

# Telephone Toll Lines May Be Abolished

## Warren Tax Rate Upped To \$1.98

Warren County's tax rate will be \$1.98 on the one hundred dollars valuation under a tentative budget approved by the Board of County Commissioners here Tuesday morning. The budget will lie open for 20 days for the inspection of citizens before its adoption.

The tentative rate of \$1.98 represents an increase of 10c over the 1959-60 rate. Part of the raise was caused by the need to raise funds to pay for revaluation of Warren County real estate, and was held to the \$1.98 figure by requiring a 6c cut in school funds.

In one of the quietest sessions in several months, the commissioners passed a resolution endorsing the consolidation of the Warrenton and Norlina telephone exchanges, after

Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company officials had appeared to offer to remove the toll lines between the two towns with no increase in rates other than such increase as would be brought about by more telephones on the combined exchange.

A beer license was ordered issued to Fernie L. Miller (Miller's Grocery), North Main Street.

A. P. Rodwell, Jr., Tax Collector, reported taxes collected to date in the amount of \$307,268.40. Of this amount \$3,669.62 was collected in June.

S. E. Allen, Register of Deeds, reported 50 marriage licenses issued for the quarter ending June 30, 1960, for which \$250.00 was turned into the general fund.



DR. WILLIAM BURNS JONES, JR.

## New Health Officer Begins Duties Here

Dr. William Burns Jones, Jr., 29, began his duties as Health Officer of Warren County on July 1.

Dr. Jones is a native of Beaufort, S. C. He attended school at the Citadel in Charleston, S. C., where he received his B. S. degree in 1951. Following his graduation from the Citadel, he attended the Medical College of South Carolina where he obtained his M. D. in 1955. Dr. Jones interned at St. John's Episcopal Hospital in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Following his internship, Dr. Jones served as Medical Missionary in Alaska from September, 1956, to May, 1959. Since he returned from Alaska he has been at the School of Public Health of the University of North Carolina from which he received his M. P. H. degree in June.

Dr. Jones was married to the former Miss Marcia Bell of Pittsburgh, Pa., in June, 1959. He and Mrs. Jones are making their home at the Draper house on South Main Street. He is a member of the Episcopal Church.

Dr. Jones said this week that both he and Mrs. Jones

like Warrenton very much and that he is looking forward to his work in Warrenton.

He said that the Health Center office hours would be from 9 to 5 each week day and from 9 to 12 on Saturday.

Dr. Jones is Warren County's first full time health officer. For a number of years the late Dr. A. D. Gregg served both Warren and Vance Counties on a part-time basis. Since the death of Dr. Gregg in December, 1957, Dr. L. M. Kornegay, chief of staff and surgeon at Warren General Hospital, has served as acting Health Officer on a part time basis.

## Frank Banzet Gets Hole-in-One

Frank Banzet, Warrenton attorney, recently showed that it is possible for two brothers to make a hole-in-one on the same golf course and on the same hole.

Frank Banzet got his hole-in-one on No. 5 last week. His brother, Julius Banzet, on two occasions in recent years made a hole-in-one on this hole.

A plan for the elimination of telephone toll lines between Warrenton, Norlina and Macon, has been approved by governing bodies of the three towns, the board of county commissioners and the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Under this plan, first submitted by telephone officials at a joint meeting of the boards of commissioners of Warrenton and Norlina here on Thursday night of last week, no increase of rates is called for except those called for by a large number of telephones.

No premium is asked for removal of the toll lines and the consolidated rates would be the same as if there had been no toll line separating the three exchanges.

Under the proposed rates, telephone charges would drop on the Macon Exchange in every category, because Macon agreed to a premium rate when its exchange was consolidated with that of Warrenton a few

years ago.

The largest increase in rates would occur at Norlina in business phones where the rates would increase \$2.00 a month on one-party phones and \$1.75 on two-party phones.

At Warrenton the rate for one-party business phones would be upped 75c and two-party business phones would be upped 50c a month.

Residential phone charges at Norlina would also be slightly higher than on the Warrenton Exchange. On one-party residential phones the rates at Norlina would be increased 50c on both one-party and two-party phones, and the rate on 4-party phones would be upped 25c a month.

At Warrenton, the residential rates on both one-party and two-party phones would be upped 50c a month, with no increase in multiple-party phones. There also will be no increase in extension telephone

Ted Williamson of Rocky Mount, district manager, who appeared before the two boards here Thursday night with D. F. Holloway of Henderson, local manager, told the board members that Norlina would have the greatest rate increase because it would obtain the largest gain in phones through the consolidation.

