

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## WARREN BRIDGE WILL BE DEDICATED THURSDAY

### FIRST COASTLAND PAPER FOUNDED 27 YEARS AGO EVER BUILDER OF AREA

Based on Faith in the Future and Without a Dollar Invested, the Coastland Times Has Come to be a Home-Grown Industry of Major Importance With Large Weekly Payroll Rivaling Any in Its Town; Has Boosted Home Industry, Saving Historical Lore, and Fought for Civic Conscience Consistently.

By RALPH POOL  
July 5, 1935 was a red-letter day for Dare County and the North Carolina coastland.

On that day, THE COASTLAND TIMES, the coast country's first newspaper, was born. Since that day, the section has had a vigorous and articulate voice in behalf of Dare and its neighbor counties.

The Dare County Times as it was then named was founded by D. Victor Meekins, then sheriff of Dare County, a post he occupied for 17 years, the longest in the history of the county. Under the leadership of J. C. B. Ehringhaus, then Governor of North Carolina and himself a native of nearby Elizabeth City, tells the day before, had been taken off the two bridges linking Roanoke Island with the mainland — one crossing Roanoke Sound and the other crossing lower Currituck Sound at Point Harbor.

With the tolls abolished and free access to the coastland assured, Victor Meekins envisioned an ever-brightening future for his homeland—a future in which a vigorous and progressive newspaper could play a vital role. The question was, could such a newspaper pay its own way?

Victor sought advice of the late W. O. Saunders, long time editor-publisher of the Independent, in Elizabeth City, and the area's best known newspaper man. He thought local business wouldn't support it sufficiently.

Saunders said the paper wouldn't make a go of it—but Victor was not to be discouraged. And so the Dare County Times was born on July 5, 1935.

Victor's equipment consisted of a dink and typewriter in rented quarters in Manteo's Fort Raleigh Hotel. The paper was printed in the Independent shop, in Elizabeth City by contract with Geo. W. Haskett, the lessee. For the first issue, advertising was sold by Miss Elizabeth Hooker, of Wanchese a school teacher at home for the summer vacation. She sold enough ads to pay publication costs. Miss Nell Wise (now Mrs. R. W. Wechter) went out over the county, selling subscriptions; and she, too, met with an enthusiastic response. Sale of advertising for the first issue was sufficient to cover printing costs.

The Times was off to a flying start. After two years, Victor was able to put up a wooden building in front of the Fort Raleigh Hotel. In addition to

### MORE FUNDS ARE NEEDED TO PAY FOR CELEBRATION

Melvin Daniels, Dare County's finance chairman for the Lindsay Warren Bridge Celebration, which is being sponsored by the Southern Albemarle Assn., has reported that \$376 has been donated by individuals and firms thus far, to meet expenses for the May 10 affair.

Daniels has stated that "much more" is needed to fulfill this county's quota in support of the celebration. Daniels has stated that "since one-half of the bridge is in our county, I feel that Dare County should pay its share of the debts of the celebration since it will reap more benefits than any other county in the celebration."

The Southern Albemarle Assn., which is composed of Dare, Tyrrell, Washington, Beaufort, Martin and Hyde counties was the motivating force behind the drive to acquire the long-awaited bridge over the Alligator River, which will be heralded at the gala celebration which is planned for May 10.

### NEW PHOSPHATE FIRM SET UP FOR BEAUFORT

Corporation Indicates Plans To Spend Millions of Dollars

Commercial development of a large phosphate deposit in Beaufort County, entailing the expenditure of many millions of dollars, apparently was assured this week, with announcement that a new company had been formed for the project.

The new firm, Pamlico Mining and Chemical Corp., was set up by Kennecott Copper Corp. and American Agricultural Chemical Co.

Meanwhile, Kennecott's exploration subsidiary, Bear Creek Mining Co., has been examining phosphate deposits, analyzing results of mining tests and acquiring leases in the county. Belhaven and Pantego are in the center of the area of deposits. Rights obtained cover more than 10,000 acres, a company spokesman said.

Pamlico Mining will take over Bear Creek's operations and acquisitions in Beaufort, it was announced. See PHOSPHATE, Page Four

### GILLIAM WOOD ACTIVE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

One of the principal figures in the Alligator River Bridge celebration May 10 will be John Gilliam Wood of Edenton, member of the North Carolina Highway Commission for this district.

