

# The Warren Record

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## We Wish You A Merry Christmas

With members of the family circle returning to Warren for the Christmas holidays, with good health being enjoyed by a majority of our citizens, with an increasing sense of security brought about by improvement in economic conditions, why should not this be one of the most enjoyable Christmases we have spent?

To those to whom Christmas is but another holiday—just another Sunday—to those who view it as a time of bothersome shopping, and to those to whom it is a time of costly exchange of presents, it will this year, as in other years, fall flat.

But to the great majority who realize that Christmas is of the spirit and who have retained something of childhood in their hearts Christmas brings great joy.

Regardless of how some may view it, Christmas is synonymous with love. Every act of the day is significant of that fact. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Begotten Son. And so the giving of presents is not an exchange but a token of esteem of the donor to the recipient, a sharing of the good things of life through good will. Nothing is more significant of this fact than the conception of Santa Claus as a Great Spirit who comes to the homes on Christmas to bring joy to the heart of childhood. That is a beautiful thing.

If people realize that money can not buy Christmas any more than it can buy love, that both are spiritual, then our simple wish will be fulfilled; that is, that each of you may have a Merry and Happy Christmas.

## Grown Up Boys

(Reprinted from "Mostly Personal," 1933)

Men, even old men, always seem nothing to me but grown up boys; while even young girls appear to me as little women.

Remove the fear of being ridiculous, puncture the crust of the most hard-boiled of normal men, and the spirit of the eternal boy will be found. Sometimes, I think it is not dread of broken bones and falls that keep adults from engaging in childhood sports and playing with toys—only fear of being

ridiculous and loss of dignity.

There is a way out once a year—at Christmas. Naturally, so reasons the dignified daddies, a little child can not be expected to know how to operate the toys brought by Santa Claus. Horns must be tooted, railroad tracks laid down, toys all wound up, wagons pulled.

So, I think this Christmas, as at every Christmas, for a while at least, there will be groups of little boys and one grown up boy playing around Christmas trees.

## Mostly Personal

By BIGNALL JONES

I not only heard the jingle of sleigh bells but saw the tracks of the reindeer in the snow during a White Christmas that I enjoyed as a child at our home on Heck's Hill in Sandy Creek Township.

Snug in my bed, filled with anticipation and with sleep about to take over, I distinctly heard the noise of sleigh bells, and the next morning my father showed me reindeer tracks in the snow.

To this day I know that I heard bells and saw tracks in the snow. What if the sound of bells came from my parents moving some toys in the lower reaches of the house and the tracks in the snow were made by a wandering calf? They were real to me and became an unforgettable memory of a happy Christmas.

Children of today have faith in Santa Claus and look forward to his visit with the same anticipation as we of an older generation did when we were children. I believe this. And yet there was a difference in a simpler day when children had less and Christmas was the one great event of the year, slow to come and filled with anticipation. It was then that we received the first oranges of the year, and found candy and nuts in the toe of the stocking, and usually sticking out of the top would be a box of sparklers, and in or beneath the stocking some inexpensive gift. And the scene at our home was being reenacted in the homes of our neighbors where money was scarce but the gifts to the children were more than money could buy—discipline, faith, love and security.

I don't suppose that we were really ever bad in those days, but if we were bad at any time in the year it was unlikely to have been within the fall months preceding Christmas. Just as I believed in Santa Claus, I believed that he only rewarded good children with goodies and reserved switches for the bad.

Any privations that we suffered as a family in those days were probably no less nor more than those common to all of our neighbors and friends and were accepted as a matter of course, and certainly were of no concern to the children. But at a time when Christmas is sometime regretted because of the expense which it incurs and its spirit lost because of overdoing, it is amazing how little money was spent in a former day. Indicative of this was our annual gift to our father. Each Christmas, after consulting with our mother, we would buy my father a package of Old Virginia Cheroots, three to the package and costing five cents, and watched with pleasure as his Christmas was brightened by the substitution of cigars for his long stemmed pipe.

