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THE COASTLAND TIMES

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WE VIEW THE BIG SHIP UNITED STATES BUT HURRIEDLY WIND UP A VACATION THAT WAS TO HAVE BEEN LONG ONE

By CATHERINE D. MEEKINS
New York harbor was calm and peaceful, and save for a mass of floating debris there was nothing to indicate that hurricane Donna had made her vicious onslaught on the entire eastern seaboard of the United States and was then on the way to blowing herself out in Canada. It was the morning of Tuesday, September 13, 1960, and we (my husband, my sister-in-law and I) were aboard the S. S. United States, the ship having arrived Monday just before Donna struck her blow at New York. While we were there the Queen Mary came into port on one side, and on the other side The Independence. We learned later that The Independence was carrying 27 injured passengers, who were victims of Donna as she threw a giant wave at the ship.

We were being shown The United States by courtesy of Capt. S. J. (Solie) Topping, a Belhaven man who is general manager of the United States line and a friend of my husband. Capt. Topping himself was unable to accompany us, because hurricane damage at other piers required his presence, but he sent his able assistant, Warren Lindsay, whose gracious hospitality and courtesy made our tour of the ship a pleasure.

The United States is the world's fastest liner and flagship of the United States Lines. She made a record crossing of the Atlantic in three days, 10 hours and 40 minutes. She is 990 feet long, with a breadth of 101 feet 6 inches and a depth of 122 feet from keel to top of superstructure, and 175 feet from keel to top of forward funnel. She has twelve decks, with a total capacity of 2,000 passengers and 1,000 crew members. She was built in Newport News, Va., by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, and was completed June 20, 1952. She makes two round-trip voyages to Europe each month.

It may be interesting to note here, that the late Capt. C. P. Midgett of Nags Head, Miles Clark of Elizabeth City and the late Fred P. Latham of Belhaven, a close friend of Capt. Topping, were among the specially invited guests who were taken on the shake-down cruise out of Newport News the day the new liner was completed. Mr. Latham was permitted to take the wheel of this great ship on this cruise which was shortly before his death.

We were taken to see accommodations in all the classes—first class, cabin class and tourist. Even the tourist class looked like luxurious quarters. Nothing is omitted that might add to the comfort of the liner's passengers.

In the chart room we were given a look at the chronometers which indicate time, and were shown how to calculate the difference in time between Greenwich time, which is used by the instruments, and the time in other longitudes. Also we had a look at the chart which had been kept on the progress of hurricane Donna.

Speaking of hurricane Donna, she hit the New York shore line a devastating blow, and people were evacuated from islands and outlying places in the storm's path. In the city itself, where we were dry and safe from the wind on the 18th floor of a Manhattan hotel, more people were out in the weather than would have been expected. After more than half a day of vainly trying to get word from home, and being unable to get telephone connections, or even word of this area from newspapers and television, I decided to go to Times Square, where there is a newsstand which handles nothing but out-of-town newspapers, to try and get a North Carolina or Virginia newspaper. Being in need of fresh air after being cooped up all day, I walked in preference to taking a cab. There were times when I had to brace myself to keep from losing my footing, but it was an interesting experience. The New York police force was out in numbers, and everywhere there as a loose sign the sidewalk had been roped off. At each corner there were several policemen telling pedestrians which way it would be safe to go. One thing that amazed me was the number of people walking along in winds at the height of a hurricane, struggling with—of all things—umbrellas. One man finally gave up. The covering had ripped from the umbrella's ribs, so he set it on the sidewalk, tore off the handle, then put both handle and top in a trash can. Why he bothered to remove the parts I could not fathom, unless that was his way of venting his wrath at not being able to control the umbrella against the wind.

After battling my way to Times Square, the only close-to-home

SWAN QUARTER HAS HEAVY DAMAGE; ITS CITIZENS REBUILD

The atmosphere of Swan Quarter since the unwelcome visit of Donna has been one of uncertainty and some frustration as the home owners and farmers seek to begin life almost anew.

Someone has called our Swan Quarter a "little hamlet" which the dictionary says is "a small village of only a few houses". During the visit of the mighty wind and the rising of the tide, many experienced the greatest threat of their lives. To stand with a flash light in their hands and watch the water creep up toward their door steps, up, up, and wonder what might happen. One expressed it this way, "I watched the first bit of water roll over my walk, then up to the first, second and top step, I held my breath wondering if it would come in the door, the next gust of wind. There was a lull for minutes, then the tide turned, as the wind changed, and began to go out." By this time many homes had several feet of water in them, trees were across the roads, the lights were out, candles and lamps gleamed like lightning bugs, in the homes as the occupants moved from door to door peering into the darkness.