Mr. Wood operates the large Hayes farm near Edenton. He is president of the Edenton Branch of the People's Bank & Trust Co., and of the Home Feed Fertilizer Co. Also, he is a director of the Edenton Cotton Mill.

Active in civic affairs, he was a prime mover in the reorganization of the Edenton Chamber of Commerce a few years ago. He is past president of the Edenton Rotary Club, and an active member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Edenton.

A LONG CAREER OF MARKED ABILITY, ENERGY AND DEDICATION TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST HAS MADE HIM HIS AREA'S MOST DISTINGUISHED MAN



By JOHN MORGAN

The magnificent new bridge spanning the Alligator in Eastern North Carolina, appropriately enough, will be named after a man who has championed the cause of this area of the state for more than 40 years—Lindsay C. Warren.

Not that Mr. Warren wants it this way. He takes the position that no public work should be named for any living person, and he did what he could to stop the naming of the state's third longest bridge after him.

The committee of representatives from the Second Senatorial District overruled Mr. Warren's objections and named the bridge after the beloved public servant who has fought for the development of the Southern Al-

bemarle and Dare Coast region.

The new bridge will be an important link in bringing together the Southern Albemarle and Dare Coast area. It is understood that this will be the first great public work of its kind in North Carolina to be named for a living person.

U. S. Highway 64 will become the only road in the nation to reach from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast upon the completion of this bridge, scheduled sometime around the first of next year.

Dedication ceremonies are being planned later, and various committees are making arrangements for a gala celebration.

Leads Fight

The former First District Congressman and later Comptroller General of the United States went to the State Senate in 1959, and as soon as he got to Raleigh he met with Senator Elbert Peele of Williams and the seven representatives of the Second Senatorial District.

These were Frank Everett of Martin, Dr. J. M. Phelps of Washington (now deceased), Charles Cohoon of Tyrrell, R. Bruce Etheridge of Dare, Dick O'Neal of Hyde, Wayland Sermons of Beaufort, and while away from the project but showing the same degree of interest, was Ned Delamar of Pamlico.

This group agreed that it would have nothing whatever to do with any bridge or road carrying tolls, and if insisted upon it would wash its hands of the entire affair.

The group asked Mr. Warren to lead the fight for the Alligator and Oregon Inlet bridge projects. And it turned out to be a successful fight.

Mr. Warren says, "I always said that the fight was a joint effort and the result was the work of us all."

Several months after the State Highway Commission chairman, J. Melville Broughton, Jr., announced both the Alligator and Oregon Inlet projects had been approved, the group from the Second Senatorial District met (in Mr. Warren's absence) and passed a resolution. See WARREN, Page Four

### COLUMBIA CELEBRATION WILL INCLUDE PARADE, ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR

Dedication Ceremony at Bridge to Be Opening Event; Other Features to Include Crowning of Beauty Queen and Luncheon for Notables Attending; Host City Gaily Decorated for Occasion With Flags, Streamers and Bunting

Colorful exercises will mark the dedication of the new Lindsay C. Warren Bridge across Alligator River Thursday, May 10.

Events of the day will begin at 10:30 a. m. with the crowning of the queen of the occasion by E. E. Harrell, president of the Southern Albemarle Association, which has worked for the bridge for many years.

The coronation will be followed by the unveiling of a bronze plaque honoring Lindsay C. Warren, former Representative in Congress from the First North Carolina District and former U. S. Comptroller. The plaque, set in a bridge post, will be unveiled by Miss Diana Warren Jones.

Officials and guests at the exercises will proceed to Columbia High School, where they will join an elaborate parade which will proceed through the town to the speaker's stand where the bridge dedication ceremonies will take place.

Handsomely decorated floats entered by the six counties of the Southern Albemarle Association will take part in the parade, along with others entered by various organizations. Among them will be the College of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City; the queen's float; another for "Little Miss and Little Mister Tyrrell," one from the city of Washington, N. C. and another entered by the Butler Land & Lumber Co.

The town of Columbia will be decorated gaily for the occasion. Store fronts will be adorned with flags and bunting, and county buildings will be "dressed up" by professional decorators. Colorful signs will be erected over the streets, and many of the new 50-star flags will be flown. There will be booths to dispense refreshments.