In a few years we moved to Warrenton and to a town school and to years of close association with the Davis boys. Somewhere along the line the great revelation was made and the day of innocence ended. Faith is a great thing and it brought me the sound of reindeer bells and tracks in the snow, but my new knowledge brought me no unhappiness or diminished either my anticipation or enjoyment of Christmas. Now the game was to conceal from our

## The Meaning Of Christmas

By THE REV. L. T. WILSON, Minister  
Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

A scientist once gave the best definition of the incarnation that I have ever read. He was not speaking of the Christmas event but rather advocating an exchange of knowledge between nations. He said, "the best way to send an idea is to wrap it up in a person." I believe this is what God was doing at Bethlehem. Jesus came, and in his coming, he revealed the true nature of God which is love. He revealed the true character of God which is that of a Father. Wrapped up in the person of Jesus are all the ideas we have managed to develop through the centuries toward our Heavenly Father. What is the meaning of Christmas? When asked to prepare this article I immediately decided that I would not get bogged down in theology, nor sound a pessimistic note regarding all the festivities and gaiety of the season. I have no quarrels with the multi-colored lights nor bright tinsel and store windows full of inviting merchandise waiting to be purchased. There is pleasure in both giving and receiving gifts plus the many cards with seasonal best wishes. The commercialization of Christmas by some does not necessarily affect its true meaning for others because there are still some of us who join with Peter Marshall in Keeping Christmas in the heart. That, in reality, is where Christmas begins and ends. Perhaps the author, Agnes M. Pharo, defines the true meaning of Christmas as well as any writer of the ages in her article WHAT IS CHRISTMAS? She writes:

Christmas is a light that has flamed through the ages. It is a glow that warms the hearts of men wherever the old, yet ever-new, story is known and loved.

Christmas is PEACE, the promise of heralding angels fulfilled for a season. It is a foretaste of what could be, if men would but follow the teachings of the One whose birthday it is.

Christmas is a SPIRIT that flows from one heart to another, from one land to another. It is more precious than rubies and better than gold.

Christmas is a FAITH in goodness and kindness, in truth and love. It is faith in God, in His Son, in ourselves and our fellowman.

Christmas is Joy, an emotion as natural to the heart of man as to the heart of God. Surely, a joyful Creator fashioned snow-garlanded fir tree and diamond-frosted stars for our delight, and small winged creatures that sing even through the rain.

Christmas is a BENEDICTION, turning men's thoughts from material things to those which are spiritual. It is a blessing which implants goodwill and friendship among all peoples.

What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to PEACE.

To the words of the author let me add that Christmas is also a season to say "thank-you" to groups as the Junior Woman's Club for sponsoring these articles on the meaning of Christmas, for giving parties for the aged, for spreading the Christmas joy to so many people in so many different ways, not only at this season but throughout the entire year.

## Episcopal Church Officers Are Named

James Y. Kerr was elected Senior Warden at a recent meeting

parents our new knowledge and to keep a good thing going. I suspect they knew we knew and went along with the game.

We went to bed just as early on Christmas Eve and got up even earlier on Christmas Day to tip-toe into the room where our stockings were hung to see what Santa Claus had brought us. One Christmas morning, I remember, we got up at 1:30 a.m.

ing of the vestry of Emmanuel Episcopal Church. Other officers elected were Alban C. Fair, Junior Warden; J. Shipp McCarroll, secretary; Mrs. J. Boyd Davis, associate secretary; and Laurie B. Beddoe, treasurer.

Other vestrymen are Gordon W. Poindexter, Mrs. James P. Beckwith, W. Duke Jones, Benjamin T. Terrell and Arthur J. Williams.

Mrs. E. H. Weston and Mrs. Mary Shields and Barry visited relatives in Franklinton on Sunday.

## Children Treat Santa To Surprises

As a certain white-bearded, jolly old gentleman makes his rounds on Christmas Eve, delivering happy surprises to children the world over, he may look forward to being, in turn, surprised.

In the legend and lore of Christmas, giving to Santa is a time-honored tradition, with the gifts usually taking the form of food or beverage. Today, many families encourage children to be generous, by observing the custom of setting out treats for Santa—perhaps some candy, a dish of cookies, a glass of milk.

Through the ages, the gift-giver now known as Santa Claus has been called by many different names, but Santa's predecessors, like Santa himself, were often greeted with special treats.

