

The Warren Record

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BIGNALL JONES, Editor

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Fireboats On Lake Gaston

The suggestion of Wildwood Point Association that the three counties of Warren, Halifax and Northampton work together as a unit in establishing a fire boat on Lake Gaston appears to have merit and no doubt will receive the attention of the Warren County Board of Commissioners at its next meeting.

The three counties to which the Wildwood Point Association appealed should be enough for a base to place one or two fireboats on the lake, hopefully Mecklenburg and Brunswick Counties in Virginia may be interested in financing additional fireboats on the lake.

Nathan E. Thomas, President of the Wildwood Point Association, makes a good point in his claim for support when he says that about one-fourth of Warren County's tax base was created by the creation of Gaston lake, and that the tax valuation of Wildwood Point alone is nearly \$5 million, which is more than a third of the valuation of the Town of Warrenton.

Mr. Thomas said that the Gaston Lake contribution to the

support of Warren County is way beyond Warren County's contribution to Gaston Lake, and that the county commissioners could well justify any contribution that it might make for the establishment of fire boats on the lake. As an indication of the worth of fire boats on the lake, Thomas said that if fire boats which meet the approval of North Carolina and Virginia Fire Rating Bureaus were to be placed on Lake Gaston that his own insurance premium would be reduced \$40.

We would suppose that the Warren Commissioners would agree with the contention of Mr. Thomas and that it would like to see a number of fireboats on Lake Gaston as a part of Warren County's growing fire protection to rural areas. But we have an idea that the commissioners will plead no funds in the budget for increasing donations to rural fire companies, and that there are no emergency funds available. This is no doubt true and is but another example of what the cost of failing to levy reserve funds in setting its tax rate may be costing our citizens.

Fine Fish Fry

Any of the hundreds of Warren County residents who attended a fish fry held here last week by the Warren County Shrine Club will have no difficulty in putting in a good word for the meal.

Fresh flounder cooked to a golden brown was the meal's feature, and those who turned out at the Warrenton Lions Den to help consume 1500 pounds of fish were delighted at the really fine dinner.

Making the meal even more enjoyable was the knowledge that all of the proceeds will go toward helping the Shrine hospitals for crippled children, and for burn centers which

receive Shrine support. It was a wonderful meal inspired by worthwhile causes. The next time Shriners put on one of their fish feeds, and we hope it will be soon, we have a feeling that the waiting line will be lengthened by numbers of people not present last week who have since learned what they missed.

We salute the Warren County Shrine Club for a first-rate job, and we thank them for allowing so many to donate to a noble effort of charity in such an enjoyable manner.

Quotes

Did you hear about the rich Texan who bought his dog a little boy to play with? - Shelby Friedman in Quote.

To know what is right and not to do it is the worst cowardice. - Confucius.

One of the evils of democracy is that you have to endure the man you elected, whether you like him or not. - Will Rogers.

I don't know of anything better than a woman if you want to spend money where it'll show. - Kin Hubbard.

One of the happiest times in any man's life is when he is in red-hot pursuit of a dollar with a reasonable prospect of overtaking it. - Josh Billings.

It pays to be ignorant, for when you're smart you already know it can't be done. - Jeno F. Paulucci (who became a multimillionaire after a very small start on a shoestring).

A man who works with his hands is a laborer. A man who works with his hands and his brain is a craftsman. A man who works with his hands and his brains and his heart is an artist. - Louis Nizer.

Money-giving is a very good criterion, in a way, of a person's mental health. Generous people are rarely mentally-ill people. - Dr. Karl Menninger.

Mostly Personal Search For Turner's Grave Is Continuing

By BIGNALL JONES
Last Friday morning I had a delightful visit from Alton Pridgen, who lives in the Creek community of Fork Township near the home of his parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Wiley H. Pridgen. As is usually the case when talking with Alton, I found his conversation both interesting and informative.

When Dr. James Clark was in the office a week previously seeking to find some information about the burial place of Governor James Turner, I referred him to Alton, but up to that time he had not called. Alton said that he knew James Clark and praised him highly for his good bearing and said that he was highly intelligent. This I had learned during the some 30 minutes I had talked with him.

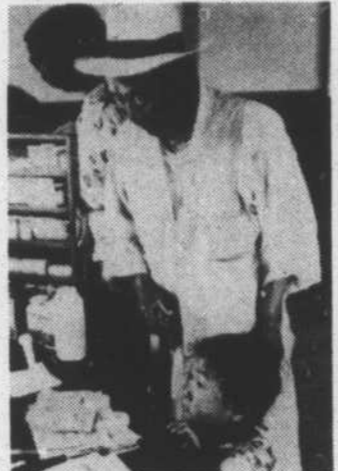
Alton made out a good case for Governor Turner being buried on or near the plantation of his father and as he talked I wished that I had with me a tape recorder in order that I may have obtained his account of the funeral. He said that his father and grandfather had told him that Governor James Turner was buried near his father's home, that his grandfather had attended the funeral and that his father had shown him the grave. He said that it had been incased in brick, but that persons visiting the grave had removed the bricks as a souvenir until none of the brick are now left. He said that Governor Turner had died at his plantation near Ridgeway (in 1824) and that his body had been removed to his home at Creek for burial. Alton said that he had been told that due to a bad storm it took the cortege two days to arrive at Creek. As soon as I am able I shall obtain a written or recorded record of the information given me.