Now that the nightmare is in the past and Ethel too has passed by the work of rehabilitation has begun. Chainsaws are going at full speed in all parts of the hamlet, tree limbs are piled along the roads waiting for the highway men to take them away. Many are going around begging carpenters and other workmen to do their work. Shingles are littering almost every yard and some roofs resemble half-picked chickens. Few, if any, homes escaped some damage, so all of Swan Quarter is working and rebuilding, and all are agreeing that God in his infinite mercy was kind as no one was killed, nor homes destroyed.

SIXTEEN CASES YIELD SOME \$500 TUESDAY IN DARE RECORDER COURT

Sixteen cases were disposed of by Judge Baum in Recorder's Court on Tuesday. The charges ranged from minor traffic violations to driving drunk and forcible trespassing charges.

Sadie O'Neal Payne of Wanchese was fined \$20 and costs for improper use of dealer's license and for driving an auto without proper registration.

Roland Dock Sawyer, Sr., was fined \$10 and costs for allowing use of improper licenses in the foregoing case.

Woodson Bradford Fearing was charged with speeding 50 miles an hour in a 35 mile zone. He pled guilty to driving 45 miles an hour and was fined \$10 and costs.

Three escaped prisoners from the Maple Camp were recaptured and tried. Each were bound over to superior court. They were Ernest L. Jones, Jr., 34, Emory Joseph Roux, 41, and William N. Beck, 50. They had escaped from a road gang in Dare County.

Roosevelt Adalon Morgan, Duval, Fla., was fined \$15 and costs for speeding in 35 mile an hour zone.

John M. Herndon, Jr., Oregon Inlet LB Station, was fined \$25 and costs for driving without an operator's license, and Thomas Donald Foster, Elizabeth City, Route 3, paid similar fine on a similar charge.

For improper use of Virginia license plates, operating a car in N. C., without first obtaining a State registration and for operating auto without liability insurance, Wilton Jarrell Payne, USCG, Elizabeth City, paid fines totaling \$30 and costs.

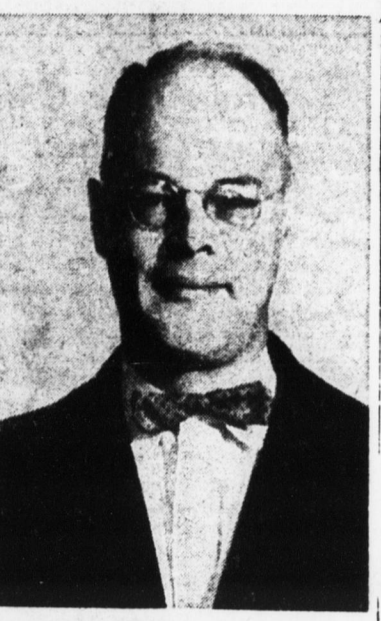
For being drunk on the highway cost Raymond Haines Branch, Rich Square, \$25 plus court costs. Sheila Ray Reber was fined \$15 and costs for driving 50 in a 35 mile an hour zone.

Charlie Bryan Spruill, Kitty Hawk, N. C., paid fines and costs totaling \$126.20 for driving drunk and speeding at 50 miles an hour in a 35 mile zone.

Norman Lawrence Holmes, Manteo, N. C., for driving left of center line on highway was fined \$10 and costs plus capias fees of \$2.50. Charged with forcible trespass in the cottage of Conrad Bailey, Kill Devil Hills on August 30, cost a group of Virginia College students, Charles Mazingo Bill Davidson, Edwin T. Haugood, Phillip Heiner and Doyle Barnes a total of \$143.70 in fines and costs when they plead guilty on Tuesday through their attorney.

Harry Walton O'Neal of Ocracoke, age 59, arrested at Buxton on August 26 charged with driving drunk, driving left of center line while not passing another auto and for going 40 miles an hour in a 35 mile zone paid fines totaling \$115 plus costs of \$13.70.

SCOUTMASTER JACK EARLE WINS MORE SCOUT HONORS



Mr. Earle was also an instructor and had demonstrations for the area leaders in Compass work. He was cited by Tidewater Council officials for an outstanding job. He was the first Scoutmaster selected as Council Instructor from the Albemarle District.

The "Showando" is a training experience showing about twenty scouting skills that scouts are responsible to master. These are shown to adult leaders in the morning session. Then they "Do" them through various feats in the afternoon.

