

The Warren Record

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Hindering Progress

An editorial in The Nashville Graphic last week served to revive memories of an unsuccessful effort to have telephone systems of Warrenton and Norlina consolidated and telephone toll between the two towns abolished. It also calls forth a wish that Nashville will be more successful in its efforts than were Norlina and Warrenton.

The Nashville newspaper said in part:

The Nashville Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a meeting here Monday evening at which representatives of Carolina Telephone and Telegraph Company will discuss "extended area service."

The purpose of the meeting is simply to provide as much information as possible, for as many people as possible, on the subject of telephone exchange consolidation.

It has been proposed that the Nashville, Spring Hope, Whitakers and Rocky Mount telephone exchanges be consolidated. The telephone company has neither endorsed nor rejected the proposal. It has agreed to conduct a poll among subscribers on the four exchanges to determine whether they want "extended area service."

In order to justify the expense of such a poll, however, the company has made the reasonable request that telephone subscribers in the four areas indicate the extent of their interest in the proposal to consolidate the four exchanges.

Monday night's meeting will serve to inform the public of the advantages, as well as the additional expense, of "extended area service." Telephone users obviously will be better able to decide for themselves whether they want the new service if they have full information on which to base their decision.

In voting down the proposal a few years ago, subscribers not only failed to get toll-free extended service, but in the long-run got the increase in rate they would then have had to pay due to the growth in the two exchanges. It was a grievous blunder and one which has cost

the county much loss and will continue to do so until such time as our people demand that the extended service be given us.

If consolidation would now entail a further increase in rates, it would be a small price to pay for the future development of the county. Opinions that may be to the contrary, telephone rates are not high considering the service rendered and that value as a business tool and social convenience, and if we had to pay slightly more to give us extended service, it would be cheap at the increased cost. What we are tired of and should no longer tolerate is what amounts to a second rate service to this area because of its limited scope.

Tuesday morning, the editor of this newspaper, talked with a lady from Wise shortly before noon in Norlina, and was given a news item. Shortly after dinner, he saw the same lady in Warrenton, a not-unusual occurrence, but it does show how the Warrenton and Norlina areas are linked, it is ironical to speculate on the fact that this lady who lives about six miles from Warrenton can talk without a toll charge to persons in Warrenton and Macon, and for that matter at Inez sixteen miles from her home, but has to pay a toll to call Norlina less than two miles away. At the same time the editor can talk to Macon, Wise and Inez, but has to pay a toll call to talk to a person in Norlina. That may make sense to some persons, but it does not to this newspaper.

People might as well face the fact that if Warren County is to stop going backward, the Norlina and Warrenton areas will have to be developed as a unit. Without free telephone communications between the tow towns, that is going to be awfully hard to do.

What's Wrong With DOING GOOD?

Mrs. F. D. R. Continues Dedicated Service

The Atlanta Constitution

Atlanta was honored Friday by a visit and two talks on the United Nations by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. Vigorous, happy and dedicated as always to those principles which best reflect this country's fundamentals, Mrs. Roosevelt addressed a luncheon given by the United Nations Council of Atlanta, an association of 15 organizations supporting the U.N., and spoke in the afternoon at Emory University under the sponsorship of the Collegiate Council for the U. N.

Mrs. Roosevelt was one of this country's delegates to the U.N. during the Truman administration. She has been one of its most constant and effective supporters. Too few Americans know of the tremendous success of the organization in fields of child care, health, education and technical assistance. We are too prone to accuse it of failing to produce world peace, forgetting that in major part because of it, we do not have world war. The fact the U.N. exists is a significant step toward peace and we can thank God for it.

As for Mrs. Roosevelt, she is one of the world's most eminent persons and citizens. Annually, for two decades, all sorts of public opinion polls reveal her to be the American woman most honored and admired.

The U.N. merits our thoughtful support. New members still are being added. Most of them look to us for leadership. We can and must not fail to provide it. We hope the stimulation provided by the Atlanta Council and the students will interest business men to assist with active membership.

Same Thing

"Didn't you say that you have a large investment in your food freezer?"

"Not exactly. I said that I have a big stack in it."

College Level Reading

By RALPH MCGILL, In The Atlanta Constitution

By 1970 roughly one-fourth of the boys and girls applying for college admission will be rejected because they cannot read and write on a college level. The authority who has reached so melancholy a conclusion is Paul D. Diederich, of the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey.

Enrollments by 1970 will mean the average teacher will deal with 200 pupils each. Mr. Diederich calculated from this that it would take each teacher 33 hours to grade and correct one batch of themes. If teachers asked for just one written piece of work per week they would have to read papers every school night from 9 p. m. to midnight, plus nine hours on Saturday and nine hours on Sunday.

Hence, concludes Dr. Diederich, by 1970 a teacher of English can hardly handle more than four themes per year—a test far too meager to teach or instruct.

Dr. Diederich urges drastic action to revise the "methods, staffing and concept of English study."

