

The Warren Record

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BIGNALL JONES, Editor

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Our Apologies

Everyone, of course, makes mistakes and sometimes it seems that we make more than our fair share. All mistakes are regretted and fortunately many of them are harmless except as they reflect on the accuracy and efficiency of this newspaper. Sometimes, unfortunately, they are worse. One last week is a case in point.

The appointment of Frank Ballance as attorney for the Warren County Board of Education was noted by The Warren Record reporter attending the meeting, but was omitted due to an error in this office.

Of course the appointment of Mr. Ballance to this office was

newsworthy, not only because he was the first black ever appointed to this office in the long history of Warren County, but because of his prominence and because it was the result of a tie being broken by the chairman, and because two members of the board who opposed the election of Mr. Ballance asked that their vote be recorded.

The Warren Record deeply regrets that it missed a "good" news story, in that it was delayed a week. Even more it regrets any injury and embarrassment that it may have caused Mr. Ballance and the members of the Board of Education, to whom we offer our apologies.

Deer Are Dangerous

We had occasion Saturday morning to travel through a heavily hunted section of Warren County and found deer hunters out in full force and the deer supply seemingly adequate. While the hunters were hunting mainly from the highway we failed to see any rifles in use and whether or not the present law is adequate, hunters seem to be obeying it.

The increase of the deer population offers a real problem to citizens of the southern part of the county through destruction of grains and gardens and this problem is being attacked by the Wildlife Commission. There is another and possibly a more serious problem offered by the deer and that is the threat

offered to motorists by these mammals. One driving from Rocky Mount to Warrenton drives with apprehension and well he or she may. A lady driving from Rocky Mount to Warrenton last week in a case of emergency became slightly annoyed by the slow pace of a truck ahead of her. This annoyance was abated when the truck was wrecked by a deer and she and her car were saved.

As long as there are as many deer as there are in this section we can expect to frequently learn of deer jumping in the path of motor vehicles. We think this danger can be reduced to some extent by better markings of deer crossings by the Wildlife Commission.

Hiring An 'Angel'

By HOOVER ADAMS
In The Dunn Daily Record

Tom Bowen, editor of The Harnett County News at Lillington, is the only fellow we know lucky enough to have a real live angel working for him.

She is Mrs. Angel Reagan of Coats, the paper's pretty advertising manager.

But even having an Angel around can present problems at times.

Tom is a tall, handsome fellow with a delightful personality and could attract all kinds of "angels" if he wanted to. But Tom has a beautiful wife named Lorraine, so he naturally isn't interested.

But Tom forgot to tell Lorraine that he had hired a new girl.

A few days after Angel started to work, Tom was talking with Lorraine on the phone. He suddenly remembered he had forgotten to give Angel a message.

"Just a minute," he told Lorraine, and then his wife heard him say, "Angel, don't forget to..."

"And just WHO was that you were calling Angel?" demanded Lorraine. Tom acknowledges that it took a little explaining!

Quote

Your can't depend on your judgment when your imagination is out of focus.
- Mark Twain.



Bignall Jones, left, and Alton Pridgen stand at the site of Governor James Turner's grave.

Mostly Personal

Turner Grave Is But A Hole In Ground

By BIGNALL JONES
"Old man ----- had a mill at this point which both his sons wanted." Alton Pridgen told Ken Ferruccio and me as we crossed a small branch on the north side of Fishing Creek as the three of us were en route Saturday morning to the grave of former Governor and Senator James Turner, who once lived in this vicinity.

"The old man," Alton continued, "took his two sons and some slaves to the site and directed the slaves to cut the dam in two. He then told his sons that he would give each son a half of the mill and pond and they could operate the mill by jointly fixing the dam. They never did and the mill rotted down."

This was one of the many delightful stories that Alton told us during several hours spent in reaching and returning from the grave, much of which had to be done on foot.

At the grave site, located in cut-over woods, we found only a large periwinkle patch and three recently dug holes in the ground, which were the result of Dr. James Clark's digging and Alton's directing the previous week. This digging resulted in the finding of Turner's rock-lined grave. This grave was located on what was later Walter Duke land and was only a short distance from a pasture on the land of Alton's father, the late Wiley Pridgen. Alton said that when he accompanied his father to the grave site that his father would refer to the "old Governor's grave." Most folks in Fork Township when he was a boy, Alton said, "knew where Governor James Turner was buried."