SMALL BUSINESS LOAN OFFICE IN NEW BERN READY

Office Established Wednesday of This Week To Aid Victims of Donna

Clarence P. Moore, Regional Director of the Small Business Administration in Richmond, Virginia, has announced that Phillip McCallum, Small Business Administration Administrator, Washington, D. C., under authority of President Eisenhower, has declared the Counties of Beaufort, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender and Perquimans in North Carolina as disaster areas. Accordingly, Mr. Moore added, victims of Hurricane Donna can secure information and make application for disaster loans at a special disaster field office to be located in the New Bern Chamber of Commerce, 611 Broad Street, New Bern, N. C.

The office will open on Wednesday, September 21, 1960, and will be in operation thereafter Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Ray Shaw will be the Manager of the Office and will be supported by a staff to expedite processing of all loan applications.

Those eligible for SBA disaster loans include individuals, business concerns, churches, charitable institutions and other non-profit organizations. The purpose of the loans is to repair or replace property, including real estate and furniture damaged by the hurricane. The proceeds of the loans are to be used to restore the victims' homes or business properties as nearly as possible to their pre-disaster condition. The loans would be for the net loss not covered by insurance. Individuals would be expected to pledge such collateral as they were in a position to furnish to secure said loans.

The loans would be repaid in equal monthly installments, including interest, usually beginning not later than five months after the date of the note, with a maturity based on the individuals' ability to repay, but in no case may exceed 20 years. The interest rate is 3% per annum.

The Small Business Administration is authorized by Congress to provide loans for those individuals who cannot qualify for the F.H.A. improvement loans available through many local banks. Neither can SBA make loans to farmers, who are eligible under the Farm Home Administration disaster loan program.

Prior to applying at the disaster office, individuals should make an estimate of their damages and have an estimate from a contractor on the amount necessary to restore the property. Individuals should also determine the amount of loss to be recovered from insurance companies.

Mr. Moore urges that all those seeking SBA assistance contact this office as soon as possible. It See LOAN, Page Four

BILLFISH TOURNEY IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 30

Another in the Growing Number of Contests From Hatteras Island Waters

HATTERAS.—Under the sponsorship of Cape Hatteras Billfish Club an individual invitational tournament will begin here on September 30 and continue through October 2, it was stated by Dr. J. C. Overbey, president of the oldest billfishing club along the North Carolina Coast.

Approximately 12 cruisers with competing anglers are expected to participate in this second billfishing classic to be held off Cape Hatteras during 1960. The first was the Hatteras Marlin Club-sponsored International Blue Marlin Tournament in June.

Complete information of the forthcoming billfishing tourney may be obtained direct from Dr. Overbey by addressing: Dr. J. C. Overbey, President, Cape Hatteras Billfishing Club, Medical Arts Center, Norfolk, Va.; or Capt. Ernal Foster, Foster's Quay, Hatteras, N. C.

Handsome trophies will be awarded the anglers catching the largest blue marlin and its runners-up. A special trophy will be provided for the angler releasing the most billfish.

The trophies will be awarded at a banquet in the Channel Bass Restaurant here on the evening of October 2.

On Hatteras Island, the third annual Cape Hatteras Anglers Club Tournament, a surfcasting event, will be held on November 3-5. Address of this sponsoring club is Buxton.

HIGHWAY PROGRESS THOUGHT FACTOR IN BRINGING HIGHER TIDES IN HURRICANE DISASTER

Manteo-Oregon Inlet Deep Water Channel May Have Paid for Its Cost in Manner Not Expected; Highway Fill Held Up Water on Nags Head Soundside; Citizens Rally From Donna's Costly Rampages.

In ten days of effort to rally from the costly rampage of Hurricane Donna along the N. C. coast, conversation has developed many theories why the tide water in Manteo and Nags Head Soundside was higher and more damaging than ever before.

Chief among theories is that the new by-pass along Nags Head tended to hold back the water along the shore of Roanoke Sound, whereby buildings were more readily undermined, and subject to prey of winds. But drainage ditches of this road, other ditches built by hurricane funds, released the water quickly, and there were not the usual large ponds left standing.

Had it not been for the newly completed deep water channel between Manteo and Oregon Inlet, it is believed the tide would have been much higher. For this channel, which never existed before, is some 400 feet wide and 12 feet deep, and can accommodate a gigantic flow of water, ocean bound.

There was so much water coming back from the upper sounds where it had been forced earlier in the storm, that it rose higher than ever before when it met so many new barriers erected by modern progress.

Since the last hurricane tides from the northwest, the Coatan Sound bridge has been created, which now tends to hold up the water, and divert the flow more strongly down Roanoke Sound.

Prior to the building of the bridge and causeway leading to Nags Head, there was no resistance offered in Roanoke Sound to such tides, for then they flowed freely across the marshes, and sometimes across the flats as a short cut to the sea.

