

Hopes For Early Vote Receive Setback Here

Plans to call a bond election to provide for the construction of a sewage disposal plant here were postponed by the Board of Town Commissioners Monday night



MRS. LEIGH TRAYLOR

Norlina To Play Host To Crowning

Mrs. R. Leigh Traylor will be crowned "Mrs. North Carolina" April 16 during a ceremony at the Norlina High School gymnasium. Norlina Mayor Graham P. Grissom will crown the 36-year-old Norlina woman who will compete in the "Mrs. America" contest in Miami Beach, Fla., April 22-29.

The coronation is expected to draw a number of visitors, including officials of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. Gov. Terry Sanford, one of many guests given invitations, said this week that he would be unable to attend, but Congressman L. H. Fountain tentatively accepted an invitation.

Sam Beard, public relations official with a Raleigh television station, will serve as master of ceremonies during the event slated to begin at 8 p. m.

Also expected are Mrs. Margaret Harper of Southport, president of the N. C. Federation of Women's Clubs, and R. S. Lee of Hendersonville, manager of United Cities Gas Co., sponsor of the "Mrs. North Carolina" contest. Mrs. William Skinner of Littleton, president of District 14 of the N. C. Federation, will also attend.

A reception will be held in the gymnasium following the crowning. Mrs. Stephen A. Daniel, president of the Norlina Junior Woman's Club and chairman of the coronation, said yesterday. Mrs. Daniel said runners-up in the "Mrs. North Carolina" contest had been invited to attend the ceremony.

Mrs. Traylor won over Mrs. Helen Sibley of Charlotte and Mrs. Margaret Ann Fettkel of Asheville. Her selection was announced last week by the "Mrs. America" Homemaking Council, composed of home economists and representatives of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

when it was revealed that Government funds would not be available before July. Mayor Miles informed the commissioners that funds allocated by Congress to aid municipalities in public works programs have been exhausted. Warrenton had applied for a \$100,000 grant, covering 50 per cent of the estimated cost of the project.

Mayor Miles said that he had been informed that Congress would make another appropriation after July 1. But, he said, plans to call the bond election at the same time that the town election is to be held in May would have to be abandoned. The commissioners agreed that it would not be feasible to call an election before federal funds are assured and said that the election would probably be called during the next fiscal year, which begins in July.

The commissioners voted to advertised real estate upon which 1962 taxes have not been paid in June and sell the property in July.

In other business during the hour-long session, the commissioners voted to donate \$200 to the Warren County Memorial Library, praised the work of firemen and citizens during the forest fire of last Friday, and learned that the town had provided more than \$125,000 gallons of water to the firemen. There was also a brief discussion concerning the need for a new fire engine for the town and plans to consider its purchase following a demonstration of an engine here within the next few weeks.

Garden Clubs Here Plan Flower Show At Club On May 7

A standard flower show will be presented here May 7 by the Warrenton Garden Club and the Little Garden Club of Warrenton.

Scheduled to be held at the Warrenton Country Club from 3 p. m. until 9 p. m., the show will be entitled "Symphony of Flowers." Mrs. Boyd Davis and Mrs. Monroe Gardner, co-chairmen of the event, announced this week.

In announcing the event, the co-chairmen released a list of committees and chairmen selected from the two clubs. Included were the schedule committee, composed of Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Gardner; Mrs. Margaret Barnes, Mrs. Bob Bright and Mrs. Duke Miles; staging committee, headed by Mrs. Julius Banzet and Mrs. Scott Gardner; entry and classification committee, headed by Mrs. Rufus Jones and Mrs. W. F. Farmer; publicity committee, headed by Mrs. R. B. Butler; judge's committee, headed by Mrs. Tim Thompson; and an admission committee, headed by Mrs. C. P. Allen.

The Junior GA's of the Warren Plains Baptist Church recently toured interesting places in Raleigh. They were accompanied by Mrs. Albert Lynch and Mrs. Albert Hight.



EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH WINDOW HERE depicts crucifixion of Jesus Christ

Easter Services Set; Firms, Schools Close

Church members throughout Warren County will pause this weekend in remembrance of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ as the Christian church observes the miracle of Easter.

