

Gunmen Rob Station Near Littleton Sat.

Two gunmen walked into a Littleton service station shortly after noon on Saturday and knocked the operator unconscious before escaping with less than \$15 in currency. The armed men ripped the telephone from the wall and forced the operator, 58-year-old Ray Pike, to lie on the floor before they ransacked the station. Pike operates the rural station, located approximately a mile south of Littleton.

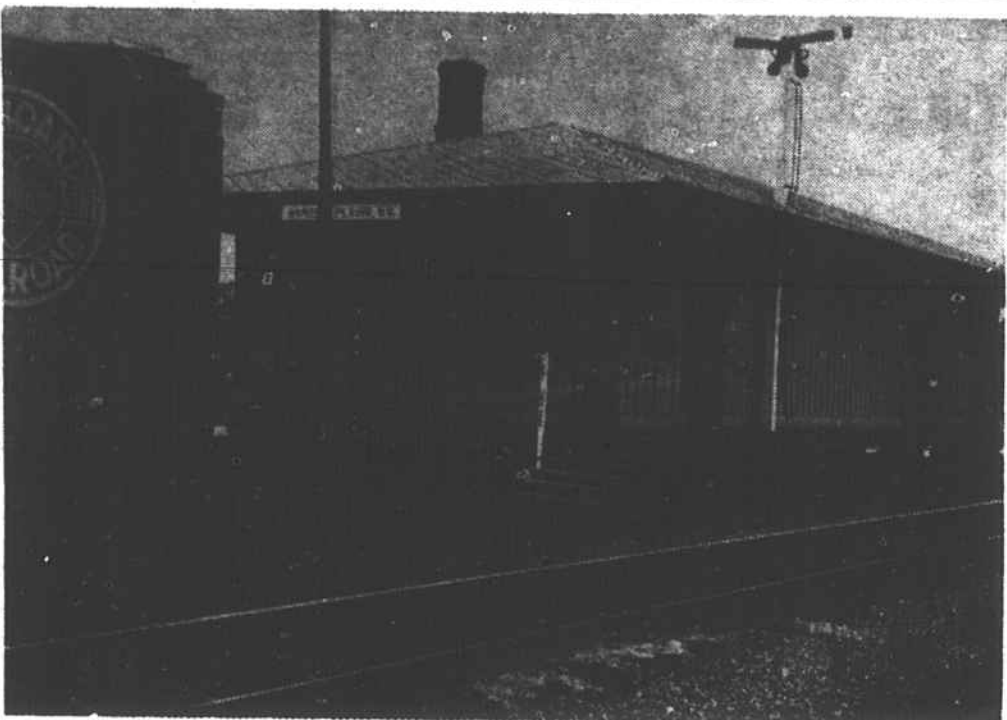
The State Bureau of Investigation was called into the case this week after the youthful bandits eluded capture by the Warren County Sheriff's Department.

Warren Deputy Sheriff R. D. Chewning said that the two men first came to Pike's station about 10:30 a. m. Saturday but left when they found several persons at the station. Two hours later they returned to find Pike alone. One of the men pulled a .32 calibre pistol from his pocket and ordered Pike to come out from behind the counter.

They ordered Pike to lie down on the floor, Chewning said, and Pike told them that he had recently had an operation and was unable to lie on his stomach.

"We'll fix it so you can lie on your stomach," Pike quoted one of the bandits as saying as he struck Pike on the head with a soft drink bottle. After striking Pike, the two men grabbed the money and raced away in a two-door green 1953-model Ford, the deputy said.

Chewning said that approximately a dozen suspects have been questioned in the case, but that none of the leads available to his department had produced the wanted men. He said that investigation by the SBI and the local Sheriff's department, aided by Deputy Sheriff Leslie Crawley of Halifax County, was continuing.



DEPOT AT WARREN PLAINS

To Be Closed On Monday

Warren Plains Depot Will Be Closed; Agent Moved

The Warren Plains depot, in operation for more than 100 years, will be closed on Monday under a recent order of the State Utilities Commission.

W. Sturgess Collins, agent at Warren Plains, since the first of the year, following the retirement of Arthur Rodwell, will be transferred to another position with the Seaboard Air Line.

The order signed by the Utilities Commission permits the Seaboard to close the Warren Plains Depot and to discontinue the station as a flag stop for two of its passenger trains.

However, the Seaboard will not be permitted to tear down the Warren Plains station before the elapse of a six months period, during which they must demonstrate that the closing of the depot will not adversely affect the service provided the Warrenton Railroad Company and the Town of War-

renton. In its petition, which was contested by several Warrenton business men, the Seaboard said that the removal of the station would not adversely affect the service rendered to Warrenton. Seaboard officials pointed out that there would be no changes made in the handling of carload lots of freights and that paper work and the handling of broken car lots of freights could be just as well handled from the Norlina station.