When Dr. Clark was in the office, he mentioned that Peter Wilson, the brother of Mrs. Walter Montgomery who in the early Twenties wrote "Sketches of Old Warrenton," had written a book "Southern Exposure," which contained quite a bit of material about Warrenton. Thinking that there might be some reference to Governor Turner, I went to the local library where I was able to find a copy of this informative and delightful book written 50 years ago. Peter Wilson's grandmother was kin to Governor Turner and had spent some time in his home at Bloomsbury, but nothing that would help me solve the riddle of where Governor Turner is buried. Alton Pridgen has made a good case, but it must be substantiated before it can be accepted as an historical fact.

Reasoning that if I could find the year of his death, I might be able to find an account of his funeral in the newspaper of that day, I revisited the library. Welborn's History did not give me this date, and Ashe's History of North Carolina is not indexed. Finally I found in Wheeler's History of North Carolina as Mrs. Limer was closing the library at the end of the day that Governor Turner died at Bloomsbury near Ridgeway in 1824, but nothing about his funeral. That night I found in Mrs. Montgomery's "Sketches of Old Warrenton" that at the time of Governor Turner's funeral The Warrenton Reporter was being published in Warrenton. The next step is obviously to search the North Carolina Archives in the hope that there may be a copy of The Warrenton Reporter on file and that copy will contain an account of Governor Turner's funeral. Meanwhile, there remains a copy of Dr. Hawks History in the library and this is yet to be researched.

Alton Pridgen's conversa-

tion covered more than the subject of Governor Turner's final resting place. He gave me some additional information on a few of the items covered by Peter Wilson in his book, which I had found one of the most enjoyable books that I have read in many years; although written 50 years ago by a man then in late seventies, the book contains much of present day interest. I will later share some of this information in this column.



PRESCRIPTION... Child accompanied by grandfather waits for a prescription at one of the Seagrave Memorial Hospital's mobile clinics in Cholla Pukto Province, Korea, where the American Kor-Asian Foundation, Inc. is helping develop model health care services.

Herd Decreases

During the past six years, the estimated population of the western Arctic herd of caribou has dropped from 250,000 to between 60,000 and 50,000. The crisis seriously threatens the people in Alaska's inland villages, where hunters still depend heavily on the animal for food in the winter, reports the National Geographic Society's new book, "Still Waters, White Waters."

Card Of Thanks

The family of the late Mrs. Bell Hunter, would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to all those relatives, friends and acquaintances that sent flowers, cards, foods and all manners of kindness in their bereavement.

THE FAMILY

Letter To The Editor

Against Alcohol

To The Editor:

Why are there all warnings against tobacco, but none against alcohol? The worst killer receives no health warnings. This killer contributes heavily to the physical ailments of man, to the accidents and killing on the highways, to the poverty and injustice that permeate society. It is the worst of home-wreckers. It has lost more jobs, it has driven more minds to a loss of sanity. It has caused more disintegration of moral standards than any other one thing used by mankind. This enemy and deadly poison is alcoholic beverages, it is the most poisonous and destructive evil in this era. In the face of this real danger that has gained a stronghold on our society, no warning is given. Evils of alcohol can be summed up under four headings: crime, injury to health, economic evils, traffic accidents with injury to bodies and death.

Countless physical injuries are due to drinking, not all of them inflicted accidentally. A few drinks destroy self-control and decency that a man beats his neighbors, his wife, child abuse or total strangers. To mention cases of hunger and exposure that are incurred because money spent for drink cannot also buy food, clothing, shelter and fuel. Tax payers bear the cost of such for alcoholics to receive welfare. Our wonderful daily newspaper, Durham Morning Herald dated Monday, April 18, 1977 head lines, Admissions Climb Faster Than Cash at Umstead. Dr. Peter Irigaray, Superintendent of John Umstead Hospital stated nearly half the patients in Umstead are alcoholics. Dr. Irigaray also stated that alcoholics also have physical ailments connected with their addiction, there is a shortage of staff members and money. Citizens, think what a big problem this courageous doctor has. Are you and I forced to pay these bills (our tax dollars)?

Tobacco is not a big problem in Umstead hospital. I have friends that have emphysema that never smoked, what has caused this? I have friends that died from lung cancer that never smoked, will research please explain this?

Alcoholic beverage is a factor in over seventy percent of the crimes committed. These crimes are not all

such things as liquor law violations, public drunkenness, disorderly conduct, and driving while intoxicated. They include major crimes of violence such as murder, robbery, rape and others. Tobacco does not cause any of these.

Think of the many courageous, honorable law enforcement officers killed because of alcoholic beverages. What a disgraceful reward. Tobacco has never caused such. We become fatalistic about the problems we face saying in effect, "Whatever will be, will be." So excuse ourselves for doing nothing.

MRS. V. R. GRISSOM, SR.
Rt. 1, Box 168
Henderson, N. C.

Reunion Is Held At Riggan Home

A family reunion was held Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Riggan in Henderson. Mrs. Macon Moore, Sr., of Littleton returned thanks and a buffet dinner was served.

Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Bobbitt and children of Winston-Salem, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Riggan, Hodges Riggan of Meridian, Miss. Mrs. Jack M. Riggan and Mrs. Norman Lovell of Bronx, N. Y., Mrs. Macon Moore, Sr., Mrs. B. F. Morris and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard F. Morris, Jr., and children of Henderson, Miss Jacqueline Moore of Goldsboro and the Harry Riggans.

Lot Of Variety

More than 150 varieties of macaroni can be found in the nation's supermarkets.

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Wedding Announced

Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Couns of Raleigh announce the marriage of their daughter, Juliet Couns Siegel, to Dixon Henry Ward on August 17. They will make their residence in Lebanon, Tenn.

Reunion Planned

The family of Joseph and Mary Ann Hamm Peoples will hold their annual family reunion Sunday, August 28, at the Henderson Armory. All relatives are invited to come and bring a picnic lunch to be served at one o'clock.



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