Literary Lag

There is a grievous literary lag. It is not new. As long as 20 years ago Harvard, Yale and other Eastern universities, in desperation, created a high school English class for their freshmen who came unprepared to read or write at the university level.

Nothing was done until about six years ago when the Fund for Advancement of Education financed experiments in teacher aides. They were most successful. Every neighborhood has a great number of housewives who are college graduates with training in English. They could, after instruction in the program, do the reading of themes and assist with instruction in remedial reading courses and in ungraded tests and exercises. Nor, of course, is the system of teacher aides restricted to English. They also can supervise cafeterias, hallways and playgrounds.

Uncle Luke of Licksillet Says:

Braggers

Dear Mister Editor:

My old lady was arguing last night that folks in the main is all truthful. I told her she shore has been leading a sheltered life if she believes it. I never knowed a drunk man to tell the truth, and folks in love is noted for lying to each o'her. And you couldn't believe the average feller on a stack of Bibles that is running fer public office. I'd sooner put faith in a seed catalogue or the weather forecast as one of them fellers. That takes about half the population out of circulation.

Then when you git around to used car salesmen, fishermen, lawyers fer the defense, fishermen, and Bug Hookum's wife, you done cleaned out another fourth of the population. A few folks like me and you, Mister Editor, is about all that's left. I think a heap more folks would like to be honest if they could pick the right time fer it, a time when it wouldn't cost 'em nothing. I recollect attending a revival onct where everybody was gitting up and confessing what sinners they was and how bad they'd been, and one old sinner got up and said he'd like to confess and repent at this time but he couldn't afford to do it while the grand jury was in session. The grand jury stays in session most of the time fer a heap of folks.

The fellers at the country store Saturday night

NEWS OF FIVE, TEN AND 25 YEARS AGO

Looking Backward Into The Record

March 11, 1955

The Town of Warrenton will change its parking meters to accept pennies as well as nickels, it was decided at a meeting of the board of town commissioners on Monday night.

The Norlina High School gym is expected to be completed this year with funds furnished by the county under a "gentlemen's agreement" between the board of education and the county commissioners.

Miss Mary Blair Robinson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Horace Robinson of Littleton, was recently initiated into Delta Delta Sorority at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn.

Norlina girls and boys basketball players received trophies as county winners in exercises at Norlina on Friday night.

March 10, 1950

Senator Frank Graham will speak at the Warrenton Court House on Friday evening, March 17, at 8 o'clock.

The Warren County ABC Board turned over \$30,000 to the Warren County General Fund on February 23, it was learned Monday at the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners.

A group of Warren County Home Demonstration Clubs members will leave Warrenton on next Wednesday morning for Wilmington to tour the azalea gardens.

Excellent progress is being made on the construction of the Warren County Hospital, Dr. W. D. Rodgers told members of the Rotary Club on Tuesday evening.

March 8, 1935

Negroes will lift their voices in song at the Wise Training School on Sunday afternoon, March 17, to raise funds for welfare work, Miss Lucy Leach, welfare officer, announced yesterday.

Miss Selma Overby, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sydney L. Overby of near Warrenton, was married to Mr. Glenn Perkinson of Wise on Tuesday in the First Baptist Church of Henderson.

Mr. W. A. Miles, Jr., of U. N. C., spent the weekend with his parents here.

There are around 1000 cases of measles in the county, Dr. G. H. Macon, health officer, said this week.

Writer Recalls

By CARLTON MORRIS, In the Gates County Index

Bill Stern once told the story of a youngster who had a great ambition to be a football player. He enrolled at Stanford University when he was very young and very small. One day he chanced to meet a couple of football players from the University of California and he grew so tired of their boasting that he told them he would beat them at their own game—football.

He helped organize a football team at Stanford, begged, browed or secured uniforms of every sort. Not good enough to play, he helped that team in every way possible. Finally word got around that Stanford had challenged mighty California and some 27,000 people turned out to see the game. This chunky youngster sold tickets carried water, helped dress the players and gave them a pep talk before the game started and a miracle happened. Unheard of Stanford beat proud California and from that day on, Stanford began to loom on the athletic horizon.

The chunky youngster never became a football player or even an ordinary coach. He did acquire some fame of a sort. He became the 31st president of the United States—Herbert Hoover.

All of which reminds me of my one attempt to coach a basketball team. Shortly after I finished high school, I organized a basketball team right in my own little community. Some of my players attended school and some didn't, but I succeeded in convincing them basketball was better than going hunting.

One day I hitch-hiked into town and went to the high school and asked the coach for a game with his team. Strange enough he agreed to play my team that very night.

None of us had ever been inside a gymnasium and when we again hitched a ride to town that night, we were about as unlikely a team as has ever been on a court. We had no uniforms so we all agreed to wear white pants and shirts and we did have an assortment of gym shoes.

We only had five players and that included me. If one of us happened to foul out, I guess we would have finished the game with four players. But my boys were good. They could hit that basket from any angle back home on our lumpy and often muddy outdoor court. We probably had never even heard of using plays. We only knew how to scramble after the ball. But once the game started my boys seemed to forget everything they ever knew. They couldn't hit a free throw, they ran with the ball, they committed fouls and I personally thought the game would never end. Maybe we scored 20 points while our town opponents scored 50 and they used their scrubs most of the time.