In its study of the petition, the Commission noted that the case was unique in that no protests was made from Warren Plains, where little local freight is handled, but from Warrenton, from where a substantial amount of freight is handled.

As at present operated, freight from and to Warrenton is handled at Warren Plains which is a junction of the Warrenton Railroad Com-

pany with the Seaboard Air Line. Carload lots of freight are placed on a siding at Warren Plains where outgoing cars are picked up by the Seaboard and incoming cars are picked up by the Warrenton Railroad Company.

Broken car freight is picked up with a way bill, and picked up by the two railroads concerned in the hauling of the freight.

Under the new plan, broken car lots will be left with their way bills in a building at Warren Plains and picked up by truck and carried to Norlina or Henderson to be assembled in cars. It is expected that the same procedure will be followed with carload shipments.

Paper work now being done at the Warren Plains freight depot will be done at the Norlina office of the Seaboard which will be connected by telephone with the office of the Warrenton Railroad Com-

Warrenton's Appreciation Celebration Is Postponed

Unforeseen circumstances have caused a postponement in the Appreciation Celebration scheduled to be held here tonight (Friday).

Instead the event will be staged in Warrenton on Thursday night, September 22, A. C. Fair, arrangements committee chairman, said yesterday.

Fair said that various circumstances arose which gave

impetus to a change in date. Among these, he said, were football games scheduled on Friday night which would compete with the event. Another reason listed by the chairman was that local merchants had voiced the need for more time in order to insure a greater registration and larger turnout.

Fair said that the purpose

of next Thursday night's celebration will be to show the appreciation of Warrenton business firms for the patronage they receive from citizens of Warren and surrounding counties.

A \$100 cash prize will be given to the holder of the lucky ticket in a drawing to take place during the night. The winner must be present

to receive the prize, Fair said.

In addition to the grand prize, prizes of \$25, \$10 and \$5 in cash will be given to white and colored winners of a jitterbug and rock-a-roll contest to be held on Main Street in the business section. Those wishing to take part in the contest are asked to register with any store in the town before 3 p. m. on Thursday, September 22.

Fair said that in addition to the cash prizes to be given away, that it is planned to give free drinks and balloons and favors to those present.

At intervals during the evening, drawings will be held for store prizes being offered by individual merchants. Each merchant will take his box of tickets to the stand where a lucky ticket will be drawn from the box. Afterwards tickets from the individual boxes will be dumped into a large hopper from which the lucky ticket for the \$100 prize will be drawn.

On hand to serve as mistress of ceremonies will be Mozelle Moore of radio station WHNC of Henderson, Fair said.

Junior High Program Is Placed In Operation

A junior high school program went into operation here on Monday at John Graham High School.

The creation of the junior high school at Warrenton, patterned after junior high schools in operation in many of the state's larger school districts, was made possible following the merger of the Warrenton and Macon school districts.

The merger provided for an additional 25 seventh and eighth grade students to be transferred from the Macon district to the Warrenton

begun at Norlina, Principal W. O. Reed, said yesterday.

The move to departmentalize the seventh and eighth grades at Warrenton provided for the abolishment of combination grades at this level either here or at Macon, John Graham Principal J. F. Hockaday said yesterday.

"One of the advantages of this type of program," Hockaday said, "is that it eliminates combination grades. Perhaps, however, the greatest advantage is that the program should improve the quality of instruction since each teacher will be able to concentrate on his or her special field of teaching."

Although many of the state's junior high schools are composed of the seventh, eighth, and ninth grades, only the seventh and eighth grades have been included in the program at John Graham.

Under the setup begun on Monday, students of these two grades remain in one classroom throughout the day, just as they did under the old elementary program. However, four teachers alternate, each teaching certain subjects to the children.

John Graham High School Band To Be Discontinued

There will be no band this year at Warrenton's John Graham High School.

Announcement that the band program would be discontinued came this week from J. F. Hockaday, principal of the local high school.

A lack of student interest in the band program, the only one of its kind in the three white high schools of the county, was given as the reason that the program would have to be dropped.

At the beginning of the current school term only 16 students expressed interest in the band and after efforts to interest other students failed, plans to continue the band during this school year were abandoned.

"We hope that before long interest will be revived in the band," Hockaday said, "but until that time it will not be feasible to continue the band program."

Tuesday night members of the Warrenton Rotary Club expressed concern over the lack of student interest, and discussed the renewal of interest in the local school.

The Rotary Club has been subsidizing the John Graham Band since it was formed in (See BAND, page 14)

Town Seeks To Halt Trash Dumping Except At Dump

Persons found illegally dumping trash at the Warrenton trash dump some two miles outside the city limits will be subject to a fine of \$25.00, the board of town commissioners decided at their regular meeting Monday night.

By illegal dumping is meant dumping trash at any place on the premises except over the cliff to the dump in a ravine below.

Town employees reported to

the commissioners that some persons have been making a practice of dumping the trash in an area above the dump, requiring town employees to shovel the debris over the cliff. While there has been some debris deposited along the road leading to the dump, this practice has been limited, the employees reported.

