

# The Warren Record

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Member North Carolina Press Association

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## Obligation Of Citizens

Parents of 100 Wake County school children who are attending school in nearby South Granville School in Granville County have asked that the Wake County Board of Education pay the cost of \$140 a pupil which is to be charged by the Granville Board of Education.

In a recent editorial asking that Wake County give an unqualified yes, The Raleigh Times gave several reasons, including lower cost and convenience, why these students should continue to go to the South Granville School at Creedmoor. While most of the remarks of The Raleigh Times were addressed to a Wake County issue, some of the remarks should be of concern to schools

everywhere.

After stating that the "Wake school budget this year equals 82% of county revenue that comes from property tax," the newspaper adds:

"But support of its public schools is an obligation that goes with owning property in any county, regardless of whether the property-owner has children or not, or sends his children to private schools, county schools or some other county's schools. The schools are part of everyone's investment in the well-being and future development of the community where property lies."

And this is in a nutshell what we have been trying to say for a great many years.

## Trucks And Pollution

Most of the large diesel trucks that ply the highways of North Carolina appear to be in good mechanical shape, with good tires and efficient drivers. Many of them, perhaps most of them, have a tendency to exceed the speed limit. While this may not create a safety hazard, higher speeds increase the wear and tear on the highways.

Naturally, there are some exceptions to those trucks which are in good mechanical condition, which is reflected in carbon emission. A few days ago while en route to Durham a large diesel truck overtook and passed us as we pursued our 55-miles-per-hour route, and breezed on down the highway with smoke pouring from its exhaust pipe at a rate that made it look like a smokestack on one of the old coal-burning locomotives.

This truck was followed by scores of cars whose owners had paid quite a bit of money in added cost and reduced mileage in order to reduce carbon emission. If the highway patrol is permitted to stop cars in poor mechanical condition, one won-

ders why they can't stop trucks which fail to meet emission standards and require them to be taken off the road until their engines are repaired?

Granted that a downed truck is expensive to its owner and an inconvenience to the public it serves, we question the silk-glove treatment truck drivers receive. The average motorist on almost every trip of any length sees the highway patrol stopping speeding cars, as they should. This average motorist sees truck after truck exceeding the speed limits, but any arrests are rare on the highways; and rarely is a truck stopped in small towns because of a cut-out on a muffler.

We would certainly like to see a little more attention given to truck violations by our Highway Patrol. If there is any legitimate reason why large trucks must be permitted to open their cut-outs in small towns the Department of Transportation should explain this reason to the public; it would help improve the image of the Highway Patrol.

## "Dirty Little Secrets"

Southern Pines Pilot

For some time thoughtful people have been willing to admit that our criminal justice system is a failure.

It's a system which deals with the effect and not the cause of crime, and most of the time the efforts are simply those of applying a bandaid to a grievous wound.

Some years ago the Congress passed legislation which has funneled large amounts of money into law enforcement channels. It has improved the lot of law enforcement officers and provided them with more tools to do their jobs, but it has not reduced crime.

In North Carolina the Legislature has been debating the enactment of more stringent laws relating to crime-tougher statutes to put more people in jail and keep them there longer. Yet this is the state which even now has a larger prison population per capita than any other state in the country, and the crime rate keeps growing.

Obviously we are not solving the problems of crime or even making any progress toward it.

Recently some pertinent comment on the matter was made by Chief Robert Di Grazia, the former chief of police of Boston who now heads the Montgomery County, Maryland, police department. Speaking to fellow police chiefs, he said:

"We are not letting the public in on our era's dirty little secret that those who commit the crime that worries citizens most-violent street crime-are, for the most part, the products of poverty, unemployment, broken

homes, rotten education, drug addiction and alcoholism and other social and economic ills about which (law enforcement officers) can do little, if anything.

"Rather than speaking up, most of us stand silent and let politicians get away with law and order rhetoric that reinforces the mistaken notion that (we) can control crime."

In an editorial comment on Chief Di Grazia's speech, the Charlotte Observer added, "Our only regret is that he wasn't addressing the North Carolina legislature."

