

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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MET IN MANTEO FRIDAY

OCRACOKE-MAINLAND FERRY ENDORSED BY COMMISSION

At its first meeting in Manteo last Friday, the newly-formed North Carolina Seashore Commission endorsed the establishment of ferry service between the island of Ocracoke and the Hyde County mainland. In other action of importance, the body moved to stop a private developer from subdividing a portion of the proposed Cape Lookout National Seashore Area.

Woodrow Price of Raleigh, chairman of the NCSC and managing editor of The News and Observer, stated:

"Our purpose is to protect and preserve our 320-mile coastline for future generations and to develop it to its fullest potential now.

"We must begin formulating our program for the 1965 General Assembly," he said.

David Stick of Kitty Hawk, chairman of the Dare County Erosion Control Board, asked the commission's help to get the state and federal governments to initiate as soon as possible a survey of the outer bar.

The constant changes in the bar, which parallels the beach just offshore, are "the No. 1 contributing factor to beach erosion," he said.

A long range survey of the bar would provide a companion study to efforts recently begun in Dare to record beach erosion section by section and to log the results of individual control efforts.

"We feel that only then can we, or you, or the Corps of Engineers say what to do and how to do it," Stick stated.

Superior Court Judge Chester R. Morris of Currituck swore in Price as chairman, Roy Wilder of Raleigh as secretary and director and the other 15 members of the 20-man commission who attended.

Ashley B. Futrell of Washington moved endorsement of the ferry link between the Outer Banks and the Hyde County mainland. District Highway Commissioner Graham Elliott of Washington, an ex officio member, said, "The Highway Commission is seriously considering this at the present. I think the resolution will help it along."

The ferry for the run will take eight to 12 minutes to build, he said. It would give Ocracoke Islanders their first direct tie with Hyde County.

The commission also asked the Carteret County Planning Commission "not to approve that portion of a subdivision plan affecting property which would be included in the proposed Cape Lookout National Seashore" in the Core Banks, Shackleford Banks and the Portsmouth Island area.

Price told reporters that Charles M. Reaves of Sanford, the largest property owner involved, proposed a subdivision "just before legislation was introduced" to establish the new park. Several hundred acres are involved, he said.

Tom Morse of the National Park Service Regional Office in Richmond meanwhile reported that, "Favorable hearings on the bill (now in House and Senate Committees) are expected soon."

Price, announced assignments to two general and three regional committees. The chairmen are: Development, Futrell; Protection, Frederic L. Cox of Griston; Northeast, Braxton B. Dawson of Washington; Central, Harvey Hines of Kinston; and Southeast, P. M. Camak of Wilmington.

The commission will meet next in Wilmington Jan. 23. Established by the 1963 General Assembly, the group succeeds the North Carolina Outer Banks Seashore Parks Commission, which was created by Gov. Terry Sanford in 1962, and has many of the same members.

The former commission recommended that a permanent

MRS. HELEN N. SEARS, 34, OF SCRANTON, DIES

Funeral services for Mrs. Helen Newton Sears, 34, of Scranton, who died Friday were conducted at 2:30 p.m. Sunday at St. John's Episcopal Church by the Rev. Wesley Lucas. Burial was in the church cemetery.

She served in the Women's Army Corps during the Korean conflict.

Surviving are her husband, N. F. Sears Jr.; four daughters, Myra, Helen, Gwen and Jill, all of the home, and five sisters.

commission be established, prepared the way for the Cape Lookout National Seashore, and began a production program of antierosion American Beach grass at N. C. State College.

That nursery produced 400,000 plants this year and "a year from now will have enough stock to plant 300-300 acres," Dr. W. W. Woodhouse, State college soil scientist, reported. The plants will then be distributed at cost and will be planted experimentally in all coastal counties.

Price said, "I think we now realize that the toughest part of this job will be working out policies concerning erosion control where private property is involved."

Stick said, "If you solve only the problems involving public land, you are going to leave wide gaps. We feel that it is primarily the responsibility of local people, but we can't do it alone."