There will be plenty of music. Taking part in the parade and other ceremonies will be the John A. Wilkinson High School Band, and the Murphy, Plymouth and Washington High School Bands. The Murphy band, under the direction of Edward Reynolds, a native of Columbia, will come all the way from the southwest corner of North Carolina to bring alive in reverse the famed old "Manteo to Murphy" slogan.

The Murphy band will give a concert on the court house lawn from 4 to 5 p. m., after the day's formal program.

The dedication ceremonies will begin at noon with "The Old North State," sung by the Tyrrell County Choral Group. Then the assembled bands will play "The Star Spangled Banner." The address of welcome will be given by H. T. Davenport, Mayor of Columbia, and this will be followed by the introduction of special guests.

R. W. Parks, vice president of Dickerson, Inc., will introduce Rex S. Anderson, regional engineer of the Bureau of Public Roads, whose talk will be followed by remarks by Merrill Evans, chairman of the State Highway Commission.

Representative Herbert Bonner of the First North Carolina District will introduce the honor guest, his long-time friend and associate, Lindsay C. Warren, who will then speak.

Next on the program will be Graham Elliott, Highway Commissioner from the Second N. C. District, who will introduce Governor Terry Sanford, principal speaker of the day. The benediction will be by the Rev. E. R. Meekins, pastor of the Columbia Methodist Church.

Luncheon will follow at 1:30 p. m. This will be followed at 2:30 by a memorial service for deceased founders and presidents of the Southern Albemarle Association, among them C. W. Tatem, C. Earl Cohoon, John Darden, and Bradford Fearing.

Mrs. Erskin J. Brickhouse is chairman of the committee in charge of this observance.

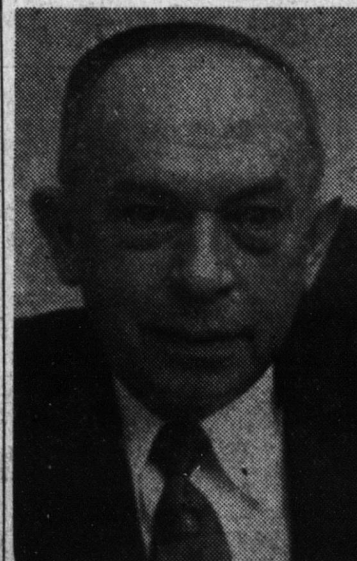
Closing event of the day will be a dance in the Columbia High School Gymnasium from 9 p. m. to 1 a. m. with music by the Accents. Tickets for it are on sale in the six Southern Albemarle counties at \$2.50 per couple. During intermission, each county queen and her escort will be introduced, and the Southern Albemarle Queen will be honored.

Besides President Harrell, officers of the Southern Albemarle Association are W. R. Flowers of Washington County, secretary, and M. A. Matthews of Tyrrell County, treasurer. County vice presidents and executive committees are:

Dare—D. Victor Meekins, vice president; Melvin E. Daniels, Mrs. James W. Davis, Mrs. Zenovah Davis, Mrs. Grace Mann White, M. Keith Fearing Jr., Pannel A. Tillett, Woodrow W. Evans and Robert F. Gibbs.

Hyde—W. J. Lupton, vice president; W. W. Watson, Leon Ballance, Roy Lowe, P. D. Midgett, A. G. Berry, J. C. Bishop, William T. Cochran and E. A. See EVENT, Page Four

### OFFICIALS ATTENDING BRIDGE CELEBRATION



Congressman Herbert C. Bonner



Governor Terry Sanford



Highway Commissioner Merrill Evans



Chairman W. J. White

### GOVERNOR RETURNS TO JOIN IN BRIDGE CELEBRATION



GOVERNOR TERRY SANFORD, who is shown above with a local Cub Scout Pack, as they made the last ferry trip from Sandy Point to East Lake on February 9, will return to the coast with dignitaries from all over North Carolina to join in the Southern Albemarle Association's official celebration on May 10 which heralds the opening of the Lindsay C. Warren Bridge. The magnificent \$3 million structure is shown in the background and it arches over the Alligator River to connect U. S. 64 from Los Angeles on the Pacific with Whalebone on the Atlantic.

### FISHERMAN HURT BADLY

STUMPY POINT—Alton Best suffered a serious injury Saturday while fishing his nets near here. His arm was lacerated when it was caught in the motor of his boat. It required 12 stitches to close the injury.