## Brotherly Fish Story

By BILLY ARTHUR

In The Chapel Hill Newspaper Here's a story about two brothers who fished together all the time. One of the brothers always caught fish, the other never did. One weekend when they'd planned a fishing trip, the fish-catching brother became sick and stayed home.

"You go anyway," said the sick brother. "Take my bait and my tackle and go catch some fish."

The other brother was thrilled. "I'm gonna catch fish today," he said to himself. So he fished with his brother's rod and reel and his bait, but after three hours had not a single nibble to show for his efforts.

Then, suddenly, the waters of the lake parted, and a huge fish stuck up his head.

"Where's your brother?" the fish asked.

## Mostly Personal

# Firemen's Burial Ritual Is Eloquent

By BIGNALL JONES

No longer do members of the Warrenton City Fire Department memorize the words of the Burial Ceremony of the North Carolina Volunteer Fire Department, and much of the beauty of its words have been lost through its reading by those who were never trained to read orally. But still the picture painted through its instruction and the eloquence of its words should not be permitted to fade away between the pages of a more than 50-year-old booklet.

In a copy of the "Proceedings of the Thirty-Sixth Annual Session of the North Carolina Volunteer Fire Association, held at Farmville, N. C., in August 1926" I re-read this service, the requirements of the dress and march of the firemen, the words of the Chaplain and the response of the firemen, and I was impressed in my old age as I was never impressed in my youth. Thus a copy of this beautiful burial service becomes the second part of a two-part article on the Warrenton City Firemen. It reads as follows:

### FIREMEN'S RITUAL - FUNERAL CEREMONIES

1.—The department should assemble in full uniform at headquarters, and if the services are to be held at a private house, should proceed in a body to such house. If the services are to be held in church or other public place, the body may be accompanied there from the house by a committee (or from six to twelve) and the balance of the department march from headquarters to such church or other public place.

2.—After the services at either place are conducted, the department should form in two lines outside the door and remain while the body is brought out and placed in the hearse.

3.—The department should then march in column of twos or fours immediately behind the hearse to the place of burial. If that distance be too considerable, they may be transported in vehicles to the gate of the place of burial, when the line should be formed as above indicated.

4.—The column having arrived at the foot of the grave double line will be formed as before, and the Chaplain, or some member acting as such, will take his position at the head of the grave.

5.—The casket being in position, all will uncover, weather permitting, and the Chaplain will then say or read:

BROTHERS: — The solemn occasion of our assembling together is the dissolution of the bonds which united the body with the spirit. We are born to die. Dust must return to dust, and the spirit to God who gave it. The solemn words which salute our ears proclaim that another spirit has passed from earth to the great unknown infinity. For this cause we are assembled among the habitation of the dead. Here around us they peacefully, quietly rest. The gentle wind may blow among the trees, the sunshine may gladden the earth, the fierce tempest may around them rage, and the busy world pass on, yet they heed not, We are here shown the uncertainty of human life, the certainty of death, the mutability of earthly things, and the vanity of human pretensions. Decay and death are written on every thing that lives.

The cradle and the coffin appear before us, and intervening space seems but a span. Yet it is strange, notwithstanding the evidence of mortal frailty that daily appears to us, that the sound of the tolling bell will so often fall upon ears and we heed not its admonition. Here, all thoughtless, we tread upon the green grass roof of the dark mansion whose chambers we must sooner or later occupy; for we know not, how soon the time will come for you and me to go hence and be known no more forever.

6.—The casket will then be lowered and the Chaplain

will then continue:

Brother, we lay thee down to rest. We loved thee here, and our remembrance of thee shall be pleasant. Thou may'st have had thy faults, and who of us hath not? But over them we cast the veil of Charity and Love, and while we mourn our loss, we will try to emulate thy virtues. Let us strive to live so that when we are called away from this terrestrial scene we may be prepared to give a good account of ourselves before the Throne of the Great Chief before whom we all must appear. We now commit the body of our deceased brother to the grave. "Earth to earth (the sexton will here go through the usual ceremony of dropping earth), ashes to ashes, dust to dust," hopefully looking to a joyful reunion with him in that peaceful abode beyond life's troubled dream, where separation and death are no more.