After all the intervening years, I can recall the humiliation that I felt as we stood beside the street at 10 o'clock that night trying to get a ride home. And I would like to tell the world that at least one of my players went on to become a president of something, but such was not to be. We all turned out to be just plain ordinary people.

After a number of years of living, I have arrived at the sage conclusion that maybe it doesn't matter too much about who wins the game. Someone has to lose. But in the game of life, the winner is the man that does his best, no matter how lowly the job. If your best isn't good enough, then you have to lose, but it is pretty soul satisfying to know that you have given a job the very best that's in you.

UNCLE LUKE.

Cutting Out Frills

The Laurinburg Exchange

Public schools are cutting out some of the frills and the extra-curricula activities that interfere with school work and sometimes drive teachers almost to distraction. Last fall it was announced that the Al-bemarle and Stanly county schools would have no more truck with outside fund drives, or community activities not related to school work. Other schools and school boards have followed suit. Lately it was announced that the Siler City school board had put its foot down on such activities within the schools and even went so far as to ban the perennial "yearbooks."

Teachers have complained that too frequently their class room work was interrupted by other demands and activities, some having to do with the schools themselves and some not. And only recently a teacher contributed an article to a magazine in which he pointed out the lost time resulting from programs and activities, as well as what he thinks nonessential and sometimes trivial matters within the school itself.

Bright Young Soldier

N. C. Education

A bright young farmer in the Army overseas received a letter from his wife. She wanted to know how she was going to plant the potatoes in the East 40 without help.

The soldier wrote back, "Whatever you do, Dear, don't dig up the East 40. That's where the machine guns are buried."

As is customary in wartime, his letter was read by the censor. Not long after this he received a reply from his upset

MOSTLY PERSONAL

By BIGNALL JONES

Returning from Norlina late Tuesday morning, I stopped by the postoffice to pick up late morning mail. As is usually the case, there were about a dozen pieces of mail in the box and out of the dozen just about twelve of the pieces will find their way in the wastebasket.

Trash mail is a nuisance to me and to most other business men, but since this is a free country and as long as an advertiser wants to pay the postage and take a chance on a response, he is in his rights in using the United States mail to further his plan. But it is a nuisance.

One man, seeing my mail, remarked that he wished that the government would charge 50c a letter for such mail. I wouldn't go that far, but I would like for the government to charge the same rate for it as it does for first class mail.

I picked up one letter and glanced at it. It was a pull-out letter and therefore unsealed and bearing a three-cent stamp. I pondered about this. After all why should an unsealed letter cost less to mail than a sealed one. The cost to the government for handling unsealed mail is no less than for sealed mail.

The Postoffice Department is seeking to have first class mail rates boosted from 4c to 5c an ounce in order to cut down the deficit. There is little likelihood of this being done now, but the postoffice department will probably continue to run in the red and taxpayers will have to make up the deficit.

The Postoffice Department has been trying all kinds of schemes to lower cost of operation, such as labor saving devices, shortening of hours, abolishing small postoffice, some of which have worked in convenience to patrons. But still the deficits continue.

I have just a couple of ideas offhand that might give the postoffice a balanced budget with no increase in postal rates, not that I have any idea that they will be adopted. The first of these is to make no distinction in sealed and unsealed mail, but let every letter carry a 4c stamp. The other is to stop free mailing privileges to government officials, perhaps the greatest abuses of the mail. Permit the Congress and the various departments to use franking privileges, but charge these franked pieces of mail to Congress and the various departments using them. Maybe this would not only give us a little more honesty in bookkeeping, but would tend to cut down on the volume of franked mail if such letters cut into a department's or Congressman's operating budget.

This is not too apt to occur. The present system is too convenient to lawmakers who find it easier, except in election years, to vote a further increase on business, already hamstrung by taxes. So I don't expect it to happen, but I still think it is a good idea.

young wife saying, "A company of soldiers overran the East 40 and dug it all up. What shall I do now?"

"Plant the potatoes!" came his reply.

Who, Me?

"I got off a streetcar this morning," said a salesman, "and being in no hurry, I began moralizing about the actions and probable character of three men who had alighted just ahead of me. The first one was even then halfway up the block and was going on with such rapid strides he had already put a couple of hundred yards between himself and the next man. There, thought I, goes a hustler—a man who's bound to succeed."

"The second man was walking rather slowly and impressing me as one who would do fairly well, perhaps. But the last fellow was just dawdling along in a most shiftless sort of way. I very quickly set him down as a loafer."

"Just when a thought came to me—all three were ahead of me!"

Artisty

"With a single stroke of the brush," said the school teacher taking his class through the art gallery, "Joshua Reynolds could change a smiling face into a frowning one."

"So can my mother," said a small boy.

The South accounts for 18 per cent of the nation's cattle sales.