Williamson said that at present about two-thirds of the phones were on the Warrenton Exchange, and one-third of the phones on the Norlina, which accounted for the present difference in rates and greater increase at Norlina when the exchanges are combined. If the new rates are adopted, he said, the same rates would apply on all the exchanges.

Neither Norlina or Warrenton would lose their identity under the consolidation plan, as exchanges would be main-

tained in each town and phones would be listed by towns, Williamson said.

Williamson said that due to fortuitous circumstances the telephone company was about to make this offer to phone users who would be affected by the consolidation and that he feels that elimination of the tolls between the three towns would be a good thing for the telephone company and for the subscribers. "We feel," he said, "that anything that is good for a community is good for the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company."

He said that company officials had observed the work in Warrenton of the Industrial Development Commission, and that he believed telephone consolidation would aid in the continued development of the county.

Williamson said that he believed that endorsement of the unification of the telephone systems by the boards of commissioners of the three towns affected, by the board of county commissioners, and by the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company would be sufficient to win the approval of the Utilities Commission for the consolidation. He said, however, before approval would be given by the commission that it would call a public hearing where any objecting groups might be heard.

The board of commissioners of Warrenton, who were in their regular meeting place, unanimously passed a resolution endorsing the plan submitted by the telephone company.

Commissioners of Norlina also approved the plan, but deferred action until their regular meeting at Norlina on Tuesday night, due to a possible legal technicality.

Representing Norlina at the meeting here last Thursday night were Mayor Graham Grissom, and Commissioners R. L. Traylor, E. G. Hecht and P. J. Harton.

The board of county commissioners gave their approval at their regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon after Williamson and Holloway had appeared to explain the plan.

Macon's approval is expected as soon as the board of commissioners of that town meet, following the return of Mayor Drake to Macon from New York.

Williamson said that it would take from a year to eighteen months to affect the change-over after approval by the Utilities Commission.

## Five Warren Men Named To Recreation Board

Five Warren County citizens were appointed as members of a newly created tri-county planning board for the Gaston Lake area by the board of county commissioners here Tuesday.

William Leach and Marvin Newsom of Littleton, Freddie Hicks of Wise, Howell Steed of Afton and Claude T. Bowers of Warrenton were named as Warren County representatives on the 15-man board to be made up of citizens of Warren, Halifax and Northampton counties.

Initial plans for the forming of the planning board were made at a meeting at Littleton on last Thursday night when representatives of the three counties were present at a dinner meeting over which Dr. C. H. Woodburn of Littleton presided.

Duties of the planning board will be to plan for the development of the areas surrounding the large lake to be formed by the Gaston Dam to be constructed by the Virginia Electric and Power Company.

Robert Barbour, head of the N. C. Department of Conservation and Development's Division of Community Planning, said the people in the area must combine coordination with cooperation in order to make any sort of planning effective. He said the state agencies are willing to help with advice but the people must make their own decisions about

the type of development they want.

Robert Sipe, an assistant director of the N. C. Institute of Government told the group that federal grants are available to aid planning boards under certain conditions.

Planning First

He warned that planning should begin before the development of the lake itself starts and that many times the results are unsatisfactory when too much of the planning is turned over to outsiders.

He pointed out the necessity of establishing a zoning commission. He said the city of Roanoke Rapids is the only municipality in the area with legislative authority to zone more areas outside its corporate limits.

Thomas E. Broughton, chief of the Conservation and Development Community Section, said the developed area might be more suitable for recreational facilities than for industry. Hubert Henderson of the N. C. Recreation Commission supported those sentiments.

Henderson said he had traveled the complete lake area and found it to have tremendous recreational possibilities.

Walter Dolbear, a VEPCO vice president, emphasized the need for rezoning and said that "spot" zoning after development begins might lead to court action.

## New Postoffice To Be Constructed At Norlina

Norlina is to have a new postoffice.

Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield announced yesterday that a new Post Office has been authorized for Norlina. This announcement, the Postmaster General advised, coincides with the optioning by Post Office Department Regional Officials of site meeting Departmental requirements as to cost, area and location.

"This new and modern post office facility," Postmaster General Summerfield said, "will be constructed under the Post Office Department's Commercial Leasing Program." Mr. Summerfield said, "Because these postal buildings remain under private ownership while leased to the Federal Government, the lessor pays local real estate taxes.