There was not much to photograph and Ken suggested that if Alton and I would stand by the grave site that it might help, and we did. But there was more to photograph here than there was at the site of the Turner cemetery at Bloomsbury. When Ken and I recently visited the home of Governor Turner at Bloomsbury we were informed by a colored man who had recently moved into one of the Turner homes that the cemetery had been plowed up a few years ago. The cemetery seems to be part of a large soybean field, but I can't be sure of this without further search, which I may never make. We reached the site of the Governor Turner home as directed and found two buildings, one a two-story house which has been covered with tin or aluminum, and the other a large house built of logs. The log

house may have been the original home or possibly a guest house. I hope someone in the neighborhood will inform me concerning the two buildings.

Last Friday I spent several hours in the office of the Register of Deeds seeking more information about the Turners. I learned quite a bit about Governor Turner's son, Congressman Dan Turner and his rise to fame and fortune which he managed to lose; and a little bit about another son, Thomas, whom I have some reason to believe is the ancestor of the late Mr. W. R. Baskerville and Miss Nannie T. White of Birmingham, Ala. Governor Turner also seems to have another son, James, Jr., but I am not absolutely certain of this, although there was another James Turner.

In searching for information about Governor Turner I learned quite a bit about some of his contemporaries, which may come in good sometimes, but it has consumed much time. I am pretty well satisfied that Governor Turner's final resting place was on what became the George Duke home, and that he was first buried at his home at Bloomsbury, two miles north of Manson. I would like to know why and when and hope that some reader of this newspaper may inform me. It is apt to turn up in printed or written form sometime. Until it or some other interesting fact about the governor is revealed, I will have to abandon the search, and take it on faith which is not enough for the historians.

Mr. and Mrs. John House have returned from a ten-day visit in Ashland, Ky., with friends and relatives.

Turkey Shoot

To be held at the Warren County Fair Grounds November 24th, 25th, 26th - Bring your own gun or use one of ours.



Sponsored By
The Warren County Jaycees
Come give it your best shot!

Letters To The Editor

Intersection Policed To The Editor

In response to the editorial last week entitled, "Hazardous Intersection," it was stated that the town policemen did not direct traffic when a traffic light was out at the Macon Street - Main Street intersection.

This statement was incorrect. The local police went on numerous occasions to this intersection to direct traffic.

The Warrenton Police force does not have enough men per shift to mandate one officer at an intersection; therefore, during busy times an officer directed traffic.

The state owns the light and maintains all traffic lights on Main Street as this is a state highway.

The Town of Warrenton has no control on this light but local police have to maintain the flow of traffic when a light is malfunctioning.

FREDDIE ROBINSON
Police Chief
Warrenton

Dr. Henderson Writes To The Editor:

It is my impression that in your article last week concerning the lack of challenge in schools, you did not do justice to the school and teachers involved in the discussion, or to the Board of Education. The interchange of questions was completely left out, and the fact that the Board took no side but stressed more communication between the parent and teachers was vague. On hindsight, the Board probably should have recommended or stressed that the parents, in all cases, follow a chain of command before seeing the Board. Also not mentioned was the fact that Mr. Price, a master teacher in our system, had received a letter from the State Department of Education which stated that his program is one of the best, if not the best, of its kind in North Carolina. Congratulations again to Mr. Price and our fine school system.

(At the time of the discussion, none of the participants had actually seen the program in action. After making a visit to the class in question and seeing the actual class in operation, it is my impression that the course is extremely well designed, and is taught to meet the needs of all students.)

During the meeting, it was my impression that Mr. Price was representing the school, but I learned several days later that he was there only by chance, and that he is not the only teacher in the program, as one may have been led to believe from the article.

As with most discussions,

all parties probably profited from the discussion, but participating in person of listening to a tape is probably the best way to fill any void as to what was discussed.

Also, completely overlooked in your paper was the selection of Attorney Frank W. Ballance, Jr., as the School Board attorney. I feel that your paper is a good paper, and I'm sure that the above mentioned things were oversights; however, it is upsetting not to see both sides presented equally. For example, my complimenting Mr. Price on his program was overlooked, but I was quoted as thanking the parents for showing interest, as we do in all cases.

