See HARBOR, Page Five

## ROANOKE ISLAND SHORE TO BE INVADIED NOV. 4-7 BY 500 FORT EUSTIS SOLDIERS

Three Days of Assault Landings Off Manteo Airport To Bring Biggest Army Since Burnside's Invasion in 1862; Upwards of 40 Vessels Involved; 159th Invasion Battalion To Remain Four Days.

## FORMER POLICE CHIEF OF MANTEO RETURNS



T. GRANBERRY DOWDY, for many years Chief of Police of Manteo, is returning to police work in Manteo November 1, taking over the night shift, from which Dan Cannady has resigned. Mr. Cannady, former Chief of Police had to give up a full job, due to illness, but Mayor G. T. Westcott, who gives high praise for Mr. Cannady's work for the town, says he will maintain a reserve status, subject to call when needed for extra service. Mr. Dowdy, has been in the fishing trade in southern waters recently, and is glad to get back home with his family. He served as Chief of Police and Deputy Sheriff in Manteo some 15 years ago, and has a long record as a capable and fearless officer.

The 159th Transportation Battalion from Fort Eustis, Va. is bringing 500 men to Roanoke Island next week to carry on three days of assault against its shores. Within a few hundred yards of the fort which General Burnside took from the Confederates 97 years ago, and with the Manteo Airport as a point of headquarters, some 40 landing craft with their control vessels will be based. Lt. Col. Joseph D. McNally, commanding this Battalion said yesterday his men expected to arrive at Roanoke Island on the night of November 4th, and will remain through Monday, November 9th. While the men will be quartered on their boats, they will have four trucks for their local necessary transportation. Bread and milk for the army will be purchased locally.

Col. McNally said his men will go through assault landing drills, and receive training in operation of boats and apparatus. They expect to remain over Sunday and with men of many faiths represented, the Catholic, Episcopal, Baptist and Methodist Churches of the locality are expected to have many visitors.

In Manteo some concern is felt about the responsibility of the community to provide some sort of entertainment or recreation for the visitors. A local committee, headed by Co. Farm Agent Jim Rea, Mrs. Mabel Evans Jones, and See SOLDIERS, Page Five

## BELHAVEN JAIL SET ON FIRE BY PRISONER

Damage Estimated at \$3,000 to Quarters in Town Hall Sunday Night

A negro prisoner set fire to the Belhaven jail on Sunday night, and attacked officer W. H. Dodd when released from the blazing quarters. Matthew Freeman, employee of the B. and E. Lumber Company, had been jailed for drunkenness only a short time before the fire. The irate prisoner broke the oil line leading to a stove, flooded the floor with oil, and touched off a roaring blaze. Police officer Dodd released Freeman and was escorting him to the police office in the front of the City Hall when the prisoner attacked him. Dodd managed to get in three blows with his blackjack before the drunken man overpowered him and began choking the policeman. Will Cox, Jr., Negro, better known as "Plunk", who lives behind the City Hall heard outcries and came to Dodd's rescue. The prisoner was taken to the hospital to have the wounds made by the blackjack attended and was taken home to sleep it off.

The fire was extinguished by the Belhaven Fire Department, but not before extensive damage was done to the jail. The gym located on the second floor of the hall and used for training by the John A. Wilkinson High School was also damaged by smoke.

Some estimates have placed the damage up to \$3,500.

## STREET IMPROVEMENTS ARE MADE IN BELHAVEN

Commercial Expansion Noted on Pamlico Street; Old Dangerous Curbs Repaired

It will soon be much safer to drive down Pamlico Street in Belhaven on a busy day. The curbing on one side of the street in the block running from the stop light at the corner of Pamlico and Main to the end of the street has been moved back approximately two feet and work is expected to begin soon on the other side. Formerly, driving down the street was hazardous when cars were parked at an angle on both sides of the street, especially since the advent of cars with longer tail fins. There had also been many complaints about the rough curbing that caused scraped fenders and bumpers.

The street as a whole has taken on a spruced-up look with the opening of Johnston's Toy and Gift Store and the renovating of the shop occupied by Harris and Ralph Furniture Company. The widening of the street is one more step in making Belhaven appealing shopping center.

## Hatteras Surf-Fishing Tournament Starts With Good Catches And Favorable Weather

The second annual Cape Hatteras Fishing Tournament started off favorably Thursday, with 18 teams out competing for prizes, and many drumfish landed in the forenoon. Chairman Edgar Hooper of Buxton reported by telephone. Largest drumfish caught was 25 pounds with many ranging smaller, but several ran in the 20 to 25-lb. class.