DR. MANN WILL RETURN TO HIS NATIVE HYDE



DR. HARVEY B. MANN, president of the American Potash Institute and the Foundation for International Potash Research retired from that position this week in Washington, D. C., according to announcement by the board of directors of both organizations.

Dr. and Mrs. Mann plan to return to Hyde County to make their home at the family homeplace near Engelhard.

Dr. Mann left his native Hyde County nearly 50 years ago to train in soil science at N. C. State and Cornell, serving half of his career as a State Experiment Station scientist and half as an industrial scientist building technical teamwork between official agriculture and industry.

Under his leadership, the institute supported many soil fertility milestones at the invitation of official agriculture. He saw soil and plant testing become an accepted science, fertilizer placement methods improved for efficient use of high-analysis fertilizers and the principle of plant food removal by major crop yields more widely taught.

PARK SERVICE UNITS SHOW GREAT INCREASE IN YEAR JUST CLOSED

More persons visited National Park Service attractions on the Dare Coast during 1963 than during any previous year.

Cape Hatteras National Seashore with 873,281 visitors during the year ending December 31, showed an increase of 34.5 percent over 1962 when 649,260 persons were counted.

The annual reports just released by the Superintendent of NPS installations reflected that there were 175,714 persons tent camping in designated campsites of the Seashore, 57,744 in trailers plus approximately 11,000 in undesignated camping areas.

Of the total 350,864 visited the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse area. There were 31,195 persons visiting the area in December 1963 or 42.6 percent more than in December 1962. This increase was largely due to the opening of the new Herbert C. Bonner Bridge across Oregon Inlet which replaced the ferries.

Next largest increase was noted at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site where 136,712 visitors in 1963 was 23.6 percent more than in 1962 when 110,522 persons entered the area including those who attended performances of The Lost Colony.

See PARK, Page Four

LARISA GAIL MEEKINS,
JUST LESS THAN THREE



LARISA GAIL MEEKINS, 2, the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Roger P. Meekins of Manteo and Selfridge AF Base, Michigan, died last Friday, Jan. 3, in Detroit Children's Hospital following a brief illness. She was born March 15, 1961.

Funeral services were held in Detroit, and burial was in the cemetery near Manteo Wednesday morning.

In addition to the parents, she is survived by her paternal grandfather, Mrs. D. Victor Meekins of Manteo; her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin C. Sharp of Florence, Ala.; three great-grandmothers, Mrs. Betty McGee, and Mr. and Mrs. Homer Sharp of Florence; one aunt, Mrs. Sam Carrington of Manteo and Chapel Hill; one uncle, Francis Meekins of Manteo; two great-aunts, Mrs. W. S. Meekins and Miss Estelle Meekins of Manteo; two great-uncles, William and H. M. McGee of Florence.



WE HAVE LOST A BIT OF HEAVEN

Death's opal draperies were drawn cruelly and abruptly shut last Friday on one of the most treasured bits of Heaven we have ever known.

Larisa Gail was a beautiful child, perfect in features and physique, endowed with an angelic smile; she never cried except from pain. The patter of her feet, and her happy laughter filled our home with joy on every visit. The last time we saw her was in November.

She was the product of the most painstaking and loving care of good and devoted parents. She had been blessed with good advantages. Yet the icy claw of Michigan winter reached out and took her from us while she was ecstatically in the midst of lavish Christmas joys as she had never known.

This cruel blow has reopened in painful memory many old wounds endured through the years when grief in like manner struck our faithful friends.

We strive in vain to pierce the veil to find a reason that tragedy should strike any parents, so innately decent and good as are hers. There is no reason to be seen.

There is some comfort in the memory that we were, even though for less than three years, with this beautiful angel, flesh of our flesh and blood of our blood. We have had a treasure greater than many others have shared. This memory we can carry in our hearts as a priceless treasure to offer comfort when time has helped assuage the bitter grief of this hour.

We are indebted to the Great Unknown for what has been vouchsafed us, if even for so short a span. We owe something in return—to rededicate ourselves to doing good for others, to bear witness to ours, humility, faith and gratitude for so much of God's goodness. Let no one feel that Heaven will drop its richest blessings into hands that have never learned to hold them. We will always weep on the grave of our dear one; we must also weep for others too.