"Furthermore, because the buildings are constructed with private investment funds, capital outlays by the Post Office Department are limited substantially to those for Post Office furniture and equipment."

Postmaster General Summerfield indicated the need for replacement of 12,000 more of the nation's post offices because of lack of space and obsolescence.

Mr. Summerfield noted that during the last session of Congress, Congressional approval was given to the Postal Program which will provide in 1960 alone, 1400 new post of-

ices. Ultimately a total of 12,000 badly-needed post offices to replace obsolete facilities will be built under this lease program, in every part of the nation.

Mr. Summerfield emphasized the goal of the Post Office Department to provide its patrons with the most modern and efficient mail service in the world. "The construction of a new Post Office for Norlina is an example of this postal progress," he pointed out.

"The Norlina Post Office," he observed, "will be a major link in our newly-revitalized and modern postal service, aimed at an ultimate goal of next-day delivery of mail anywhere in the nation."



POSTMASTER GENERAL SUMMERFIELD

struction value will be established on a competitive basis.

"The site option," the Postmaster noted, "will be transferred to the successful bidder, who will purchase the land, and then construct the building to Post Office Department specification and lease it to the Department on a long-term basis, with lease renewal options running up to five years."

"More than 4,200 new Post Offices have been built since 1953 under the Post Office Department's unique Commercial Leasing Program." Mr. Summerfield said. "Because these postal buildings remain under private ownership while leased to the Federal Government, the lessor pays local real estate taxes.

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## Two Men Arrested; Boy Is Cited In Norlina Raid

Two men were arrested and a 17-year-old boy was cited to appear in Recorder's Court as the result of an early Sunday morning raid on a tourist court near Norlina long to be believed to have been selling beer to minors.

Sheriff Jim Hundley personally led a raid on the Wigwam Tourist Court one-half mile south of Norlina on Highway 1 at 12:30 a. m. Sunday. Accompanying him on the raid were Deputies Herbert Rooker and Bonnie Stevenson and Warrenton Township Constable Douglas Vaughan.

Following the raid, Robert Edwards, proprietor of the tourist court, and Sherman Nelson, an employee, were arrested and Larry Reid, 17, was cited to appear in court.

Officers relate as they entered the tourist court they saw Sherman Nelson serve a can of beer to Larry Reid, and that nearby another boy, about 17, was drinking beer. The name of this boy was not revealed.

The officers also said they found eight beer cans which had been opened setting on a counter, a case of beer in the drink box, and several empty

beer cans under the counter. Several persons were in the tourist court when the officers arrived, but many of these hurriedly departed.

Sheriff Hundley said that a search of Edward's car in the court lot revealed eight pints of legal whiskey, and when a search warrant was obtained and a search made evidence of a card game was found in an upstairs room.

Hundley said that Edwards was selling beer without a license, after hours and to minors. Both Edwards and Nelson, he said, may be charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

He said that most of the occupants of the tourist court dining room when the raid was made were teen-agers.

Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Dew and daughter, Janet, of Washington, D. C., Mrs. Bob Shockley and daughter, Tammie, of Mass., and Misses Nita Cochran and Becky Willey of Weldon were holiday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Glover and Miss Jackie Glover.

Mrs. Bettie Bowden of Broomall, Pa., is visiting relatives in the county.

## Bridge Site Hearing Held

Highway officials heard conflicting views about the proper site for the location of a bridge across the Roanoke River at a meeting attended by about 200 persons from Warren, Halifax, and Northampton counties at a meeting held at Littleton on Thursday morning.

A recording of the testimony was made under the direction of Sam Beard, public relations officer for the State Highway Commission, who conducted the hearing. This recording will be transcribed for later study by the Highway Commission before any decision is reached.

Dennis Rose, Mayor of Littleton, called the meeting to order and welcomed the delegations to Littleton before turning the meeting over to Beard.

Present at the meeting was Highway Commissioner Fletcher Gregory of Weldon, and a large number of highway officials, as well as R. N. Hutcheson, vice president of Virginia Electric and Power Company, and a number of other power company officials.

After Hutcheson had spoken briefly about the history and progress of the Gaston Dam, and after J. L. Norris, hydrographic engineer with the State Highway Commission, had told about the choosing of Robinson Ferry as the possible site

of the dam, the meeting was thrown open to the public and arguments raged back and forth for about an hour and a half.

In the afternoon, the abandonment and re-routing of several roads because of the building of the Gaston Reservoir was discussed.