Holy communion services will be observed in at least three Episcopal churches in this area and all churches will hold Easter Sunday services.

Holy Communion will be observed at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Ridgeway at 9:15 a. m., at Warrenton's All Saints Episcopal Church at 7:45 a. m., and at Emmanuel Episcopal Church at 11 a. m.

Sunday School services will be held at Emmanuel Episcopal church at 4 p. m. and will be followed with a traditional egg hunt at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James P. Beckwith.

School children will have a three-day holiday as schools close Friday afternoon and open Tuesday morning.

Merchants will take advantage of the Easter holiday and the Citizens Bank of Warrenton and the Peoples Bank at Norlina, and the post offices in the county will remain closed Easter Monday.

Easter Offering By Methodists To Be Sent To India

"The God of the Living" will be the topic for Easter Sunday morning at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, the Rev. Troy J. Barrett, minister, announced yesterday. The Adult Choir will render an Easter anthem.

The Special Easter offering will go to the Leonard Theological College in Jabalpur, India, where Dr. and Mrs. Rodrick Dail serve. Dr. Dail is a member of the N. C. Methodist Conference and served as counselor of the European Caravan in 1954.

Mr. Barrett also announced that Dr. Howard P. Powell of Raleigh will preach at the Wesley Memorial Church on Sunday, April 21, at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m., beginning a series of revival services that will continue through Friday, April 26.

Referendum Vote Light

Warren County cattlemen and poultrymen favor assessments for marketing promotion, but interest in the plan has drawn little enthusiasm.

This was revealed in the joint referendum held in the agricultural building here Tuesday when a total of 30 producers expressed their wishes. Twenty-two persons voted in the cattle referendum and 8 in the poultry referendum.

Frank Reams, county agent, said yesterday that the vote in the cattle referendum was 18 for and 4 against, with 82 per cent of the vote cast in favor of assessments; and the poultry vote of 5 to 3, was 63 per cent in favor of assessments.

Reams said that the smallness of the vote was very disappointing.

Hurst Wins CAP Honor

Cadet Fred M. Hurst, Jr., a second lieutenant in the Warrenton squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, has been chosen as a nominee for the International Cadet Exchange.

Hurst was chosen by the North Carolina wing of the CAP to compete for a place on the list of persons qualifying for the 22-country exchange program. Hurst was also named second top cadet in the North Carolina wing.

Cadets are selected after having received a certificate of proficiency, passed tests in character and citizenship, and successfully participated in the mission of the CAP.

Hurst is the second Warren County cadet to be selected as a nominee in the exchange program. Bonnie Stevenson, Jr., was an exchange cadet in 1957 and went to Canada.

'God's Trombones' Slated By Baptists

The famous drama, "God's Trombones," by Weldon Johnson, will be presented Saturday night at the Warrenton Baptist Church at 8 o'clock, the Rev. John R. Link, pastor, announced yesterday. He said the public is cordially invited to attend.

The drama group from the Petworth-Montgomery Hills Baptist Church of Silver Springs, Maryland, will begin their spring tour with the program at the local church, Mr. Link said. The group is made up of college and high school students and will be accompanied by Miss Jean Edwards, formerly of Warrenton.

"This program promises an entertaining and inspiring evening," Mr. Link said.

FIRE PICTURES On Page 2

Warrenton Merchants Hear Smithfield Story

A town without an empty store, a town where warehouses and a fish market have been converted into modern stores and where other merchants are only kept out of town by a lack of buildings, as the result of cooperative efforts of merchants, business men and citizens is the "Smithfield Story."

This story has been played up in press and has resulted in scores of delegations from towns in this and other states

visiting Smithfield to see for themselves what co-operative effort can do.

This story was told to members of the Warrenton Merchants Association, town officials and representatives of civic clubs at the annual dinner meeting of the association at Hotel Warren on Tuesday night.

Telling the story were Harold Creech, secretary of the Smithfield Chamber of Commerce, and his assistant, Joe Grimes, guest speakers

brought to the meeting by A. C. Fair, chairman of the program committee, and N. M. Hilliard, a member, who had previously visited Smithfield to see the program in operation.