I must say that being a board member is really a hard job. An unbelievable amount of time and effort go into attempting to make the best decisions for all of our children in the face of constant negative criticism, and with compliments being few and far between. One thing that I feel the Board would truly appreciate is more positive criticism before the fact rather than the many "after the decision" comments. I should also like to compliment Miss Rosiland Gilliam and her group for doing such a fine job in representing a portion of the teachers and showing such a constructive interest in the public school system, and to the parents and interested citizens who constantly give of their time and ideas.

L. B. HENDERSON, JR.
D.D.S. - Member,
Board of Education

Criticizes Parent To The Editor:

This letter is written in regard to the article concerning the complaint made by Mrs. Claude Shearin about the curriculum of Hawkins Jr. High School. Even though Mrs. Shearin was quite specific in her complaint, as a member of the Hawkins faculty, I feel that her statement to the board involved all of us.

I am puzzled as to why Mrs. Shearin waited until this year to voice her opinion about our school. It would appear that her interest in Hawkins would have begun as soon as her other children began to show signs of lack of challenge and motivation.

I am also puzzled as to how Mrs. Shearin can expect motivation and challenge when her daughter's attendance was so poor. I would also like to know what credentials Mrs. Shearin has? Does she have experience in curriculum planning or development, or evaluation of a school's program? Does she base her attack on our school on her

own school days? Is she measuring her daughter's progress on the work she has done? If this is the basis for her argument, I want to inform her that this is a new day in education.

As a member of the Hawkins Faculty, I am aware that inadequacies do exist. I also know that in the midst of imperfections there is a faculty that is second to none. We expose our students to as many learning experiences as possible. We show a personal as well as an academic interest in them. All of our attend staff development workshops at some time during the year and in the summer many of us continue to improve ourselves professionally. We work hard to provide our students with challenging work, but we realize that learning is not always fun. It involves responsibility from three sources - the parents, the child and the teacher.

We realize and accept our responsibility to our students. We do not look for excuses when and if we fail. We need no scapegoats. Mrs. Shearin would like to blame her daughter's cutting class on our curriculum. She contends that boredom caused her daughter to leave school deliberately and without permission. Mrs. Shearin seems to excuse this action. Could it be she is looking for a scapegoat?

GAIL F. BULLOCK

Students Speak Up For Their School To The Editor:

In reference to the article written last week concerning the "lack of challenge" in our school, we, a portion of the student body feel that in order to get a picture of the full situation our views should be expressed also.

First of all, we feel that Mr. Price should be given an apology. The Occupational Exploration Program is not to teach the students an occupation, rather it is to expose us to many occupations that are existing today.

The article also said that there aren't programs for the above average students. We disagree. Our school offers courses in algebra, English, two different sciences, not to mention typing classes, clubs, and other organizations.

Mr. Price has asked the parent to come to his classes, but she hasn't responded. The students feel that since she has not, she cannot base her accusations fairly.

Also, there should be an apology given to Mr. Hudgins, the assistant principal. We think that he was misquoted and apologies should be made.

The English classes, we (Continued on page 5)

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When people have a stake in the community, when you're involved in its improvement the way we are, being courteous and efficient with your customers comes just as natural as saying, "See you again tonight" to your neighbors.

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What are neighbors for?



Section	Section A		Section B		Section C		Section D	
	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target
1. Rates and charges	2,750	2,351					2,351	
2. Police	1,850	637			2,593		3,030	
3. Fire protection	11,819	7,868			394		8,262	
4. Public health								
5. Welfare								
6. Sanitation	1,500	2,760					2,760	
7. Other purposes - Specify								
Financial Administration	25,250	23,058					23,058	
Total	43,169	36,674			2,987		39,461	

Proposed (budgeted) use of Revenue Sharing funds	Actual use of Revenue Sharing funds	Actual use of Available Fiscal Assistance funds	Total debt redemption (offset only amounts are reported to State)
0	0	0	0

Signature of official	Title	Date	Area code	Telephone
W. A. Miller	Mayor	November 17, 1977	919	257-3335