Since the building of the first beach highway, and the Roanoke Sound causeway, tides have been increasingly higher as the beach itself began to grow higher through sand fixation and reforestry projects.

Dare County is believed to have suffered a loss of two to three million dollars in property damaged, principally north of Oregon Inlet where most resistance to tides was offered.

Some citizens express the opinion that the new, deep channel on the east side of Roanoke Island may have saved a million dollars in property loss.

Heavy losses were sustained by the principal Manteo merchants. Modern stores, heavily stocked with costly merchandise, were flooded a depth of more than two feet above previous hurricane tides. Federated Stores, Manteo Furniture Co., Dava Department Store, the Fearing stores, and many others had an almost total loss of stock and fixtures as well. Fixtures, like the floors, were swollen and ruined, burst out and had to be replaced. Some stores have had to put in new floors before opening for business.

Tide came four inches high over courthouse floors, something which hasn't happened before, and damages to steel equipment will be heavy and more manifest later as rust sets in.

Due to roofs being blown off, and buildings swept away, the damages on Nags Head was heavy. On the ocean side there was heavy damage from loss of roofs, particularly those not solidly bolted on, and which was followed by unbraced walls which then collapsed under force of the wind.

As previously reported, there were sections of two of five fishing piers swept out in the Nags Head area.

Insurance Claims Filed.

Due to the sudden demand for insurance reimbursements, the companies have been unable to receive claims rapidly. A notice has been issued by stock insurance companies, advising persons with insurance claims to notify the agent from whom they bought their policy. The notice should explain the extent and type of damage, and have an estimate of the damage made out by a competent carpenter or contractor attached to it. With more than 450 claims from Dare County alone it will take considerable time to process them. It must be born in mind that in most cases, policies have deductive clauses. For instances, policies written before February 1958, on a three year period cover the full loss. Then policies written before

WHERE TO APPLY TO RED CROSS FOR RELIEF

Howard Anderson of the Red Cross maintains an office in P. O. building in Washington to serve the counties of Hyde, Beaufort, and other counties west of Alligator River.

Harry Ashley of the Red Cross in maintaining an office, also open every day, 8:30 to 5 p.m., in the Manteo Community building to serve Currituck County, Dare County, Ocracoke Island, and the entire northeastern section of the state.

From now, it is estimated their work on the local scene will be completed in three weeks. In the entire territory 131 applications for aid have been received in the entire northeastern section, Mr. Ashley said.

All persons eligible for Red Cross assistance should come forward promptly to their regional office, he said. An office in Elizabeth City is open each morning.

There are 111 claimants in Dare County, he reports.

SWAN QUARTER LIONS TO HOLD A WHITE CANE SALE

The Swan Quarter Lions Club will join the other 366 Lions Clubs of North Carolina in sponsoring the annual White Cane Drive from September 18-October 2, according to Tommie Gaylord, Club Chairman.

Last year the Association spent over \$66,000 in North Carolina for services which included eye examinations, treatment, and surgery; research on the prevention of blindness; sponsoring visual aid clinics; furnishing white cane walking sticks for the blind; assisting the Eye Bank Program; and other services to blind people.

The Swan Quarter Club last year sent \$86 to the Association to help furnish these services.

The Club goal this year is \$100 according to Mr. Gaylord. "We hope that your contribution to this project will be generous" Tommie Gaylord says.

EAST LAKE METHODIST HOME COMING SEPT. 25

Members of the East Lake Methodist Church are busily preparing for their big annual homecoming event September 25.

Guest speaker at the 10:30 service will be the Rev. R. L. Jerome, Superintendent of the Elizabeth City District. Special music by members and friends of the church will also be a feature of this service.

Tables have been set up for the picnic lunch which will follow immediately after the morning service when old friends can meet, greet and eat.

A special song service will follow the lunch, when all the old favorite hymns will be sung. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

BLUES-SPANISH MACKEREL

NAGS HEAD.—Anglers trolling from charter boats at Oregon and Hatteras Inlet are catching plenty of bluefish and a few Spanish mackerel this week. Weather conditions have been favorable and most parties at Oregon Inlet have returned to port with from 50 to 100 blues.

At Hatteras Inlet Spanish mackerel have been added to the bluefish catches by practically every party that has gone trolling for these surface feeders.

SURF AND SOUND FISHING IMPROVING

BUXTON.—Surf fishing is definitely on the upgrade as it is each year during the early autumn. Surf fishing usually reaches its autumn peak here on the beaches of the Dare Coast during October. Channel bass catches are usually best during late October and early November. Already, however, channel bass, mostly of the puppy drum size are being caught here at Cape Hatteras along with blues, whiting and other surf feeding fish.