Creech said that there was not a new idea among the 24 projects adopted by Smithfield in the past 18 months, but an adaption of projects in other towns adapted to Smithfield's needs. He said the program was spurred by a tour of business men suggested by Tom Lassiter, editor of the Smithfield Herald. For four days, at their own expense, this group of 20-odd business men toured other towns seeking ideas to give Smithfield business a boost. He said that the group came back filled with enthusiasm and sold their idea to other groups.

The first step, he said was the canopy idea, which has won wide acclaim. Only two merchants at first agreed to erect these canopies, nine-foot high and reaching from the store front to the edge of the street. But others, seeing the results, joined in the project until now canopies extend along principal streets, almost without a break, providing shelter to shoppers in rain and sunshine, and emphasizing the window displays of merchants. In the ceiling of each canopy are lights and a loud-speaker through which background music is piped, and announcements are made from time to time.

A big step in the program, Creech said, was entering Smithfield in the "All-American City" and "Community Improvement Program." "We didn't win a prize," Creech said, but we gained a great deal of enthusiasm and probably won more than a prize.

Following the erection of canopies, the Chamber of Commerce sponsored a color-experts to advise the most effective method of painting stores and business houses.

In pursuit of the improvement plan, Creech said, civic groups were urged to participate in the program, and responded magnificently. The extent of this participation was revealed in the fact that out of the 24-projects already adopted, only three were sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. In addition to the canopy and color projects, the Chamber of Commerce also sponsored a Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Campaign. The other 21 projects, explained in some detail by Creech, and their sponsors are as follows:

"What Smithfield Needs" Contest, Merchants' Committee, Neuse Picnic Area, Jaycee Club; U. S. Flags and Flagholders; American Legion; "Dollars for Scholars"; Kiwanis Club; Central Business District Survey, Town of Smithfield; United Fund, United Fund Board of Directors; Smithfield Airstrip; Lions Club; Market Street Trees, Rotary Club; Truck Lane Picnic Area, Lions Club; Town Tree and Flower, Garden Club; 3rd Street Parking Lot, Parking Committee; Traic; Receptacles, Town of Smithfield; Downtown Sidewalks, Town of Smithfield; Citizenship-Know Your Government, Senior Woman's Club; Store Lighting Improvement Project, Merchants' Committee; Town Ordinance Codification, Town of Smithfield; Formation of Community Council, Junior Woman's Club; Rest Room Survey, U. N. C. Student Nurses; Store Sign Improvement Project, Sterling Committee; Ornamental Horticulture Courses, Garden Club and Chamber of Commerce.

An Creech discussed the projects in order of their adoption, he used a ruler to point out each project, posted upon a wall, and commented upon the method of its being carried out.

Following his remarks, Grimes showed color slides of before and after scenes, with comments relative to each.

In addition to projects at (See STORY, page 2)

Merchants Association Names Lanier Head

William K. Lanier, Jr., hardware merchant, was elected president of the Warrenton Merchants Association at the annual dinner meeting held at Hotel Warren on Tuesday night.

Lanier, who served last year as vice president, succeeds Fred Hurst, whose term has expired.

N. M. Hilliard, manager of Rose's Store, was elected vice-president, to succeed Lanier in this position.

Lanier and Hilliard were unanimously elected following a report of the nominating committee, headed by A. C. Fair, and with Milton Ayscue and Dick Miles as members.

Nominated as directors by

the committee and unanimously elected were: H. Diamond, Leon Knight, Vernon Whittmore, three-year directors; Selby Benton, Mel Hicks and A. J. House, two-year directors, Mrs. Marguerite Miles, Thomas Gaskill and J. E. Cheves, one-year directors.

Retiring as one-year directors, whose term has expired, were A. C. Fair, W. K. Lanier, Jr., and Walker Burwell.

The secretary-treasurer will be named by the board of directors. Mrs. Helen B. Harmon has served in this capacity for several years.

Retiring President Fred Hurst presided over the meet-

Dinah Clarke Winner Of Wood Scholarship

A Norlina high school student has been named winner of a \$200 scholarship given by the American Legion Auxiliary of Warrenton.

Miss Dinah Joy Clarke, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Clarke of Norlina, was named the first recipient of the Lillie Wood Scholarship given by Unit 25 of Warrenton. The scholarship is given annually to a deserving senior at John Graham or Norlina High School.