A group of Warren County citizens' some five years ago petitioned Governor Hodges to replace the Eaton Ferry with a bridge at that point to connect Roanoke Township with the remainder of Warren County, and the governor allocated some \$300,000 for that purpose.

The building of the bridge was delayed for several years, depending a decision as to whether or not VEPCO would be able to build a dam at Gaston. Anticipated flooding of the lake, made the building of a bridge at Eaton's Ferry economically unsound, and Highway Engineers sought another site, which the engineers approved, and also had surveyed a road from Five Forks in Sixpound Township to this point.

Three weeks ago Highway Department officials appeared before the Board of Warren County Commissioners and told that body that the Robinson Ferry site had been approved and asked for their en-

dorsement of this and other road projects for the coming fiscal year. The approval for the site was given by the Commissioners.

At or about the same time a group of Littleton citizens as well as interested parties in Halifax and Northampton counties came up with a substitute site at Cur's Hill in Halifax County just across the Warren County line. They contended that it was a more logical place for the bridge and asked the Highway Commission for a hearing.

The Highway Engineers figure that the Cur's Hill site would cost at least \$300,000 more than the Robinson Ferry site and that the bridge would have to be 700 feet longer. They also said that the Robinson Ferry site would be near or equal distance between the Gaston and Kerr Lake dams.

The great majority of the support for the Cur's Hill site came from Littleton, with some support from Halifax County and from Northampton County and the endorsement of the Rocky Mount Chamber of Commerce. Opposition centered around Warrenton, Norlina, and Macon, with some opposition from Roanoke Township, and one man from Virginia speaking for the Robinson Ferry site.

Principal argument for the Cur's Hill site was summed up by Mayor Rose. He said that the Cur's Hill site might be a little more expensive, but worth the difference. The bridge here, he said, would serve more people, was near the widest part of the proposed lake which would tend to its development and the bridge here would work in better with the plans of the tri-county development commission. He said he felt that the Highway Department should build for the future and for the development of recreation and for the tourist trade.

Shield Alexander, chairman of the Board of Commissioners of Halifax County, said that his board had endorsed the Cur's Hill site and that he endorsed the remarks of Mr. Rose.

Marvin Newsom, Littleton business man, also added his endorsement to that of Rose. In addition he pointed out that the bridge site was only 9.5 miles North of Littleton, and pointing to the eastern corner of Roanoke Township on the map, he said that the distance from Roanoke Township to Warrenton by way of Cur's Hill was only about eight miles further than by Robinson Ferry. Newsom also said Negro

## Norlina Tax Rate Set At \$1.50 In Tentative Budget

Norlina's tax rate for the 1961-62 fiscal year will show no change.

The town commissioners on Tuesday night adopted a tentative budget calling for a tax rate of \$1.50, the same rate that has been in effect for several years.

The commissioners also approved the abolishing of telephone toll charges between the Norlina and Warrenton exchanges under a plan submitted by the Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company.

Considerable time of the commissioners was consumed in a discussion of the stray dog problem at Norlina. While all agreed that it is imperative that something be done to abate what has become a nuisance, no definite plans were worked out at the meeting.

Visit Washington

Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Abbott and daughter, Vivian, and Mr. and Mrs. James Short and son, Wayne, visited points of interest in Washington, D. C., and toured Skyline Drive the Shenandoah Valley and West Virginia during the holiday week-end.

## Miles Announces Cash Winners

Winners in the drawing for five \$10.00 cash prizes on the court house square Saturday at 5:30 p. m. were announced this week by R. M. Miles, chairman of the Warrenton Merchants Pro-Fourth of July Celebration of Values.

They were Frank Newell, Jr., A. W. Stephenson, Frank Carroll and Bonnie Robbins, all of Warrenton, and Fred Paynter of South Hill, Va. Only Stephenson was present at the drawing.

The Celebration of Values was sponsored by the Warrenton Merchants Association. Miles said that a large crowd was present for the drawing and described it as very successful.

## To Let Contract For Parsonage

The contract for the building of a parsonage for the newly created Methodist Station is expected to be let this week, Raby L. Traylor said yesterday.

The Rev. Charles E. Vail and family, who have been living in the parsonage of the Norlina Charge, have moved into the Fred E. Hicks home at White where they will make their home until the new parsonage is completed.

In Raleigh

Mrs. Daphne F. Clark of Littleton is a patient at Hospital where she is being observed and treated.