The city fathers decided that this practice must be stopped. In an effort to stop it they passed an ordinance requiring trash to be dumped only over the cliff, and imposing a \$25 fine upon those found guilty of violating the ordinance.

In addition, the commissioners instructed Chief of Police Howard Salmon to build and erect two large signs, one to be placed at the entrance of the woods road leading to the dump and the other at the dump, stating that trash must be dumped only over the cliff. He was also instructed to place several smaller signs along the road leading to the dump.

It is likely that curbing and gutter will be placed along Hazelwood Drive in North Warrenton next spring. W. L. Wood, chairman of the street committee, reported that all but one of the property owners along the drive have requested that the town lay curbing and gutter.

The commissioners decided that in the event a decision is made to lay the curbing that it would be better to do the necessary grading this fall and allow the earth to settle firmly during the winter before laying the curbing early next spring.

Official action was postponed until the October meeting in order that the citizen who had not made the request might be contacted and agree-

ment forms between the town and the property owners drawn up.

If the work is approved, it is expected that property owners will be charged \$1.00 a foot for the cost of the curbing and gutter and that the remainder of the cost be borne by the town.

The commissioners also authorized repairs to windows and doors of the municipal building and its painting.

Other action in the hour's session of the board was of a routine nature.

Wiley D. Vaughan Wins Promotion

Wiley D. Vaughan, Warrenton native and member of the 30th Infantry Division assigned to the Leakesville National Guard unit, was promoted to the rank of first lieutenant on September 8.

Lt. Vaughan, who has been a member of the National Guard for ten years, was one of three second lieutenants to receive the promotion, according to orders handed down by the N. C. Adjutant General's Department.

Local Cafe Under New Management

The Puritan Cafe, located on Warrenton's Main Street, has been purchased by H. F. Pernell, who began operation on Monday.

The cafe, formerly owned and operated by Robert Guppon, will begin remaining open until 10 p. m. nightly, the new operator said this week.

Leaves for College
Miss Eleanor Ruth King left Monday for Greensboro where she will be a student at Greensboro College. She was accompanied by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. King.

VFW Seeks To Find Wheelchairs

The Norlina VFW, which loans wheelchairs and crutches for emergency use by citizens of this area, is attempting to locate several of the wheelchairs which are currently in use.

A spokesman for the Norlina civic organization said this week that any one presently using a chair is requested to report it to a member of the VFW so that a complete accounting of the chairs might be made.

PTA To Meet

The John Graham - Marian Boyd Parent-Teachers Association will be held in the John Graham High School auditorium on Tuesday night, September 20, at 8 o'clock.

Following a business session, open house will be held when refreshments will be served and those present will be given an opportunity to meet with teachers.

Tommy Holt was in Warren General Hospital last week as the result of a head injury sustained while playing football.

NEW BUSINESS AT NORLINA -- Cerve Furniture Company, shown above in the remodelled building which formerly housed the Norlina Theatre, will have its grand opening on Monday. A store-wide sale, along with door prizes, is planned to usher in the new business. The sale will continue through September 24. (Staff Photo)

Warren Towns To Get \$16,626.77 Powell Bill Funds

Warren County's four incorporated towns have been allocated a total of \$16,626.77 in Powell Bill funds from the annual allocation of \$7,015,112.19 to be distributed to the 469 participating municipalities of the state.

Announcement of the allocation was made last Friday afternoon by the State Highway Department.

The funds are distributed annually to qualified cities and towns for use in non-highway street work within their corporate limits. Checks will be mailed on September 30. Littleton, Warrenton and Norlina share almost equally in the division of the funds, with smaller Macon receiving a small portion.

Under the allocation for 1960 Littleton will receive \$5,360.51; Warrenton, \$5,098.63; Norlina, \$5,075.20; and Macon, \$1,092.43.

Allocations are based on non-highway mileage within city or town limits and population based on the 1960 census.

Highway officials pointed out that they are required by law to use the 1960 census figures for the population factor since the statute calls for using the "most recent qualified Federal Decennial Census." The 1960 census will not meet statutory requirements of the Powell Bill law until it is certified officially. This is expected to be done this winter.

Rates for computing the allocations this year are \$145.89 per mile of non-state system streets plus \$2.30 per capita using 1960 census.

Computations for Warren County were based on a population for Warrenton of 1185 and 5.41 miles of non-highway streets. Norlina's population was 874 and street mileage 6.66. Littleton's population was 1173 and street mileage 5.9; and Macon's population was 238 and street mileage 1.22.

Powell Bill funds represent one-half cent of the regular state gasoline tax and this year's allocation represents a 3.6% increase over last year, the Highway Commission said.

Mrs. Evans III
Mrs. A. C. Evans is ill at the Fayette Nursing Home here.

Miss Myra Reed returned her home in Warrenton last week after spending a time with her sister, Mrs. Bruce Ponder.