## Card Of Thanks

I would like to thank all my friends and relatives for all the cards, flowers, visits and the many acts of kindness during my stay at Warren General Hospital and since my return home.

MR. ALLEN FISHER

## GREETINGS



MARTIN WELL CO.  
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With fond hopes that all your holiday dreams come true, we send you our best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

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## Bus Club News

By BARBARA WILLIAMS

Each week the John Graham Bus Club introduces members of the club. This week we are honored to introduce Kay Thompson and Dianne Tharrington.

Kay Thompson, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William A. Thompson of Rt. 1, Warrenton, is the driver of bus 4. She has driven the public school bus for two years. Kay is now a senior and has participated in the following school activities: Bus Club 3, 4; FHA 1, 2, 3; Library Club 1, 2; Pep Club 1, 2, 3; Monogram Club 2; Basketball 1, 2; Secretary of home-room 3; and Treasurer of home-room 4.

Dianne Tharrington, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin R. Tharrington of Rt. 2, Macon, is the driver of bus 12. For two years Dianne has driven the public school bus. She has also participated in the following activities: Annual Staff 4; Seer Staff 3; Beta Club

2, 3, 4; Secretary of Junior Class; Bus Club 3, 4; French Club 2, 3; Homeroom reporter 3; Homeroom Secretary 4.

We, the members of the John Graham Bus Club, would like to submit the following rules and regulations for the safety of our passengers:

(1) Passengers must be on time. The driver has a schedule to follow and cannot wait for tardy passengers.

(2) As soon as the bus has stopped, the passenger should walk (not run) to the bus, hold the hand rail, watch his step and enter the bus. Before crossing a highway or street, the passenger should look in all directions and make sure the way is clear of traffic, that the bus door is opened, and that bus signals are working. He should then walk (not run) across the highway to the front bus entrance, approximately ten feet in front of the bus in full view of the driver.

ed written briefs and the court is expected to consider all evidence and arguments prior to making any final judgment.

## Workers Meet

The Macon Second Baptist Social Workers Club held its regular monthly meeting in the home of Mrs. Sally Harrison Wednesday night, Dec. 17. Mrs. Virgie Moss, president, presided and Mrs. Ida Turner gave the devotional.

After a brief business session the members exchanged gifts.

Refreshments were served by the hostess.

Mrs. Claude Cannon and daughter, Jo, of Tarpon Springs, Fla., were guests of Mrs. Cannon's sister, Mrs. Duke Jones, and Mr. Jones during the week-end.

## Motions

(Continued from page 1)

ton in Halifax County, in a position that demanded creation of a special school unit. He argued that the separate unit would only have a minimal effect on desegregation ratios in the county systems.

Judge Butler noted that the net effect of the separate unit was to decrease the percentage of white students in the Warren County school system.

In arguing the case against Scotland Neck for the Justice Department, U. S. Attorney Francis Kennedy said, "The chief and sole purpose of the statute was to create a white refuge." He said that the U. S. Supreme Court had rejected a "white flight" (to private schools) argument similar to Joyner's.

The issue, Kennedy concluded, is "whether the state of North Carolina has discharged its duty in accordance with the fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution and has done nothing to interfere with the desegregation of public schools."

Deputy U. S. Attorney Adam Stein, in rebutting the arguments of Taylor and McLean, said, "Warren County failed to comply with orders of this court to desegregate and then they went to the legislature."

Judge Butler spoke in a similar vein when the arguments were concluded. He told the defendant that the Warren County school board has been under orders from the U. S. Eastern District Court to present a plan for desegregation. That order has been pending since 1963 he said.

"Finding those orders," the judge said, "the legislature chose to carve out of this territory (Warren County) certain segments of it." He then asked the defendants, "Can the General Assembly, either directly or indirectly, circumvent a court order?"

Citing similar attempts to do so in another state, the judge concluded that such tactics "left the court with an empty oyster shell."

The court here probably will not rule in the cases until some later date, each side fil-



At Christmas, a special prayer: May mankind be blessed with "Peace on Earth." And a special wish: May your personal Christmas be a most happy one.

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WARRENTON, N. C.

## merry Christmas

To friends old and new we send our warmest wishes for a Merry Christmas, filled with the joys of giving and receiving. Our thanks to you.



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