GRANDDADDY

NEWSPAPER'S FOUNDER
DIES WEDNESDAY AT 66



DANIEL VICTOR MEEKINS, 66, founder of The Coastland Times, and at the time of his death postmaster of Manteo, died shortly before 8 a.m. Wednesday in a Norfolk hospital. He had been hospitalized since shortly before Christmas, just a few days after participating in the 60th anniversary observance of the Wright Brothers' first flight at Kill Devil Hills.

After entering the hospital with what appeared to be a mild heart condition, he suffered a series of severe attacks, the final coming abruptly, quietly, closing a long career of devoted service to the region he loved.

A native of Roanoke Island, he was born July 19, 1897, the son of the late Daniel and Rowena Homer Meekins. He attended public schools on Roanoke Island and business college in Elizabeth City. His first newspaper experience was with the late W. O. Saunders of Elizabeth City on the independent, during which time he devoted much effort to stories of the then undeveloped region now so familiarly known as the Outer Banks.

But the voice of a newspaper many miles distant did not satisfy his yearning, and in 1935 with limited capital but boundless spirit, The Dare County Times (Coastland Times) began publication. Under his leadership the newspaper waged many campaigns, emerging victorious for most of the treasured accomplishments throughout Dare County and the Southern Albemarle Region. In addition to The Coastland Times, he had also operated newspapers in Belhaven, Swan Quarter and Columbia.

A staunch Democrat, he was elected to the post of sheriff in 1928, continuing in that capacity until 1946. He twice served as chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners, 1948-50 and 1958-60. In 1956, he was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention held in Chicago.

He was appointed postmaster in the spring of 1962, and permanent appointment was made in October of 1962; he was currently serving as president of the Eastern N. C. Postmasters Association.

At the time of his death, he was vice-president of the Southern Albemarle Association, an area development agency originally comprising the counties of Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington; and later enlarged to include Beaufort and Martin; and which he had established with the aid of far-sighted public citizens in neighboring counties as well as Dare. During his last few days he was formulating plans for the forthcoming celebration of the Herbert C. Bonner bridge spanning Oregon Inlet.

From 1943 to 1945 he was secretary of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association and was vice president at the time of his death. He was also long active in affairs of the Roanoke Island Historical Association, producers of the Lost Colony.

During his newspapering career, he originated many popular features.

NOTE: "Then and Now," as published in the adjoining column, is the evident last piece of writing, prepared shortly before the passing Wednesday morning of Daniel Victor Meekins, founder and guiding light of this newspaper since its establishment. Another bit of Heaven has gone the way of all flesh.

COROLLA'S MAIL ROUTE VIA WATER CHANGES TO LAND

New Jeep Delivery Will End an Era of Transportation from Currituck Mainland

By A. G. O'NEAL

On January 10, 1964, the village of Corolla and the rest of the villages on the Currituck Beach strip of the Outer Banks will lose the last connecting link with its county seat and the Currituck County mainland. On this date the Corolla mail boat will make its last trip from Corolla ending a service that started nearly seventy years ago, bringing with it The Coastland Times and other newspapers.

In August of 1963, Mr. Will Ross of Coinjock, the 80-year-old mail carrier who had served as carrier for eleven years, died of a heart attack, leaving his widow, Mrs. Mabel Ross solely responsible for executing his contract which would have expired this coming July. Since his death the mail service to Corolla has been an irregular one with frequent interruptions of service as the mail was carried by anyone Mrs. Ross could locate to do so. This brought about the plan to discontinue the water route in favor of establishing a land route from Kitty Hawk, and will enable Mrs. Ross to maintain her job as carrier at Waterlily which before was a part of the Corolla mail contract.

Today old timers, hearts are turning to the sad day in history when their boat will cease to be no more in favor of a four-wheel-drive jeep. It is happy days for those who can remember when Corolla was first served by a sailboat then the change to a motor boat which made the trip to the mainland in twenty minutes, bringing their county seat to their doorsteps. Corolla citizens for years now who listened for the sound each morning of the approaching boat that brought with it distinguished visitors, tourist, and "company" for the citizens of Corolla as well as grocery supplies, and freight will hear silence now.