7.—He shall then continue:

Chaplain: I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.

Brethren: Blessed is the man who Thou chastenest and teachest him out of Thy Laws.

Chaplain: I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter days upon the earth; and though after my skin worms destroy my body, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself and mine eyes shall behold him and not another.

Brethren: My days are like a shadow that declineth, and I am withered like grass.

Chaplain: Man born of woman is of a few days, filled with trouble; he cometh forth like a flower and is cut down; he fleeth also as a shadow and continueth not.

Brethren: Cast thy burdens upon the Lord for He will sustain thee. His anger endureth for a night; but joy cometh in the morning.

Chaplain: Let us pray; O God, the protector of all who trust in thee, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; increase and multiply thy mercy, that Thou, being our ruler and guide, we may pass through things temporal, that we finally lose not the things eternal. Give unto us an increase of charity and brotherly love. Keep, we beseech Thee, O Lord, our organization with Thy perpetual mercy; let Thy continual pity cleanse and defend us; and because we cannot continue in safety without Thy succor, preserve us evermore by Thy help and goodness, and unto Thee we shall render praise forever. Amen.

8.—If there shall be any further service, the department shall remain at attention to the close, when the line shall be reformed for return as before.

### A CORRECTION

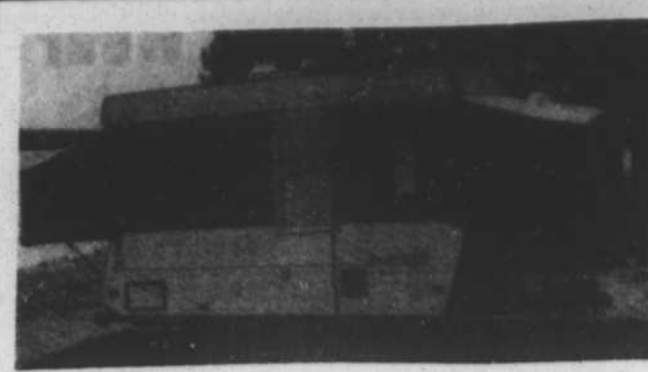
In this column last week it was incorrectly stated that A. S. Johnson preceded McCarroll Alston as Fire Chief of the Warrenton Fire Company. Alston followed Jimmie Roberts.

## Firemen Seeking Homes To Burn

The Warrenton Rural Fire Department is searching for abandoned homes in Warren County which are no longer fit for human habitation. Lt. Walter Gardner said the homes will be used for training purposes to improve the efficiency of the rural fire department.

Safety measures will be taken by the fire company to protect any enclosures that may be around some of the buildings to be burned, Gardner said.

Anyone that has such a building on his or her property should contact Gardner at 257-3104 from 9-5 p. m.



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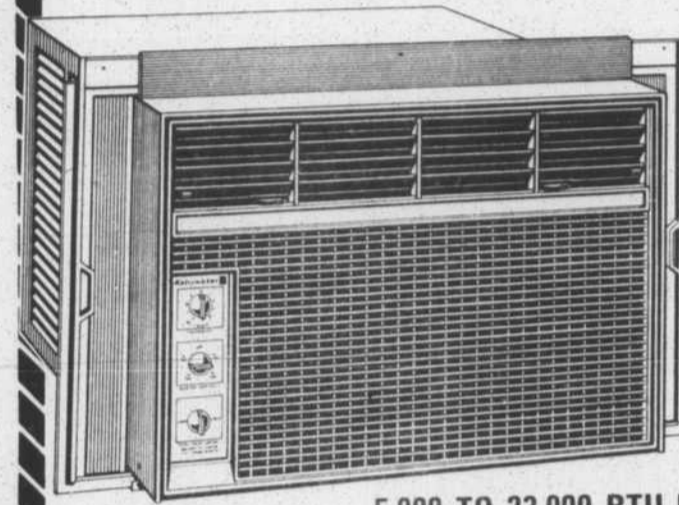
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