Miss Clarke is a member of the Beta Club and was chief commencement marshal last year. Treasurer of the senior class, she is business manager of the school annual and president of the Future Homemakers of America at Norlina High School. She has earned the "state degree" for her FHA work and is a former delegate to Girl's State.

Active in the Norlina Methodist Church, she is president of the Youth Fellowship and vice president of the MYF Sub-District and a member of the Commission on Membership and Evangelism.



DINAH CLARKE

EASTER CANTATA

The Adult Choir of the Warrenton Baptist Church will present an Easter Cantata at the 11 o'clock worship hour Sunday, Robert Macon Davis is the director and Mrs. Monroe Gardner is the organist.

The pastor has announced as his Easter sermon topic, "The Darkest and the Brightest Days of Christianity." He said those not attending other churches are cordially invited.

Damage Estimates Unavailable In County's Largest Fire Forest Fire Scorches More Than 1500 Acres Here

A huge forest fire—largest in the county's history—burned over between 1500 and 1800 acres last week as it cut a six-mile swath through Warrenton Township, Forest Ranger Wilbur F. Davis said yesterday.

Davis based his estimate on a study of maps of the Soil Conservation Service. He said an estimate of damage was not available. It is expected to be released by the State Forestry Service after further study.

Woodlands owned by the K. T. Watson estate, Albert Bugg, Hugh Holt and portions of the Bronson tract suffered the greatest damage. Several other smaller tracts were also burned over, Davis said.

The fire, discovered about 11 a. m. Thursday on the northern edge of Warrenton, caused damage greater than all forest fires throughout the county during the past

decade, Davis said. Shortly after the blaze was spotted, firemen were on the scene and were hopeful the blaze could be contained before it crossed US 158 on the northeastern outskirts of the town. But gusty winds carried flames through tree tops, leaped the road and spread quickly in a southeasterly direction.

The Warrenton Rural Fire Department, a volunteer organization with seven fire trucks at its disposal, was assisted by fire-fighting units from Warrenton, Norlina and Littleton, but conventional equipment was virtually useless against the woods fire. However, numerous dwellings were saved by firemen who poured water on threatened houses for a 30-hour period before ending their fight at 7 p. m. Friday.

"I know at least a dozen homes would have been de-

stroyed if it had not been for the firemen," Sheriff J. H. Hundley said. "They did a tremendous job."

Firemen credited two-way radio communication largely responsible for their success in saving homes. Fire Chief Jimmy Roberts directed the volunteer operation from an emergency vehicle which travelled from one hot spot to the next.

Firemen at one point saved a new house surrounded on three sides by blazing trees. But a vacant house near Warrenton caught fire when the main fire was a hundred yards away.

The fire was checked early Friday morning in an area between Reedy Creek and the fire tower at Liberia. Fire spotters remained in the Tower Thursday night and helped direct fire equipment. Davis, who praised volunteer firemen for their role in

bringing the fire under control, said the blaze was checked early Friday when winds dropped and a back-fire proved successful.

Davis said the fire was not actually brought under complete control until 11:30 p. m. Friday, although firemen received their last call for aid late Friday afternoon. Forest rangers patrolled the blackened path left by the fire until 1 p. m. Saturday when rain ended the threat of renewed flames.

Warrenton water mains furnished an estimated 125,000 gallons of water during the fire, Water Superintendent Harold Skillman told Warrenton commissioners Monday. He said 251,000 gallons of water was used here Thursday, compared with only 118,000 gallons the previous day. Women living near the

fire's path served coffee and food to firemen on Thursday night as the Warrenton Country Club was turned into a temporary shelter.

Chief Roberts extended the appreciation of the company to the ladies who furnished the food. Also receiving praise from Roberts were volunteers who helped during the fire-fighting effort.

The C. M. Bullock Oil Co. was publicly thanked by the fire chief for the loan of two large gasoline tankers which hauled thousands of gallons of water to the scene.

After the fire was over, firemen began a hunt for several items of equipment lost during the blaze. Packs, flags and radios were lost, and Roberts said these may be returned to the Warrenton Fire Department or to Forest Ranger W. F. Davis.