The fishing territory begins south of Avon and extends to Hatteras Inlet. Weather conditions are considered favorable with a wind of about 15 miles velocity from the northeast. All fishing is done in the surf. Fishing teams have come from as far north as New Jersey. Motels and other places of business are having mild weather in which to accommodate their many guests.

The Cape Hatteras fishing tournament has become established with this second season, and is viewed as something that will grow by leaps and bounds in coming years, due to the fame of the Hatteras area, which is now considered America's greatest sport-fishing center, and certainly the finest on the Atlantic coast.

The tournament which will officially close Saturday afternoon, is officially sponsored by the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club.

Tournament participants, their wives and guests, will be honored at a banquet Saturday night at 7:30 p.m. at Cape Hatteras High School. All awards will be presented at this time.

## ERNST'S SERVICES TO COMMUNITY WIN PRAISE AT DINNER

Retiring P.T.A. Head Given Party Thursday Night at School, On Eve of Departure

On the eve of his departure to a bigger job with his company in South Carolina, William Ernst Jr., who has resided in Manteo the past five years, was highly complimented for his contribution to civic, educational and church endeavor in Manteo and Dare County, at a party given in the Manteo high school, Thursday night of last week.

Attended by some 150 people, representing the Manteo Rotary Club, the Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, and Manteo P.T.A. and the Citizens Committee for Better Schools, the program was conducted by Mrs. Mary L. Evans, Supt. of schools, who presented various speakers who paid tribute to Mr. Ernst's worth to the community.

Julian Oneto, president of the Manteo Rotary Club, whose members attended in a body with their wives, spoke on behalf of his organization, which Mr. Ernst had served faithfully in several offices, and until recently was vice-president, slated to head the club next year.

Mrs. Louise Meekins spoke on behalf of the Methodist Church where Mr. Ernst had been active, and paid high tribute to the contribution made by Mr. and Mrs. Ernst and their three children, to church life.

Speaking for the Board of Education, its chairman Robert Ballance expressed the gratitude of the Board for the great value of Mr. Ernst in school committee endeavor, and as a leader of the committee for Better Schools. Mr. See ERNST, Page Four

## FOUR HELD FOR ROBBING STORE AT WANCHESE

More Serious Cases Shaping Up For Recorders Court Next Week in Dare Co.

Four young men are held for breaking in and robbing the store of Richard Gray of Wanchese Friday night of last week. Apprehended by Sheriff Frank Cahoon are Bayne Midgett of Wanchese, Norman and Redden Perry of Kitty Hawk and Charles Alexander of Elizabeth City. Some of the missing articles were found on the boat when the boys were apprehended, these including a shotgun, a new automobile battery, and several items of merchandise.

They had been tied up in a boat at Wanchese wharf, the boat belonging to Fred Brinn of Kitty Hawk. The sheriff observed the boat offshore, and watched for it when the men came ashore at Skyeo landing.

Records court was not held this week, due to election and a Superior court session, and there are several other cases shaping up for hearing next week. Donald Everette Barnett of Wanchese is charged with reckless driving in connection with the total wreck of a car on a curve north of Wanchese Sunday afternoon. Injuries were sustained by Larry Sanderlin and Garland Underdown, hit two passengers. Sanderlin was sent to Albemarle hospital. All sustained some injuries.

Gilbert Sanford Holder of Advance, N. C. while making a U-turn on the beach highway was struck by a station wagon driven by John M. Bell of Nags Head who had also turned into the same road. Holder is held for court. His car was damaged \$500 and Bell's \$150.

## NORFOLK TEENAGER KILLS BEAR IN DARE



Jonny Booth, son of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Booth, grandson of A. W. Drinkwater of Manteo, whose parents live at 218 E. Lorenz Avenue, Norfolk is shown with the bear he killed on a woodland road branching off from U. S. 264 between Stumpy Point and Engelhard during the past week end. The bear weighed about 250 pound and it was the first bear Booth has killed. He was hunting with Billy Biggs of Manteo who shot at but failed to kill a bear and Bill Brown whose score for the hunt was the killing of two copperhead on the bear trail. A total of seven bear and more than 50 deer had been killed in big woods of Dare between Manns Harbor East Lake and Engelhard during the first eight days of the 1959 big game season which opened on October 15. (Aycock Brown Photo).

## MANTEO GIRL IS PATIENT IN REX HOSPITAL, RALEIGH

Miss Betty Bruce Inge, daughter of Mrs. Matilda Inge, and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Bruce Etheridge of Manteo, is a patient in Rex Hospital, Raleigh. Miss Inge, who is a student at St. Mary's College, collapsed without warning while attending class on Monday. She was rushed to the hospital and placed in an isolation ward, her condition being considered serious. At last report she was progressing favorably.