Corolla, due to its not having any hard surface roads, making driving only on the beach at low tide has always been more readily accessible by boat than by land when a conscientious effort was made to do so, except during the winter months with an occasional freeze their mail service has been a regular one by boat. Taking into consideration the hardships of driving the beach and making a scheduled mail delivery, this proposal brought about from mild to bitter resentment to the citizens of Corolla, who feel they will suffer a deep personal loss with the loss of this boat.

These citizens petitioned the Post Office Department to maintain their water service but it was in vain as their petition conflicted with those reports of persons who didn't take time to understand or perhaps had other motives. So on January 11, Corolla will have a new mail service by land, one in which its citizens will be awaiting and praying earnestly that it will be a satisfactory one, then perhaps their sacrificing for the past six months will not have been in vain.

Harris Gets Contract
Postmaster, Norris W. Austin announced that effective January 11, mail service to Corolla will be over land from Kitty Hawk. Scheduled arrival of the incoming mail is at 1:50 p.m. The outgoing will be dispatched at 2 p.m. On January 10, the water route from Coinjock.

PIRATE JAMBORAMA PLANNING MEET TO BE HELD JAN. 17TH

A discussion of plan relative to the Dare Coast Pirates Jamborama will be held in the private dining room of Manteo Motel Restaurant on Friday evening, January 17, it was announced today by Lionel Edwards, chairman of the Spring Vacation-launching event last year. All interested persons are urged to attend the meeting.

Already David Stick, king of the pirates is growing his beard for the event. Among the things to be discussed will be the matter of whether the fiesta, which has brought national publicity to the Dare Coast and also influenced an earlier beginning of the vacation season in recent years, will be staged as a one week end event or if it will be continued for four consecutive week ends, it was stated.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES WILL BE DECIDED TUESDAY; REDISTRICTING MAIN ISSUE

Light Turnout of Voters Anticipated, Especially in Dare County Where Special Registration Has Turned Out Only 40 Persons; Polls Open From 6:30 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.

HATTERAS CIVIC GROUP OUTLINES GOALS FOR 1964

Medical Center, Youth Program and Post Office Lead New Year's Proposals

The Hatteras Village Civic Association at its January meeting outlined goals for the coming year:

- To complete and staff the new medical center.
- Incorporate the Civic Association.
- Build a new post office.
- Acquire the old community building, dispose of same and erect new facilities.
- Make an all out effort to provide a community youth program.

Jim Mullen reported on the progress of the medical center and said that an architect had been hired and was ready to present initial drawings of the hospital. A lawyer is arranging the necessary charter to make it a non profit organization with any profits to be given to a worthy island charity. A decision about who the doctor will be is to be made by the hospital committee before the next Civic Association Meeting.

President Carlos Oden proposed a meeting between the Executive Board of the Civic Association and the Library Board, who now hold title to the Community Building, to discuss the future of that property and what can be done to make it a better place in our village.

President Oden appointed Stockton Midgett, Edith Stoves and Miller Gray to serve on a committee with Juanita Peole to aid her in her efforts to provide a youth program for the community.

JEFF PAUL IS NEW PRESIDENT C. H. ANGLERS

Jeff Paul has been elected President of the Cape Hatteras Anglers Club for 1964. Other officers are John Wasili, vice-president; Mrs. Amelia Paul secretary, and Harry Lange treasurer.

The following persons will serve on the Executive Committee for 1964: Mrs. Ormond Fuller, Rany Jemette, Wheeler Laine, Fatio Gray, Mrs. Kitty Lourie, Edgar Hooper, Edison Meekins, Bill Dillon, A. V. Chick Scarborough and Russell Ochs.

The club membership contest closed on Dec. 31 with the following winners:

- Channel bass (from boat) — "Ace" Horneoff, Audubon, N. J. 49 lbs.
- Channel bass (from surf) — Edgar Hooper, Buxton, 48 1/2 lbs.
- Mackerel — Joe Loviner Hampton, Va., 3 lbs.
- Bluefish — Bert Dixon, Buxton, 4 lbs. 1 oz.
- Kingfish — Edgar Hooper Buxton, 2 lbs. 4 oz.
- Gray trout — Harold E. Grimm, Washington, D. C., 1 lb. 9 oz.
- Plounder — Mrs. Wanda Brinkman, Rockville, Md. 4 lbs. 3 oz.
- Speckled trout — Charles Williams, Avon, 4 lbs. 3 oz.

Winners in the ladies' competition were:

MRS. KATHERINE AUSTIN, HATTERAS NATIVE DIES

Mrs. Katherine Stowe Austin 79, died Wednesday in a Raleigh hospital after illness of four years.

A lifelong resident of Hatteras, her parents were Caleb and Mrs. Mary Burrus Stowe. She was the widow of James Monroe Austin.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Moggieann Brown of Marshallburg and Mrs. Mary Harlow Styron of Norfolk; a sister, Mrs. Maggie Wade of Hatteras; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

A funeral service will be held Saturday at 2 p.m. in Hatteras Methodist Church, of which she was a member, by the Rev. Wayne Wingfield. Burial will be in Oden Cemetery.

Little interest has been shown thus far by many citizens in the approaching special election to be held next Tuesday, January 14, when voters throughout North Carolina will go to the polls to decide the fate of two amendments to the State Constitution.

In Dare County, there have been approximately 40 new registrations, reports the Chairman of the Board of Elections, Jack C. Tillett, who also stated that he didn't expect much turnout—perhaps no more than 500—on election day. A special three-Saturday registration for new voters concluded last Saturday.

A facsimile of the ballot to be used Tuesday is published elsewhere in today's issue. For enlightenment of those not previously informed of the issues to be settled, we reprint herewith explanations from a pamphlet prepared by Wade Bruton, attorney general of North Carolina, and issued by Secretary of State Thad Eure.

AMENDMENT NO. 1. SPECIAL SESSION AMENDMENT—LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION. (Submitted by Ch. 2 Extra Session Laws of 1963)

The State Senate would be increased to 70 members (at present 50), biennially elected from districts with a population per senator within 25% of the total population of the State divided by 70. The Constitution now requires Senatorial Districts to contain, as near as may be, an equal number of inhabitants. Present constitutional requirements of Senatorial Districts of contiguous territory, and prohibitions against the division of a county among Districts unless entitled to two or more senators, are continued. Senatorial redistricting and reapportionment is made compulsory upon the General Assembly convening in 1965 and after any Federal census. Should any General Assembly fail to discharge its constitutional duties with respect to senatorial redistricting and reapportionment, the amendment requires that a Senatorial Redistricting Commission shall convene and carry out the constitutional mandate. The Commission shall consist of the President of the Senate and one senator appointed by him, the Speaker of the House and one representative appointed by him, and an additional senator or representative appointed by the Governor.

The State House of Representatives biennially elected from each county. By law the State presently has one hundred counties. Present constitutional provisions compose the House of 120 members. Of these each county with less than 1/120 of the State's census population elects one member and each of the more populous counties elects one or more of the remaining members, allotted to it according to a formula primarily based upon population. The proposed amendment would, in effect, reduce the membership of the House of Representatives from 120 to 100 members, elected one by the electors of each of the counties of the State, regardless of population.

The proposed amendment continues the former provisions of the Constitution in effect as to the composition, nomination and election of members of the House and Senate of the General Assembly of 1965. Appropriate legislation of that Assembly must implement the new constitutional amendment as to revised Senatorial Districts and apportionment of the 70 Senators. The Senatorial Redistricting Commission must act upon a failure of the General Assembly of 1965 to do so. The composition of the General Assembly and election of its members in 1966, shall be governed by the new constitutional provisions and laws enacted pursuant thereto.

AMENDMENT NO. 2. REGULAR SESSION AMENDMENT—MARRIED WOMEN'S PROPERTY RIGHTS. (Submitted by Ch. 1209—1963)

See VOTE, Page Four